

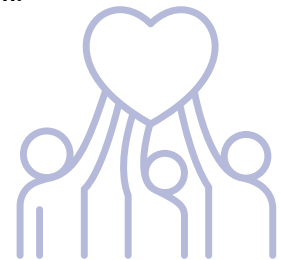
## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi! Hope you are enjoying your summer! We are so excited for all the amazing events, fundraisers, and projects we have planned for our community beginning in the 2025-2026 school year! Please do not hesitate to ask any questions or get involved this year. Contact the PA President, Kelly Graham, at [pa@schoolofstmary.org](mailto:pa@schoolofstmary.org) or 773-580-2006.

## UPCOMING 2025-2026 PA EVENTS

Save the date for these important PA events, and please reach out to the Volunteer Lead if you're interested in helping!

- **Used Uniform Sale: Tuesday, August 5, 9:00 a.m.-Noon at the UGC**
  - Lead: [Annie Cioni](#)
- **Lake Forest Days Parade** (Join us by walking in the parade!): **Wednesday, August 6, 9:00 a.m.**
  - Lead: [Molly Sarmas](#)
- **Back to School Bash (Parents Only): Thursday, August 21, 7:00-10:00 p.m.**
  - @ The Graham Residence 792 Morningside Dr., Lake Forest
- **Crusader Chase: Thursday, September 25**
  - Leads: [Ali Zeleniuch](#) and [Linda Harmer](#)
- **Trunk or Treat: Friday, October 24**
  - Leads: [Hannah Johnson](#) and [Mairin Wilke](#)
- **Book Fair: November 19-21**
  - Lead: [Hannah Blasco](#)
- **Catholic Schools Week Tuition Raffle: January 26-30**
  - Lead: [Leah Woock](#)
- **Crusader Annual Gala: Friday, February 20 (Exmoor Country Club)**
  - Leads: [Maria Vernon](#), [Ali Zeleniuch](#) and [Christina Nugent](#)
- **Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week and Committee: February 23-27**
  - Lead: [Mila Sobinsky](#)
- **Fish Fry: Friday, March 13 at the UGC**
  - Leads: [Tessa Schenkel](#) and [Molly Sweeney](#)



## 2025-2026 PA MEETINGS

All meetings will be on the first **Wednesday** of the month, 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the UGC Multipurpose Room.

**6:00-7:00 p.m.:** Social hour with pizza and beverages provided.

**7:00-8:00 p.m.:** Meeting with option to gather at Deer Path Inn afterwards.

**Meeting dates:** September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, and June 3. We are ALL members of the PA, so please join us!

## GRADE LEVEL PARENT GATHERING DATES

All Grade Level Parent Gatherings will be held on **Thursday nights from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. at 28 Mile Distilling Company in Highland.**

### Save the Date!

August 28: PreK 2 and PreK 3  
September 4: PreK 4  
September 11: Kindergarten  
September 18: 1<sup>st</sup> grade  
September 25: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade  
October 2: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
October 9: 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
October 16: 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
October 23: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades



## WE'D LOVE YOUR HELP!

Getting involved at the School of St. Mary is one of the most rewarding ways to make a **difference in your child's school experience**. Volunteering not only helps create the vibrant, welcoming environment our children thrive in—it's also a great way to connect with other parents and build **lifelong friendships** along the way. Whether you can give a little time or a lot, all at your discretion, we're so grateful for your support! Please fill out this **survey** and let us know how you would like to get involved. **[Take the survey HERE.](#)**

## SOSM PA BOARD MEMBERS 2025-2026

- **President:** Kelly Graham
- **Vice President:** Kim Danciu
- **President Advisor:** Heidi Christen
- **Treasurer:** Meredith Leggitt
- **Communications:** Tracey Oberlin
- **Crusader Annual Fund Fulfillment:** Michelle Kijek
- **PGC Parent-Teacher Liaison:** Kim Danciu
- **UGC Parent-Teacher Liaison:** Brianne Clatch
- **Crusader Wear:** Jeanenne Tornatore and Shelley Reynolds
- **Used Uniform Sales:** Annie Cioni
- **Crusader Chase:** Ali Zeleniuch and Linda Harmer
- **Crusader Annual Gala:** Maria Vernon, Christina Nugent and Ali Zelenuich
- **Teacher & Staff Appreciation:** Mila Sobinsky
- **Corporate Partners:** Maeve Curran & Diana Hand
- **Fish Fry:** Molly Sweeney Griffin and Tessa Schenkel
- **Trunk or Treat:** Hanna Johnson Fornaris and Mairin Wilkie
- **New Family Welcome:** Brittany Ruef and Maggie Wehmer



## CRUSADER ANNUAL FUND

The Crusader Annual Fund helps bridge the gap between tuition and actual operating costs by compensating skilled and loving teachers and purchasing school resources that foster a Blue Ribbon education.

The PA leads activities throughout the year to support the Crusader Annual Fund, and this year's goal is **\$380,000**.

The Crusader Annual Gala is our biggest event of the year to support the Crusader Annual Fund – and **THANK YOU** for generously supporting the Gala last year and helping us raise **more than \$300,000!** Join us on **Friday, February 20, 2026** for a spectacular evening to celebrate the School of St. Mary!

At monthly meetings, the PA discusses and votes on requests for using the Crusader Annual Fund, so please join our meetings to share your thoughts and learn more.

Some examples of how the Crusader Annual Fund was used in the past year include:

**iPads at the PGC  
(no more sharing!)**

**End-of-year teacher  
bonuses**

**50+ staff laptops and  
document cameras**

**New flooring and paint  
in UGC locker rooms**

**Air purifiers for each  
PGC room**

**125 new Chromebooks**