



Sisters of St. Dominic  
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February 21, 2018

Marjory Stoneman High School Students  
c/o Principal Ty Thompson  
5901 Pine Island Rd.  
Parkland, FL 33076

Dear Mr. Thompson and Students:

Our hearts go out to you in the wake of the tragic shooting in your school community. A week ago the unthinkable happened, and amid devastation and grief you, the students, have been models for all United States citizens. Adults should protect kids, and surely Mr. Thompson, your loved ones and many in Parkland are supporting you and the families of those who senselessly lost their lives last Wednesday. Yet, as we have listened to *your* outcry and watched *your* mobilization on the news these last few days, we are inspired by *your* maturity and courage. You came together and are turning your grief and anger into constructive action. In an era characterized by divisiveness and intolerance, you bring hope and are true change agents in moving the nation in a positive direction. You are living your school motto: "Be Positive. Be Passionate" and you most certainly should "Be Proud."

You are bravely confronting politics fueled too long by greed rather than by what is best for the people of this country. Powerful lobbyists have systematically stymied responsible gun control. Your efforts to influence Florida legislators to tighten gun control and the "March for Our Lives" you are organizing exemplify the democratic system. Too many adults have given up on effecting change; your bold, coordinated efforts renew people's hope and will motivate others of all ages to action.

Know that we hold each of you in our hearts and prayers. On behalf of all Racine Dominican Sisters and Associates, we support you and your courageous efforts. We thank you for resolutely standing up for what is right and showing the strength of committed action in confronting evil. The Spirit of those in your school community who died tragically last week is supporting you as you march in Washington next month and spur other solidarity marches throughout the nation.

Sincerely,

*Maryann McMahon, O.P.*

S. Maryann McMahon, OP  
President

*Agnes Johnson, OP*

S. Agnes Johnson, OP  
Vice President

*Kathy Slesar, OP*

S. Kathy Slesar, OP  
Vice President