

Dear Mrs. Slomiany,

My name is Mary Catalfamo and I am a former parishioner of St. Bede's Parish and my children attended and graduated from St. Bede's some years ago. I worked in the St. Bede Rectory from 1997 to 2001.

Mrs. Slomiany, I am writing to you to congratulate St. Bede's on a very impressive distinction.

I am an Associate Director of Freshman Admissions at Drexel University and I work with those students that are applying for admission as high school seniors. I had the privilege recently of updating important scholarship information for a few of our applicants.

We at Drexel award the very prestigious Presidential Scholarship, which offers fully paid tuition, to very few applicants each year. I am proud to tell you that **TWO** St. Bede's graduates just received this award! Both Ali Derassouyan and Nicole Hinterberger have received Presidential Scholarships to Drexel University.

So far, we have received over 36,000 applications for admission to Drexel University this year. We receive applications from all 50 states and over 120 different countries. I cannot over emphasize how competitive this scholarship is! For **TWO** graduates (Class of 2005) from St. Bede's to have received this scholarship is incredible! Of course, when I saw the names, I was not surprised. Ali Derassouyan currently attends Nazareth Academy and Nicole Hinterberger currently attends Archbishop Wood. It is evident to me as a college admissions counselor that they have taken the excellent education they received at St. Bede's and have built upon it very well.

Congratulations, Mrs. Slomiany. I don't get to write too many congratulatory letters to grade school principals, but this was a pleasure for me!

Way to go, St. Bede's - keep up the great work!

Mary K. Catalfamo
Associate Director, Freshman Admissions
Drexel University