



Dear Fellow Basilica School Parents,

On behalf of our beloved Basilica School of Saint Mary, we are proud to serve as this year's **Go Saints! Fund** Parent Co-Chairs, along with Mrs. Magda Patrick and Mr. Ted Fyock, Jr.

We'd like to share with you a few thoughts about our experience with the school since joining in 2022. There are many terrific schools in Alexandria and the Greater Washington Area. As soon as our oldest daughter started here in Second Grade, we knew we had made the right choice. Our son followed last year in kindergarten, and this year, our youngest daughter is starting in Pre-K. At every level—leadership, faculty, staff, parents, and students—we have met so many wonderful and generous people who share our excitement about this school and its mission. We look forward not only to a great 2024-25 school year but to a bright future for generations of Basilica School of Saint Mary students and families!

Our school's Catholic identity is central to its character and permeates its culture. The Church teaches that, as parents, we bare responsibility as “the primary and principal educators” of our children. (*Gravissimum Educationis*, 3.) We know that we could not fulfill that important role without the partnership and support of our amazing teachers. We are fortunate to have a wonderful faculty at St. Mary's, including a terrific cadre of new teachers joining us this year.

It is critical to our school's continued success that we **recruit and retain great teachers**. With that in mind, our annual-giving theme for 2024-25 is *Excellence Through Generosity*. Your contributions to the **Go Saints! Fund** will ensure that St. Mary's continues to excel now and into the future. Over 75% of our school budget—which the **Go Saints! Fund** supports directly—goes to salary and benefits for our faculty and staff.

With our goal of \$200,000, your giving will support new measures for teacher recruitment and retention. We encourage all our St. Mary's families to contribute to **the Go Saints! Fund**. This year, the school will be rolling out initiatives to encourage increased participation and giving, including new giving “Circles” to recognize and show appreciation for your support.

(See opposite side)

The Basilica School of Saint Mary has been blessed over the years with generous supporters who have contributed to the ***Go Saints! Fund*** supported our recent *Mary Lead Us* campaign, and given of their time, talent, and treasure in so many ways. Your generosity in giving to the ***Go Saints! Fund*** will help us to set and maintain a high bar of excellence for our children and for those who come after us!

In the weeks ahead, you will be receiving an ***Go Saints! Fund*** request for support package in the mail. Please give this your serious consideration.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions about the ***Go Saints! Fund***.

Welcome to our new families, and welcome back to our returning families! Let's have a great year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Linn Moran". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Parent Co-Chairs (2024-25), ***Go Saints! Fund***