



October 30, 2017

Dear Friend of St. Mary School,

As a Catholic community, we believe it is truly a privilege to be a part of each child's learning experience. Entering our 147<sup>th</sup> year educating students in a faith-filled Catholic tradition, we challenge them to fulfill their individual potential and be active learners, people of faith and responsible citizens. This year, we are pleased to share that St. Mary School was accepted into the Drexel School System in the Diocese of San Jose. A cutting edge, re-imagination of Catholic education that transforms how we are able to service families, the Drexel School System is the result of bold thinking and a focused commitment to Catholic education.

What does this mean for the school? Through a Drexel grant combined with the current tuition assistance program, the school is making Catholic education accessible for more families. Teachers are receiving increased instructional resources and professional development through Drexel's partnership with Santa Clara University's Academy of Blended Learning. Most importantly, students' individual academic needs are easily matched and better served with differentiated instruction and research-based instructional strategies that use integrated technology, small group sessions, and a variety of academic applications. The school community is excited about this move, and students' enthusiasm for these instructional changes is already evident in their classrooms.

As we embark on this year's Annual Appeal, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude to you for your generous gifts last year. Your contributions enabled us to purchase educational software programs, science lab and classroom materials, make facility repairs, as well as provide tuition assistance. We once again invite you to prayerfully consider giving to our Annual Appeal drive. Our tuition dollars have never covered the complete cost of our students' Catholic educations, but with your help, we can further ensure St. Mary School meets the needs of all of our students now and in the future. Your gift—in any amount—will allow us to continue our education mission.

Academically, St. Mary School students continue to perform well above national averages. We are pleased to share that 98% of our students in the class of 2017 were accepted into their first choice of high schools, many with honors courses. We are blessed to be able to provide our students with an unparalleled Catholic education and continue to offer a challenging curriculum, fine arts, PE, sports, music, band, choir, and chess as well as service and personal growth opportunities.

These outstanding accomplishments and wonderful activities would not be possible without the numerous donations of time, treasure and talent from our community. We thank you for your continued support of St. Mary School and our mission to educate the next generation of community leaders!

Blessings,

Denise Garibaldi  
Development Director



**ST. MARY SCHOOL**  
*A Drexel School*

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