



Regional Catholic School

10-12 Church Street Glens Falls, NY 12801 518-792-3178

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## **ST MARY'S - ST ALPHONSUS SCHOOL** WALKING BESIDE OUR FAMILIES FOR 140 YEARS

Dear Friend,

Do you think Mary and Joseph made the long trek from Nazareth to Bethlehem all by themselves? That's certainly the way Christmas cards depict it – two solitary figures traversing the rugged Middle Eastern terrain accompanied only by a dutiful donkey. But did no one else help this young couple make the 90-mile journey through an area known to be inhabited by highway robbers and wild beasts? Did Mary, nine months pregnant, not have any female family members who thought she might need help along the way? Were there innkeepers along the way who did find room for them?

We've been thinking about Mary and Joseph's long journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem these days, not only because Christmas is approaching, of course, but also because we've been reflecting on the long journey of St. Mary's - St. Alphonsus School.

This journey began in 1883, when six Sisters of St. Joseph traveled in a blinding snowstorm from Troy to Glens Falls to open a school for the Irish and Italian immigrants of the city's East End. Their goal – to educate children in the light of God's love – is still ours today. The spirit of SMSA is as fresh and vibrant now as it was then: our teachers are energized, our students are engaged, and our parents are enthusiastic. And we are all enormously grateful to be preparing to celebrate the school's 140th birthday in January.

As we prepare to celebrate both the miracle that took place in Bethlehem and the marvel of the 140-year journey of St. Mary's - St. Alphonsus School, we ask you once again to join us on this road. Your generous Annual Fund gift is the fuel we need to keep moving forward.

Gratefully,

Marin Slater & Fr. Scott

St. Mary's Church

BELOW IS MY CONTACT INFORMATION	YES, I'D LIKE TO JOURNEY WITH SMSA
Name	\$25 \$50 \$100 Other
Address	CC #
	Exp CVV Zip
Phone	Check is enclosed
Email	Cash is enclosed