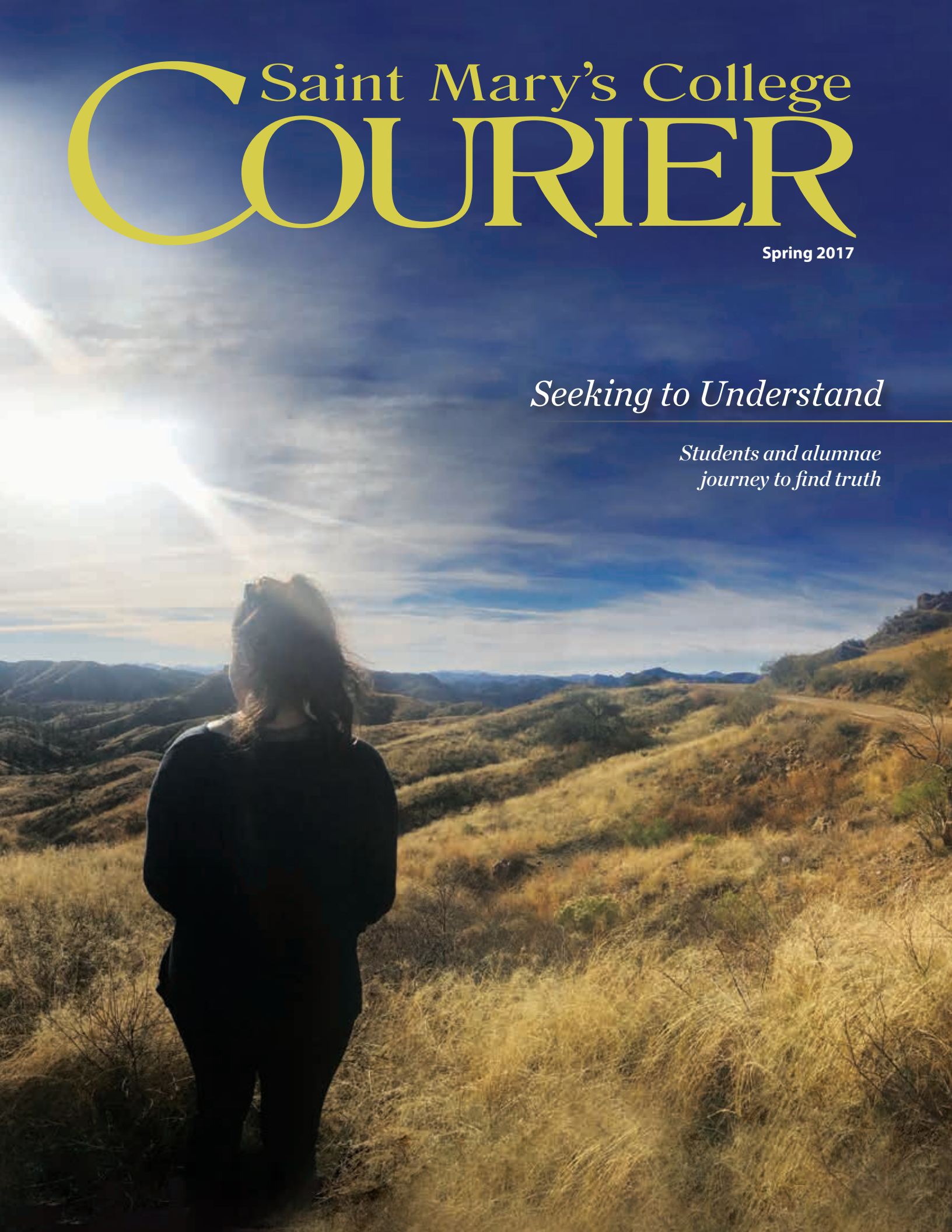


# Saint Mary's College COURIER

Spring 2017

*Seeking to Understand*

*Students and alumnae  
journey to find truth*







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On the cover and inside cover: Itzxl Moreno '17 carried this backpack, containing supplies including food, water, and first-aid kits for individuals crossing the border into the US. See page 5 to read her story.

Multimedia content can be found online at [saintmarys.edu/Courier](http://saintmarys.edu/Courier)

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### About Saint Mary's College

Saint Mary's College is a Catholic, residential, women's undergraduate college in the liberal arts tradition, founded by the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1844. The College offers three co-educational graduate programs in data science, speech language pathology, and nursing practice. According to its mission, Saint Mary's College seeks to educate students, develop their talents, and prepare them to make a difference in the world. Visit [saintmarys.edu](http://saintmarys.edu) for more information. "Like" Saint Mary's College on Facebook and follow us on Twitter (@saintmarys and @saintmarysnews) and Instagram (SaintMarysCollege).





# UPON REFLECTION

Amid the devastation and division of the Civil War, 70 Sisters of the Holy Cross served as nurses to wounded soldiers on both sides.

Their mission transcended the violent animosity that defined the times. They saw human need and responded as humanitarians, their compassion not limited by the categories that divide rather than unite.

In November, their service was commemorated when the sisters received the US Army Civil War Campaign Medal. Coming more than 150 years after the lifesaving contributions it recognizes, the honor carries great relevance for us today.

We are not at war with each other in the United States, but our differences often become hostile. We must learn to recognize our shared values and shared humanity, as the sisters did during the Civil War.

I've been heartened by the example of our students, whose own differences of political opinion in these heated times have been expressed with respect, underscoring the community spirit of Saint Mary's. We will not always agree, but we must always recognize the dignity of those who disagree with us.

Sister Mary Elizabeth Bednarek, CSC, called our attention to the violence of the heart that causes us to lose sight of that dignity during an Ash Wednesday service in Regina Chapel. She called on us to acknowledge and confront the seeds of violence within ourselves in order to strive for the Christian ideal of nonviolence.

"Violence is birthed from the jealousy, hate, lust, power-trip ... that I carry in my heart," she said. "True nonviolence is rooted in God's unconditional love for all persons, all beings. Jesus acted from this love-center and calls us to do the same."

The tradition of Catholic Social Teaching offers a path to follow that call. In this issue, Professor Joseph Incandela, who has taught on the subject for three decades, draws an instructive distinction between charity and justice.

"Charity meets an immediate need," Professor Incandela says, "but justice addresses the underlying causes that created the need."

On college campuses, we also have the responsibility to prevent sexual violence, which undermines our sense of security and trust in each other. To ensure we maintain a safe environment where all our students can thrive, Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, and Holy Cross signed a Memorandum of Understanding in March to work together in that effort. This agreement formalizes our mutual commitment to address those issues and to live the values we aspire to in keeping with our Catholic character.

Let us make a conscious effort to carry unconditional love in our hearts, to recognize each other by our shared humanity, not by our differences. When we begin to love each other as fellow human beings, we serve the cause of justice.

— Janice A. Cervelli  
President



Sun rising behind artillery near a wheat field at Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg, Maryland. ►  
The battle at Antietam was the bloodiest single-day battle in American history.







# Seeking to *Understand*

By Claire Kenney '10

The quest to understand is not an unfamiliar call to Saint Mary's women. Some know it as "critical thinking." The often-quoted Sister M. Madeleva Wolff referred to it as "discovery."

During our time as students at Saint Mary's, we were taught to discern complexities, learn more about the other, and channel compassion in spite of differences. Integrated into the College's curriculum, Catholic Social Teaching calls us to respect the dignity of the person as each of us is created in the image and the likeness of God.

**Heidi Cerneka '87** and **Itzxul Moreno '17** attended the College 30 years apart, but there is something familiar in their quests to understand. Their stories bring to life a stanza found in the Prayer of St. Francis:

*O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.*

## Learning to listen abroad

Sitting on the dirty concrete floor of a São Paulo jail, Heidi Cerneka '87 counsels a female prisoner. A thick haze of humidity surrounds them. The air is not just dense with moisture; it's heavy with distress. Despair seems to be built into the very foundation of the place — intrinsic elements baked into the cement bricks and manufactured into the iron bars.

Cerneka, a Maryknoll Lay Missioner, carries the conversation in hushed tones with the prisoner amidst the scattered chatter of men in the next cell and the occasional accompaniment of the drip, drip, drip — droplets of rain, a gift from the afternoon clouds.



Sitting in the dank space with her, Cerneka begins to understand the complexity of the woman's story and her claim of innocence. It is a seemingly small breakthrough, yet this moment will serve Cerneka as a practical tool for future conversations with the women for whom she advocates in Brazil's judicial system.

Cerneka spent almost 20 years with the Maryknoll Lay Missioners in São Paulo, Brazil, where she advised female prisoners. In that role, she discovered that by humbly detaching herself from the familiar and exploring the unfamiliar, she could more clearly understand the common ground that graced differences between her experience and theirs.

## Finding truth along the border

**Senior Itzxul Moreno '17** is on winter break. While other students may have been catching up on sleep or with friends at home, she is up early to begin an eight-mile walk through the Sonoran Desert along the US-Mexico border. She is part of a group carrying water for themselves and for others they might meet on the migrant trail from Mexico. They walk and walk, and keep their eyes peeled for someone who may be in need of a drink.

The guide hollers in Spanish every couple minutes, "We're friends. We have water." Although no one emerges from the brush, Moreno is disturbed to learn that many migrants had died from dehydration walking this path. That knowledge feels heavier than the water she carries in her backpack and grows with each step as she trods this trail that many seeking citizenship walked before her.



Heidi Cerneka '87 visits with several women prisoners in a Brazilian jail.





*“Our very presence  
in the desert was  
a sign of empathy,  
an active response  
to the call we  
all receive to love  
our neighbors.”*

“During the trek, I felt somewhat anxious in anticipation of what we might encounter, but I also felt a deep sense of solidarity,” Moreno recalled. “Our very presence in the desert was a sign of empathy, an active response to the call we all receive to love our neighbors.”

Moreno took part in a year-long course through the University of Notre Dame’s Center for Social Concerns, which ultimately brought her class to the US-Mexico border in her home state of Arizona. The course curriculum focused on applying social justice to contemporary issues, particularly issues related to immigration. She consciously sought to gather facts and synthesize information as impartially as she could, given that she is the American-born daughter of Mexican immigrants.

### Asking questions, finding the answers

Both Moreno and Cerneka have witnessed the value of reasoning through questioning, which allows one to come closer to seeing another’s viewpoint. This does not necessarily mean that two parties in a dispute will ever be in total agreement, but that they can engage in civil discourse and perhaps solve problems because there is some sort of mutual understanding. In Cerneka’s words, “to be humble and let others teach you” can serve as a step to unity.

Through her interactions with people in the poverty-stricken sectors of São Paulo, Cerneka saw firsthand the benefits of listening compassionately.

“So many times, when I have paused to listen and really hear what a person is saying, I get it,” she said. “The individual and I don’t always agree, but I get where the other is coming from.”


She often experienced this when she worked with female prisoners and advocated for their basic human rights.

“I have dozens of stories from working in the prisons where women were absolutely convinced that they were not guilty of the crime for which they were awaiting trial,” Cerneka said. “They were not lying to me. They believed what they were saying with certainty because they made decisions with what they had... I was not in their shoes, nor was it my job to judge their actions. I needed to listen to them with objectivity and compassion, to hear where they were coming from.

“All of my ‘seeking to understand the other’ is integrated in me as a person,” Cerneka revealed. “Saint Mary’s fostered that which had been instilled in me growing up.”

Moreno was recently accepted to the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) at Notre Dame and will be teaching at a school in Indianapolis where the student population is 98 percent Latino. She knows her Saint Mary’s education will serve her well in this role. “Saint Mary’s taught us to approach the complexities of our world with both our mind and our heart.”

Thirty years apart and their experiences include all of the hallmarks of a Saint Mary’s education: critical thinking; education of the mind and the spirit; discovery of self, the universe, and their place in it; and preparation to make a difference in the world. These attributes not only serve one well in life, they create an openness to continue to learn throughout life.

As Cerneka surmises, “Questions and answers go hand in hand and usually they are not definitive. They’re part of the journey.” 



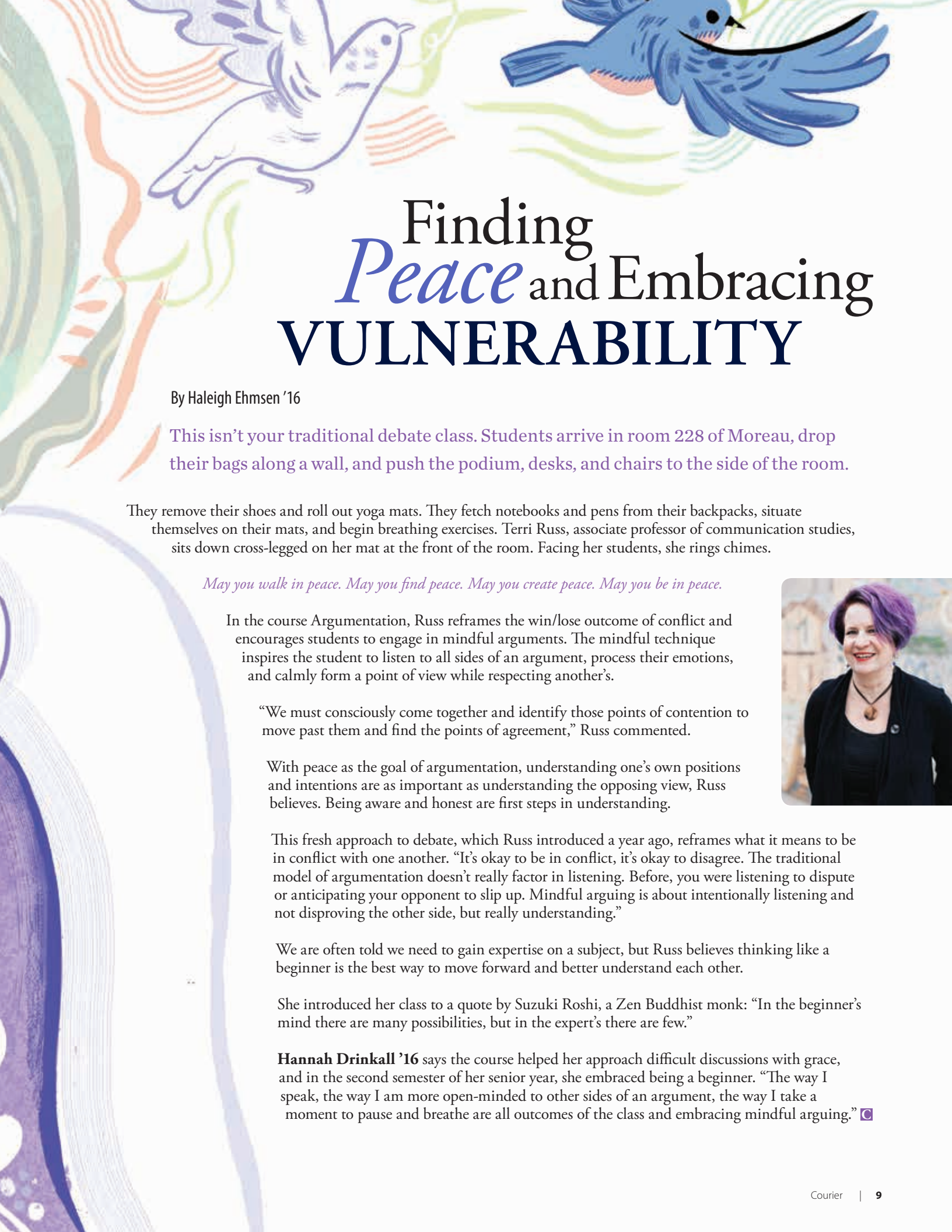


Itzxul Moreno '17 hikes on a migrant trail with her classmates, dropping supply bags along the trail for those crossing the southern border.







An illustration at the top of the page shows two birds in flight. On the left, a white bird with purple outlines is flying towards the right. On the right, a blue bird with a red belly is flying towards the left. Below the birds are stylized, wavy lines in shades of orange, green, and blue, suggesting water or wind. The background is white.

# Finding *Peace* and Embracing VULNERABILITY

By Haleigh Ehmsen '16

This isn't your traditional debate class. Students arrive in room 228 of Moreau, drop their bags along a wall, and push the podium, desks, and chairs to the side of the room.

They remove their shoes and roll out yoga mats. They fetch notebooks and pens from their backpacks, situate themselves on their mats, and begin breathing exercises. Terri Russ, associate professor of communication studies, sits down cross-legged on her mat at the front of the room. Facing her students, she rings chimes.

*May you walk in peace. May you find peace. May you create peace. May you be in peace.*

In the course Argumentation, Russ reframes the win/lose outcome of conflict and encourages students to engage in mindful arguments. The mindful technique inspires the student to listen to all sides of an argument, process their emotions, and calmly form a point of view while respecting another's.


"We must consciously come together and identify those points of contention to move past them and find the points of agreement," Russ commented.

With peace as the goal of argumentation, understanding one's own positions and intentions are as important as understanding the opposing view, Russ believes. Being aware and honest are first steps in understanding.

This fresh approach to debate, which Russ introduced a year ago, reframes what it means to be in conflict with one another. "It's okay to be in conflict, it's okay to disagree. The traditional model of argumentation doesn't really factor in listening. Before, you were listening to dispute or anticipating your opponent to slip up. Mindful arguing is about intentionally listening and not disproving the other side, but really understanding."

We are often told we need to gain expertise on a subject, but Russ believes thinking like a beginner is the best way to move forward and better understand each other.

She introduced her class to a quote by Suzuki Roshi, a Zen Buddhist monk: "In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert's there are few."

**Hannah Drinkall '16** says the course helped her approach difficult discussions with grace, and in the second semester of her senior year, she embraced being a beginner. "The way I speak, the way I am more open-minded to other sides of an argument, the way I take a moment to pause and breathe are all outcomes of the class and embracing mindful arguing." 



# Building Community Through Laughter

By Kelly Konya '15

## Think of the last time you laughed.

You may surprise yourself by recalling your laughter wasn't during a funny moment at all. Though we always associate laughter with humor, we laugh when we're exhausted, when we're nervous, when we're crying. It's a gesture that, when dissected, isn't so simple.

Saint Mary's associate professor of religious studies Anita Houck has long recognized the complexity of laughter and its substantial power to unite us.

"Laughter creates, expresses, and shapes how people engage with each other. Laughter is also a social lubricant and helps to break the ice. People use laughter to bond with each other, but they also use it to exclude others, and they do both within and across community boundaries, and for all kinds of reasons," Houck said.

Further, when we laugh at jokes, we laugh because the joke is built on shared knowledge. The joke may even be offensive or exclusionary and still we stifle a laugh. In wrestling with the difficult question of how to deal with humor, Houck turns to the work of philosopher Ted Cohen. In his book *Jokes*, Cohen draws attention to humor and its complexity. Instead of denying something is funny, we are better served to "try remaking the world so that such jokes will have no place, will not arise," Cohen says. The unjust assumptions we have about others will no longer be part of our shared cultural knowledge, and jokes that are based on them will no longer be funny.


When Bishop Kevin Dowling of Rustenburg, South Africa, came to Saint Mary's several years ago, Houck recalls that she was able to trade jokes with Dowling over dinner.

"It was wonderful. He told two jokes in particular that were pretty elaborate and really lovely — and both were at the expense of bishops. Self-deprecating humor can help us not take ourselves too seriously," she said. "It can signal to others that we don't want to exploit our power over them, even if we have it; instead, we want to be in a healthy relationship of understanding."

Laughter's relational nature allowed Houck to draw the connection between human laughter and Christian theology, thus forming the ideas behind a new course, Spirituality and Comedy. Christian spirituality has often been thought of as "anti-laughter," deeming the gesture inappropriate for sinners.

"In Luke, Jesus even says, 'Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall weep.' At the same time, anyone who welcomed children had to know how to laugh! And when Jesus promises, 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh,' laughter seems to symbolize the reign of God, in all its justice and joy," Houck quipped.

Students in her class discover the ways laughter can teach us about one another and ourselves, exposing our deep commonalities and our diversity. Houck said current research suggests that laughter has served humans since ancient times in creating bonds with others.

"Using laughter virtuously, even lovingly, requires what every other social interaction requires: the humility to realize not everyone sees the world as we do; the commitment to do our best, and when we fail, to seek forgiveness; and the willingness to use our gifts to serve others." 



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now, for you shall laugh,’  
laughter seems to  
symbolize the reign of  
God, in all its justice  
and joy.”

—Anita Houck,  
associate professor,  
religious studies



mel  
vanilla  
an  
coffee



tea selection • homemade syrup, milk  
juice boxes • assorted  
organic variety  
seasonal drink • peppermint mocha  
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ON  
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# Getting to Know You over Coffee

By Haleigh Ehmsen '16



On a recent Friday morning, The Local Cup fills as neighbors wake and walk down the street for their morning coffee. Patrons include moms with their young children, a homeless man, a student typing on her computer, an older woman drinking hot chocolate in a comfy orange chair, and Saint Mary's College students pouring coffee and crafting drinks behind the counter.

A unique federal work-study opportunity allows **Jenny Hagenauer '18**, **Elizabeth Polstra '20**, and **Annie Maguire '20** to work at the coffee shop in South Bend's Near Northwest Neighborhood, which opened last year.

Hagenauer started here in the fall of 2015. The next fall, Maguire and Polstra joined the team. The three are team leaders, working with local high school students on the weekends, the busiest days.

"Families come in with their little ones and students filter in and it becomes a big, fun coffee party," Hagenauer noted.

Situated on Portage Avenue, south of Angela Boulevard, between historic homes and modest bungalows, The Local Cup is central and has been instrumental in transforming the neighborhood into a thriving community. The shop's pay-it-forward model allows the interactions to never be about money. All are welcome, regardless of their ability to pay.

For Hagenauer, immersing herself in a community just two and a half miles from campus has been foundational to her global studies major. "This place embodies what it is to be a global citizen in your community. We're all interconnected and our actions impact everyone. This place embodies that truth and brings that together in a local coffee shop."

Maguire, also a global studies major, has developed leadership skills and an understanding of what it means to embrace all people. "My eyes have been opened to the diversity in the community. People here have a genuine interest in how you are."

Brook Hardy, co-founder of the coffee shop and neighborhood resident, believes the Saint Mary's students have been foundational in the stabilization and growth of The Local Cup.

"There's a mentorship element where we're all learning from each other rooted in mutual respect. The main thing our mission promotes is relationships," Hardy said.

Working at The Local Cup has taught the students that we have much to learn from each other if we're willing to listen, willing to give and to receive.

"Here we build a different type of relationship with customers and each other. It's never about buying the product," Polstra, a history major, noted.

Involvement at The Local Cup helped Hagenauer adjust to college life and being away from home. She attends Mass at Holy Cross Church in the neighborhood and babysits for families she met at the shop. She will move into the neighborhood this summer, working at The Local Cup and interning in the Near Northwest Neighborhood office where the coffee shop is housed.

"This is definitely home for me," she said with a smile. **C**



Jenny Hagenauer '18 scoops homemade chocolate sauce on a drink.

# Treating Others as Worthy of Love

Sharing an elevator with people you don't know can be awkward. But Kristi Brandon '03, chief development officer at a large domestic violence shelter in Jacksonville, Florida, uses elevator time to interact with the residents. Fundraising doesn't offer many one-on-one opportunities with those she serves.

"It's a way to get to know the women of Hubbard House," she said. "They deserve to know how much they matter."

Brandon has found that guests open up in the elevator. She believes the women share so freely because they finally feel safe, shielded from the dominance of an abusive partner.

A simple "How's your day going?" can elicit candid answers like "I have a court date."

The most memorable response was a woman who said, "I'm great! I can go where I want to go. Eat what I want to eat. Wear what I want to wear. I am alive!"

"She is the reason I do what I do," Brandon said. Hubbard House gives women an opportunity to live the life they deserve because, Brandon noted, those who survive domestic violence are more likely to live a violence-free life if there is wrap-around intervention.

## Discovering her path at Saint Mary's College

Brandon felt called to a life of service when she arrived at Saint Mary's College, but what she experienced as a student informed how she would serve, professionally and spiritually.

Her desire to serve women and children grew from her volunteer work at St. Margaret's House day center in South Bend where she realized, "I could live God's calling for me in my professional life as well as my personal."

What informs her passion to serve is Catholic Social Teaching, which she learned about at Saint Mary's. Jan Pilarski, former director of the justice education program, and religious studies professor Joseph Incandela influenced her life significantly. She still



“At Saint Mary’s, my champion professors told me, and all the women there, that we matter and we could do and be anything we wanted to.”

— Kristi Brandon '03



has notes from Incandela's Catholic Social Thought course. She recalls how he taught her that being pro-life includes the period between birth and death. As a course assignment she started writing a prison inmate, which she continued to do after graduating.

## The application of Catholic Social Thought

According to Incandela, Catholic Social Teaching can be boiled down to three truths. The first is there is inherent dignity in each person because we are made in the image and likeness of God. Second, if we are created in the image of God, who is three persons in the Trinity, then we are communal, created for each other. The third principle — preference for the poor — indicates that the strength of a community is determined by how its most vulnerable populations are faring.



“You can’t segregate these truths and say these things matter and these don’t. It’s a seamless garment. All of these things are connected, so if you care about any of them, you have to care about all of them,” he said.

Incandela says Catholic Social Teaching is derived from scripture and foundational documents, the example of Jesus, and the way God is depicted in the Hebrew and Christian scriptures and is applied to “current” social, economic, and political conditions.

Whatever its origin, Catholic Social Teaching has had a profound impact on Brandon. “I’m not Catholic but have tremendous respect for the social teaching of the Church,” she offered. “It is the framework for how I consider all tough social problems. It has broadened the way I look at the world.”

To break it down, Brandon meets her sisters’ needs through fundraising, because she sees the dignity in every woman she serves, all of whom are poor and vulnerable.

“My job is to treat the person in front of me like they are Jesus or someone worthy of love.”

## The ripple effect of Saint Mary’s

Brandon believes her Saint Mary’s experience has had a ripple effect on the women of Hubbard House. As Saint Mary’s transformed Brandon’s future, she hopes to affect the lives of the women she encounters.

“As a child, there were a number of barriers to success, among them growing up with a single parent who worked hard to make ends meet. But I was and continue to be fortunate to have champions in my life like my mom, professors, and mentors in my field. At Saint Mary’s, my champion professors told me, and all the women there, that we matter and we could do and be anything we wanted to. That’s what I want for the women I serve.”

So what does Incandela think about Brandon’s work and her appreciation for Catholic Social Teaching?

“That’s the wonderful thing about teaching: Students can take more from you than you gave to them.” 

— Gwen O’Brien



# Building a Better Tomorrow

By Sarah Miesle '07


**Kay Thursby '18** developed a passion for social justice as a young parishioner at Chicago's well-known Old St. Pat's Catholic Church in the city's West Loop. The church's mission of "Encounter the God who loves you. Engage in a community that welcomes you. Serve the world that needs you," continues to resonate and inspire her as a Saint Mary's student, athlete, and volunteer in the South Bend community.

Thursby's involvement in the Foundations Youth Ministry program at St. Pat's, comprising high school-aged students from around the Chicagoland area, provided her with opportunities to serve the Chicago community as well as other communities around the country through Worktour.

"Worktour truly changed my life and opened my eyes to so many things: social injustices that exist in America; ways that I, as just one individual in America, can cause change and inspire others to join me; and the fact that it really is incredible to leave your phone at home for a week every summer and truly connect with some of the coolest people you'll probably ever meet," said Thursby.

Her initial summer trip to Washington, DC, between her freshman and sophomore years in high school catapulted Thursby on a course toward pursuing social justice issues and resolutions. She served as a leader on a retreat for eighth grade students before embarking on Worktours to Rochester, New York, and New Orleans the following two summers.

These service experiences have led directly to Thursby's decision to study psychology while earning minors in both biology and justice education. At Saint Mary's, she has taken Introduction to Justice Education and has immersed herself in the South Bend community through volunteer opportunities. She has forged a partnership with Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County, and she is beginning a campus Habitat group. As a member of the soccer team, she serves as the president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and helps facilitate community service among all eight varsity sports. Her efforts certainly will not stop there.

"Once a community is strong and fully supports its members — economically, socially, in terms of education, and providing an overall social support system for everyone — I think that's when the truest form of change takes place." 



## Alumna's \$2.5 Million Gift Supports Student Wellness, Campus Expansion



In February, the College announced the \$2.5 million gift from **Kristine Anderson Trustey '86**. Over half of her gift (\$1.275 million) serves as a one-to-one challenge to donors to help Saint Mary's complete fundraising for the purchase of approximately 40 acres of land owned by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. The additional land north and west of the campus will expand Saint Mary's footprint by 40 percent.

"My Saint Mary's experience helped form me into the person I am today," Trustey said. "Expanding the campus footprint through this strategic purchase of land means that Saint Mary's can dream big for the benefit of future generations of young women. I hope others will join me by investing in this exciting opportunity for growth at our beloved College."

The balance of Trustey's gift supported the College's annual 24-hour Donor Challenge on April 6. An advocate for women's health, Trustey will establish, through her gift, the Kristine Anderson Trustey '86 Wellness Program, which will be housed in the Angela Athletic & Wellness Complex when it opens in the spring of 2018.

## Saint Mary's Receives Second Patent for Paper Analytical Device Technology

The US Patent and Trademark office issued a second patent to Saint Mary's College for paper analytical device (PAD) technology that detects ingredients found in low quality or counterfeit pharmaceuticals. These drugs are a profound problem in developing countries where they are marketed as cures for infections, diseases, or infestations.

The PADs, made of chemically-treated paper about the size of a business card, are user-friendly, inexpensive, and effective — all qualities necessary to be viable in the marketplace. Saint Mary's chemistry professor Toni Barstis is listed as an inventor on both patents. The second one also lists **Mary Bevilacqua '12** as an inventor. Bevilacqua assisted Barstis in the research as an undergraduate. (Go to [saintmarys.edu/Courier](http://saintmarys.edu/Courier) to see a video about Bevilacqua's student experience.)

The second generation PAD contains vessels, or thin tubes, which hold chemicals that are released when the user bends the PAD and breaks the vessels. The College received a patent last year for a PAD invented with the University of Notre Dame. These are the first and second patents in Saint Mary's 173-year history.





## Alumnae Return to Campus for STEM Professional Development Workshop



The Departments of Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics, and Biology hosted a professional development workshop in January. Sixteen alumnae in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) careers attended

as discussion leaders and panelists. Sessions were designed to offer students advice on summer internship and research opportunities, applying for graduate school, and searching for jobs.

**Adrienne Bruggeman '17 (ND '18)**, a dual degree chemistry and environmental engineering student, attended. "To get to interact with alumnae who are already successful in the roles we are pursuing was so valuable."

The workshop was funded by a National Science Foundation S-STEM grant awarded to chemistry professor Toni Barstis and mathematics professor Joanne Snow to support the recruitment, retention, and success of students studying in STEM fields at Saint Mary's College.

(Go to [saintmarys.edu/Courier](http://saintmarys.edu/Courier) for a story about **Stephanie Pasas-Farmer '98**, who helped plan the event.)

## Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, and Holy Cross Sign MOU to Work Together to Address Sexual Assault

President Jan Cervelli, the Rev. John I. Jenkins, CSC, president of the University of Notre Dame, and Brother John Paige, CSC, president of Holy Cross College, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in March to address sexual assault and other forms of sexual violence and harassment in the tri-campus community.

The MOU seeks to deepen communication and foster the sharing of information across the campus communities regarding awareness and prevention education, resources, reporting options, and procedures. "This MOU increases responsiveness when crimes occur, protects and empowers students, and creates a system of accountability across our campuses," Cervelli said.

The MOU sets a foundation for collaboration between the three administrations within the tri-campus community, rooted in Holy Cross education and tradition. Cervelli added, "This agreement formalizes a working relationship rooted in a mutual commitment to addressing those issues and maintaining a social and academic environment that respects human dignity in keeping with our Holy Cross tradition."

## SPARK Program Celebrates 5<sup>th</sup> Year with 9<sup>th</sup> Graduating Class

The Women's Entrepreneurship Initiative (WEI) proudly celebrated its fifth year and ninth class of SPARK, an entrepreneurship program for South Bend-area women.

The program assists local high-potential, under-resourced female entrepreneurs to "spark" successful businesses. Since the program began in 2011, 148 women, fondly called SPARKlers, have gone through the program and more than 50 of them have launched businesses. The women learn practical skills they can implement in launching their business, plus they gain a community of supportive women.

College alumnae who have gone through the program include **Emily Sandock '03**, owner of Little House Montessori, and **Amy Wall Surma '03**, owner of Made Designs, a graphic design business. Surma praised her SPARK experience saying, "Absolutely life and game changing! I feel honored and very thankful to forever be a SPARKler. I loved the program."

— Emerald Blankenship '17





Melanie Burke Cameron '03 helps fit a bride in her perfect dress at St. Anthony's Bridal in Fairfax, Virginia.

*"I often felt Saint Mary's challenged us to look deeper than the surface of the participated, and to seek out how we could affect the issues and social*



# When Ministry Meets *Passion*

By Claire Condon '17

Melanie Burke Cameron '03 sells designer bridal dresses, but her attention is not just on the wedding day — it's on the marriage.

Her passion and ministry is to help couples achieve financial and spiritual happiness while planning the wedding of their dreams. As president of St. Anthony's Bridal in Fairfax, Virginia, she helps brides on strict budgets find the perfect wedding dress. Each pre-loved gown for sale costs just \$250 or less.

Cameron entered the wedding industry in 2008 after publishing a wedding planning workbook titled *Christ on Your Guest List*, which she co-authored with her husband. The book serves as a road map to wedding planning in which couples work together to put Christ at the center of their wedding planning and their marriage. She finds that the more time a couple spends making wedding decisions together, the stronger their marriage will be.

The impact the book has had on couples in need inspired Cameron to become more active in helping low-income couples plan affordable, elegant weddings. At the suggestion of her mother-in-law, Cameron reached out to St. Anthony's Bridal, a nonprofit bridal store then based in Poolesville, Maryland, founded by Susan Jamison.


Cameron was inspired by their model, which offered low-cost wedding dresses, china, silverware, tablecloths, and chairs for couples planning a wedding on a budget of \$3,000 or less. The organization's mission, rooted in the service of others, resonated with her.



Through volunteering at St. Anthony's Bridal and expressing her interest in becoming more involved in the organization, Cameron was asked to serve as its president. After thoughtful prayer and consideration, she answered the call and has been serving at St. Anthony's Bridal since 2009.

Under the leadership of Cameron, St. Anthony's Bridal has raised enough funds to move into a leased space in Fairfax in order to serve a broader community. The store, which currently operates 18 hours a week, will soon offer a reception items rental program. At St. Anthony's, all brides are treated with respect and dignity, no matter their background or budget, and the shop gifts pregnant brides with their perfect gown free of charge.

In addition to her work at St. Anthony's, Cameron has written three budget boot camp books offering formulas for \$3,000, \$7,000, and \$10,000 weddings. She also created *Savvy Brides*, a nonprofit bridal magazine for budget-conscious brides and offers DIY workshops for low-budget floral arrangements.

In the future, Cameron hopes to expand St. Anthony's Bridal shops to other US cities. She believes "it's a ministry bringing hope to brides who often feel overwhelmed by the cost of a wedding." 

*service projects in which we concerns causing these immediate needs."*

**BILL SANDUSKY**

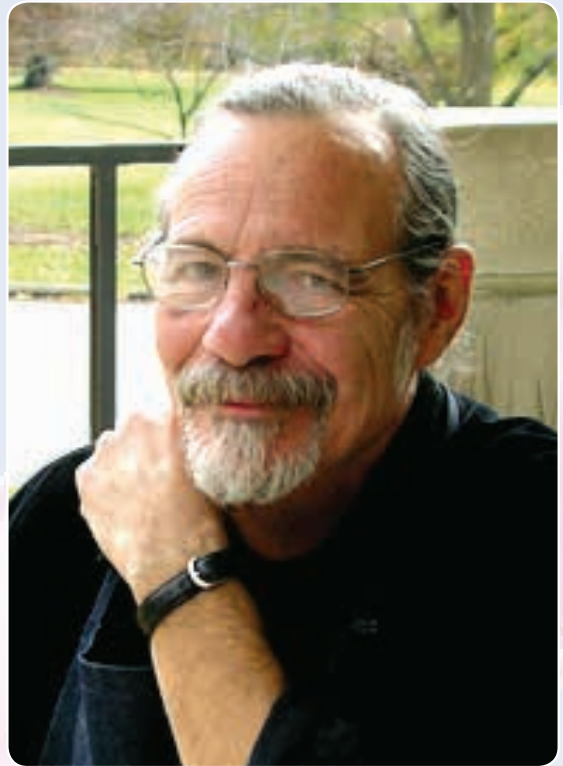
Bill Sandusky, longtime Saint Mary's College art professor, died December 20.

A well-known painter and printmaker, Sandusky taught classes in painting, drawing, book arts, etching, lithography, and 2D Design from 1981–2014. Prior to coming to South Bend, he taught painting for Saint Mary's Rome Program from 1977–1980. Sandusky served as Moreau Art Gallery director from 1981–1987, a joint position with his wife, Giovanna Lenzi.

Throughout his 33 years at the College, he combined teaching with a successful career as an artist. Known by many as "Billy Ray," he was known to take the same approach to art as he did to life: "Have no fear."

A study abroad scholarship has been established in his name, and memorial contributions may be made to the Billy Ray Sandusky Study Abroad Scholarship at Saint Mary's College, 110 Le Mans Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556 or online at [www.saintmarys.edu/Donate](http://www.saintmarys.edu/Donate).

Please note in the "direct to other fund" box that your gift is for the **Billy Sandusky scholarship**.



*"Have no fear."*

**EUGENE CAMPANALE**

Eugene "Gene" Campanale died peacefully at Holy Cross Village on February 13.

Gene is survived by his wife Rosalie Campanale, who earned her nursing degree at Saint Mary's in 1991 as a non-traditional student. She went on to teach in the nursing department until 1996.

Campanale served as director of the Graduate Program at Saint Mary's College for one year prior to becoming the first layperson to assume the role of chair of the Education Department at Saint Mary's. He taught at the College for 26 years before retiring in 1996, but continued to teach part-time at Saint Mary's from 1996–2001.

Gene was an active member of Sacred Heart Parish, Notre Dame. Additionally, he was proud of his Italian heritage and his Catholic faith as a devoted father, husband, and grandfather.

Expressions of sympathy in memory of Gene may be donated to Saint Mary's College Development Office, 110 Le Mans Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556-5001.



## FAMILY DEATHS

Judith Amon, mother of Lynn Marie Amon '92, July 13, 2016.

Donald Bathje, father of Stephanie Bathje Berch '95, October 12, 2016.

David Biasco, father of Sharon Biasco Steger '73, February 4, 2017.

Jack Biek, grandfather of Jessica Lynn Biek '14, father-in-law of Julie A. Schroeder-Biek '88, February 2, 2017.

Barbara Bowman, mother of Heidi Bowman Woods '87, December 10, 2016.

David Bringardner, father of Susan Bringardner McCarthy '84, Tracy Bringardner Sommer '85 and Molly Bringardner Carlson '91, January 2, 2017.

John Broderick, father of Mary Broderick Donnelly '78, Margaret Broderick Olsen '80, Nancy Broderick Dold '87 and Anne Broderick Farnum '90, September 23, 2016.

Edward Bruce, father of Barbara Bruce Gustafson '84, February 2, 2017.

Mary E. Callan, mother of Kathleen Callan Brady '71, Anne Callan Trunzo '81 and Joan Callan Biasetti '84, July 22, 2016.

Eugene Campanale, husband of Rosalie Ann Campanale '91, father of Beth Campanale Daugherty '77, February 13, 2017.

Donald Casey, father of Gail Casey Slevin '84, father-in-law of Ann Kiefer Casey '83, grandfather of Quinlan O'Grady Matthew '10, December 24, 2016.

Helen Cira, mother of Lori Cira Gallant '86, January 8, 2017.

John M. Clair, brother of Kerry Clair Barry '92, nephew of Joanne Clair Lyons '49, cousin of Kelly Rose Lyons '11 and Bridget Ann Lyons '15, November 18, 2016.

John Clarke, father of Sarah Clarke Madigan '83, father-in-law of Suzanne Allemon Clarke '78, October 31, 2016.

Keith Cook, father of Karen Marie Cook Herbstritt '87 and Jennifer Cook Henner '88, May 26, 2016.

Robert Coryn, husband of Mimi Wurzer Coryn '53, father of Ann Coryn Lohmuller '81, grandfather of Katherine Lohmuller Decker '05, brother of Mary Coryn McGee '58, uncle of Deidre Laatz Desideri '89, October 15, 2016.

Frederick Crowe, father of Rosemary Crowe Rowland '84, February 10, 2017.

Ulisse Cucco, father of Antoinette M. Cucco '79, January 24, 2017.

Pravesh Desai, father of Sonya Desai-Rasmusson '90, July 3, 2016.

Kathryn Desmet, mother of Mary Kay Desmet LoCicero '91, cousin of Karen Mortimer Williams '64 and Mary Mortimer Meany '67, October 5, 2016.

James Doti, father of Maria Christine Doti '89, October 3, 2016.

Norman Fortress, father of Diane Fortress Stein '72, December 1, 2015.

Robert Gahagan, father of Molly Jean Gahagan '11, January 22, 2017.

Joseph Gallagher, father of Mary Beth Gallagher Flaherty '77, January 13, 2017.

Hugh C. Gardner, husband of Kathleen Dautremont Gardner '68, February 25, 2016.

Rose Giordano, mother of Janet Giordano Nally '74, May 13, 2016.

Helen McCann Gugle, mother of Monica Gugle Graffeo '83 and Kathryn Rose Gugle '89, January 25, 2017.

Sally Hackmann, mother of Lesli Hackmann Wiseman '83, May 7, 2016.

Marietta Hein, mother-in-law of Mary Jacobs Hein '89, November 6, 2016.

Patricia Henderson, mother of Kathryn Henderson Kresse '76, February 10, 2017.

Sarah Hoke, mother of Susan Herbert Timmons '71, December 8, 2016.

William James Jones, husband of Maureen Ann Jones '85, father of Kathleen Elizabeth Jones '93, November 17, 2016.

James Jung, father of Sister Virginia E. Jung, OSB '80, February 2, 2017.

Robert Jurgenson, father of Karen Jurgenson Wright '92, December 5, 2016.

Thomas P. Kelly, father of Gail Marie Kelly '93, January 27, 2017.

Francis Kobayashi, husband of Monique N. Kobayashi '64, December 27, 2016.

Larry Lange, husband of Barbara Murphy Lange '71, December 10, 2016.

Edward Lewis, father of Sharon Lewis '76 and Megan M. Daly '77, June 20, 2016.

David G. Lyons, son of Joanne Clair Lyons '49, uncle of Kelly Rose Lyons '11 and Bridget Ann Lyons '15, cousin of Kerry Clair Barry '92, January 5, 2017.

Ellen Malone, mother of Kathleen Malone Beeler '69, Jane Malone Zilly '73 and Susan Malone Feeley '82, February 8, 2017.

Joseph McGinnis, father of Jennifer McGinnis Neville '94, December 14, 2016.

Evelyn McIlvain, mother of Sharon Therese McIlvain '91 and Kathryn McIlvain Dalrymple '93, January 29, 2017.

Richard Miller, husband of Dolores Blanz Miller '64, February 4, 2017.

Ronald Francis Moran, father of Kathleen Mary Moran '11, November 17, 2016.

Doreen Nagy, mother of Tara Nagy Vrdolyak '95 and Jennifer Nagy Ryan '97, January 8, 2017.

James Nicholson, father of Christine Marie Nicholson '92, August 6, 2016.

Shirley Niezgodski, mother of Lynn Niezgodski Baldwin '98, December 1, 2016.

Paul Omohundro, husband of Laura Hrisko Omohundro '92, September 17, 2016.

Maureen Palamaro, mother of Anne C. Palamaro Wynne '89, September 29, 2016.

Virginia Paulick, mother of Maria Pilar Paulick Clark '02, October 17, 2016.

Richard Plush, father of Kelly Lynn Plush '07, April 3, 2016.

Robert Poden, father of Patricia Poden Maunsell '84, February 1, 2017.

Mildred Radwan, mother of Rebecca Radwan Updegraff '91, September 25, 2016.

Therese Raven, mother of Ann Raven McCarthy '82 and Mary Raven Mansmann '88, February 10, 2017.

Mary Rice, mother of Jeanne Rice White '87, grandmother of Wendy Rice Bank '85, December 1, 2016.

JoAnn Rieger, mother of Holly Rieger Curley '80, grandmother of Maeve Rose Rieger Curley '15, December 26, 2016.

William Russo, husband of Martha Hess Russo '68, June 24, 2016.

Paschal Scalo, father of Christina Noel Scalo '01, May 4, 2016.

Patricia Scherer, mother of M. Suzanne Scherer Calandra '72 and Kathryn A. Scherer '75, December 3, 2016.

John Schloegel, husband of Jean Wargin Schloegel '56, father of Jeanne Schloegel Laszewski '95, November 12, 2016.

Dale Schmitz, husband of Joanne McCabe Schmitz '50, father of Patricia Schmitz Olszewski '78, October 20, 2016.

Richard Lyle Scope, father of Kimberly Sue Scope '08, February 3, 2017.

Thomas Sheehy, husband of Maureen Sullivan Sheehy '62, December 3, 2016.

Michael Smith, brother of Mary Beth Smith Romano '89, December 3, 2016.

Thomas Strachota, husband of Patricia Nemastil Strachota '77, November 21, 2016.

Roger Sullivan, husband of Jayne Colgan Sullivan '59, November 28, 2016.

Leonard Trankina, father of Catherine Dunaway '75, November 24, 2016.

Donald Trauscht, father of Donna Trauscht Heinrich '82, November 12, 2016.

William Voll, father of Susan Voll Galbraith '74, Mary Voll Fisher '76, Virginia Voll Prochaska '76, Patricia Voll McBride '77 and Sally Voll Rowley '82, father-in-law of Ann Vandemotter Voll '76, cousin of Mary Ann Tominovich Randall '55, September 29, 2016.

Joseph Waickus, father of Cynthia Marie Waickus '80, December 31, 2016.

Gladys Walter, grandmother of Jill Moore Clouse '99, December 22, 2016.

Ronald Young, father of Lisa Marie Young '93, November 23, 2016.

Daniel Zeiger, father of Gloria Louise Zeiger '16, November 21, 2016.

Marian Zielinski, mother of Karen Zielinski Burke '78, October 12, 2016.

## ALUMNAE DEATHS

<b>1936</b>	Katherine Broussard Doyle	August 3, 2016	<b>1954</b>	Marie Mertes Hertig Evelyn Lemieux Marzolf Ann P. McCullough Mary Donovan Ryan	October 2, 2016 July 1, 2016 September 19, 2016 January 28, 2017
<b>1938</b>	Jane Kuntz Erler Anne Prikosovits Stemnock Helene O'Keefe Sullivan	June 17, 2016 September 15, 2016 December 27, 2016	<b>1955</b>	Jeanette Grace Helmer	October 3, 2016
<b>1943</b>	Marian Loughery Potter	October 12, 2016	<b>1956</b>	Arlene Andert Simala Bette Crimmins Simcox	October 2, 2016 September 11, 2016
<b>1945</b>	Kathryn Nolan Nugent Patricia Hickey Sarb Mary Ann Hoffman Woodhouse	February 3, 2017 August 22, 2016 January 12, 2017	<b>1957</b>	Mary Lou Ahern Colfer Marilyn J. Huddleson Normalee Fisher Power	December 18, 2016 August 31, 2016 January 9, 2015
<b>1947</b>	Joan Perl Plohr	September 19, 2015	<b>1958</b>	Carolyn Sidley Martin Mary Kay Whiting Rich	December 4, 2016 February 20, 2016
<b>1948</b>	Dolores Buttens Bilinski Elaine Bruck O'Donnell Camille Ingrassia Kiegel	January 29, 2017 October 26, 2016 December 1, 2016	<b>1959</b>	Margaret Keenan Clough	July 29, 2016
<b>1949</b>	Jean Murphy Westland Jeanne Wick Younger	November 4, 2016 December 7, 2016	<b>1960</b>	Phyllis Dell-Cort Conlon Nancy Canary St. Romain	December 10, 2016 November 6, 2016
<b>1950</b>	Marcie Fleming Brennan Helen A. Johnson Frings Louise Amati Riddle	March 14, 2014 January 13, 2017 July 20, 2016	<b>1961</b>	Patricia Collins Fitzgerald	January 27, 2015
<b>1951</b>	Mary Louise Heger Pearce	February 4, 2017	<b>1962</b>	Faith Minne Ross	February 12, 2016
<b>1952</b>	Gloria Kapsa Doyle Cecelia Burger Edwards	January 2, 2017 December 15, 2014	<b>1967</b>	Jane O'Rourke Bender Ruth Ann Morrissey Miriam Louise O'Leary Wilson	September 25, 2016 June 19, 2015 August 18, 2014
<b>1953</b>	Kathryn Smith O'Rieley	February 23, 2016	<b>1985</b>	Mary Durkin Carr	May 17, 2016

Visit Baby Belles and Wedding Belles at [alumnae.saintmarys.edu](http://alumnae.saintmarys.edu) for births and weddings.

## Blessed Are You Among Women A Retreat for Alumnae of Saint Mary's College

**June 23-25, 2017**

Explore, pray, reflect with others during a weekend of prayer and retreat on the beautiful campus of Saint Mary's College.

Visit [alumnae.saintmarys.edu](http://alumnae.saintmarys.edu)  
or call **(574) 284-4578** to reserve your spot.  
*Space is limited.*

**\$210** fee includes registration, accommodations on campus in air-conditioned rooms, and board.

Cosponsored by the Center for Spirituality, Campus Ministry, and the Office of Alumnae Relations



## Chicago East

In October, the Chicago East Alumnae Club celebrated Founders' Day — attending mass together, followed by a lovely brunch. There is nothing better than getting together to celebrate Saint Mary's with fellow Belles!



## Columbus

Brrr... although it's cold as I write this in December, the Columbus Belles have been active.

The New Fall Founders' Day Service Project for J.O.I.N. (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs) was chaired by **Erin Gibbons '86** with assistance from **Kathleen Gibbons '89** and **Sheila Gibbons '88**. Central Ohio Belles collected supplies for the diocesan organization to help the local homeless. The response was fabulous! J.O.I.N. was very appreciative as the need is great.

To coincide with the SMC Fall Break, **Julie Vieta '95** hosted the second annual Meet and Greet at her lovely home for local alums and current SMC students and their families in October. It was a lovely dinner and a wonderful way to connect on different levels with our future alums!

**Jennifer Hadden '96** chaired our Advent Season Mass and Brunch in cooperation with the ND Club of Columbus. We worshipped in the chapel of our diocesan prep school, St. Charles, where the children brought canned goods up to the offertory, and then we had a visit from Santa after a delicious brunch in their newly renovated hall. What a great tradition!

We look forward to our Spring Brunch on April 30, again chaired by **Katie Vincer Sears '03** and **Annie Sofranko '11**. Be SURE to save the date, as we hope to be joined by our new SMC President Jan Cervelli! Details to follow.

Our Columbus Club is growing in numbers, and we attribute that to our online presence. "Like" us on Facebook (Saint Mary's College Alumnae Club of Columbus, Ohio), and that way we can keep in touch with you, too.

## Des Moines

The Des Moines Club celebrated Founders' Day at the home of **Aimee Beckmann-Collier '75** with a terrific presentation on immigration by attorney Lori Chesser, sparkling conversation, and a successful drive to raise \$175 to honor the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. (Actually, we raised \$225, a large number from our small club.) We contributed that amount in the Sisters' name to St. Joseph Emergency Shelter, an outreach of Catholic Charities and the only family shelter in Des Moines. In the spring, the club is planning a service project that will help immigrants in Des Moines.

## Detroit

The Detroit Alumnae Club hosted the Founders' Day event at MEX restaurant. Alumnae from around the area joined for a night of fun, food, and a celebration of Saint Mary's.

This winter we also had a toy drive/shopping event for the patients at Mott's Children's Hospital.



## Georgia

The Georgia Alumnae Club met at **Ronnie Kessenich's '70** home on December 3 for our annual Christmas goodie bag stuffing party for our 24 Georgia Belles. Several mothers of current students joined us for this fun and festive occasion.



As the club grows, we are looking for alumnae to take on additional leadership roles; please email us at [smcalumsga@gmail.com](mailto:smcalumsga@gmail.com) to get involved. We have some exciting events planned for the spring!

## Kansas City

The Kansas City Club met for their annual Christmas lunch at Brio Tuscan Grille on the Plaza. Club members brought goodies for care packages for the two current Kansas City students. A great time was had by all, meeting new friends and catching up with other members.

## Los Angeles

In October, the LA Alumnae Club welcomed two college professors visiting California: Laura Williamson Ambrose and Toni Barstis, who came for the club's Founders' Day celebration. We created a video to welcome President Jan Cervelli to Saint Mary's in November and had a very successful sale of our 2017 limited edition heritage Christmas ornament throughout the holiday season. All proceeds go to our scholarship fund.

We've been pleased at increased activity on our club's Facebook page. Please like our page to keep up with what's going on in LA at: <https://www.facebook.com/SaintMarysCollegeLosAngelesAlumnaeClub>.

Please visit <http://www.saintmaryslaclub.com> to learn about upcoming events, how to join the club, and this year's limited edition heritage Christmas ornament.

## San Francisco/Bay Area

On Sunday, October, 2, the San Francisco Bay Area Alumnae Club commemorated Founders' Day by enjoying a beautiful private mass in a quaint boutique retreat house in Cupertino, CA. Our Lady of Santa Clara Legionary Retreat House hosted our lunch as alumnae mingled, shared SMC stories, and enjoyed the beauty of the Santa Cruz Mountains. A special thank you to Father Timothy Lyons for celebrating mass and welcoming our Saint Mary's Club!

## South Bend

The South Bend Alumnae Club has had an exciting fall and winter and looks forward to 2017! Area alumnae enjoyed participating in happy



hours, the Welcome Home Tailgate hosted by the Alumnae Association, holiday shopping to raise funds for our scholarship, a special Founders' Day Celebration, and a Party with Santa. We were most excited to host our first Founders' Day Panel Discussion and Dinner. Thirty club members enjoyed an evening full of lively conversations about Saint Mary's then and now along with a presentation to commemorate the Sisters of the Holy Cross's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Club members were also thrilled to welcome President Jan Cervelli through a video message shown during her inauguration this fall; many local alumnae also participated in the festivities in person. In the new year, the Club looks forward to connecting with alumnae through service events, happy hours, a family picnic, an evening of wine and painting, and our first event of 2017 — One Book, One Saint Mary's dinner and discussion with Professor Billy on January 26.

Our ongoing fundraiser continues to be a success! The South Bend Club has partnered with ADesign & Sons, owned by **Anne Husslau Dondanville '82**, to offer alumnae the original French Cross jewelry, including necklaces, earrings, and bracelets. These beautiful pieces are the perfect gift for a fellow Belle or even yourself. The best part — 40 percent of each purchase goes to the South Bend Alumnae Club Scholarship Fund that awards annual scholarships to current Belles from the Saint Joseph region. Jewelry can be viewed and purchased on our website ([smcsclub.com](http://smcsclub.com)).

Yearly dues are \$30 and new alumnae join free for the first year. Dues are not required to attend events but are encouraged to help defray event costs and build our scholarship fund. Dues paying members will also see additional incentives at events throughout the year. Dues can be paid



online at [smcsbclub.com](http://smcsbclub.com) or by mailing a check to **Regina Mauck '14** at 1321 Enchanted Forest Street, South Bend, IN 46637.

If you are new to the South Bend area, or live here and want to join the fun, please contact the club at [smcsbclub@gmail.com](mailto:smcsbclub@gmail.com), visit our website and "Like" us on Facebook "Saint Mary's College South Bend Alumnae Club" for upcoming events and club news.

## Southwest Michigan



On December 20, Southwest Michigan Belles met for a pre-holiday celebration at the Lazy Ballerina Winery in St. Joseph, MI.

This was the first gathering of this group and we hope to connect on a more regular basis. If you are interested in becoming a part of the SW MI Belles, contact **Tara Sabo '03**: [taraannsabo@gmail.com](mailto:taraannsabo@gmail.com).

## Washington, DC

Club of the Year! Congratulations to all DC Belles, especially our club president, **Katie Gretter Rice '92**, for such an incredible year! This amazing award will be presented on April 2...hope to see you all at this exciting event.



DC Club Founders' Day event, held on October 5 at the ACA Mansion, where we chatted about all things "then & now"!

## SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE *Faithful Giving* SOCIETY

### BUILD A LEGACY OF FAITHFUL GIVING

Saint Mary's established the Faithful Giving Society as a way to honor current donors who, gift by gift, have built a legacy of faithful giving that spans three or more consecutive fiscal years.

Whether this is your first or your 40<sup>th</sup> year giving back, we hope you know that your generosity helps the College faithfully fulfill its mission and prepare another generation of Saint Mary's women to build a better world.

And if you haven't done so yet, we hope you'll join in this important work today with a gift to Saint Mary's through the Annual Fund.

Office of Annual Giving  
138 Madeleva Hall  
Notre Dame, IN 46556  
Phone: (800) 762-8871  
[saintmarys.edu/AnnualFund](http://saintmarys.edu/AnnualFund)





**'48**  
**Lila Chenal Milford**  
**1225 Northwood Court**  
**Marion, IN 46952**  
**lcmilford@yahoo.com**

Writing this column got off to a running start when I called **Gretchen Goetzman Brophy** in Broken Arrow, OK, near Tulsa. Gretchen spent several years in Texas, but now has lived the last 40 years in the same house overlooking a golf course.

Another happy call was to **Ann Kimber Walsh** in Bakersfield, CA, whose children had just given her an enormous birthday party lasting a day and a half.

**Dorothy McFarland Dixon** is still in fast-growing Elizabethtown, KY, where she has served on many civic committees as well as being active in her parish programs for many years. Dorothy keeps in touch with **Mary Terstegge Means**.

While in California in early 2016, I had the pleasure of having lunch with **Rita Domas McCabe** in Coronado. Rita is being lovingly cared for by one of her daughters after a very active life. Also had a visit with **Rosemary Kisgen Mullahey** in her beautiful home in Thousand Oaks.

When this column is in the spring *Courier*, I hope to have completed my 111-day cruise around the world, after a great year of being a torch bearer in Indiana's bicentennial celebration and receiving a first-place award in mixed media at a county art show with a painting called "Alice" after my sister and daughter.

**'50**  
**Elizabeth Nolan**  
**3630 Glastonbury Street**  
**Iowa City, IA 52245**

Since my last report, three of our classmates have joined the widows' ranks. **Anne Reynolds Pyron** wrote that her husband, Ida, died in July. In Anne's words, "He always loved Saint Mary's and attending our Reunions. He attended every Reunion every five years from 1965–2015. That's 11 Reunions and must be a record!" Shortly thereafter, word came of the death in August of **Mary Cucchi Depman's** husband, Joe. Mary and Joe were married for 64 years and raised a family of five children. With many highlights in their full marriage, of particular note is an invitation that Joe, a tenor, received to sing with his parish choir for now St. John Paul II at the Vatican in Rome. Lastly, word was received that **Joanne McCabe Schmitz's** husband Dale died in October. Love and prayers to them and their families.

**'52**  
**Mary Rose Shaughnessy**  
**5050 S. East End Avenue, 14A**  
**Chicago, IL 60615**  
**maryroseshaughnessy@gmail.com**

Dear Classmates, As our 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion approaches, I hope you are all planning on attending. A number of you have already written that you are looking forward to coming.

**Mary Ann Scherger Fairlie**, who lives in St. Petersburg, FL, spends the summers with her husband, Drew, road tripping around the country to visit their children and grandchildren. This summer they logged 3,500 miles and went for a cruise on the Mississippi. She says that in future they may cut back on the travel a bit. (Or not?)

**Mary Jean Wallace Paxton**, my faithful correspondent in the San Diego area, keeps active by volunteering since her husband Dave's death.

"Currently I am a volunteer in the Oceanside Public Library's Literacy Program. I am tutoring a 60-year-old Chinese lady. She was a nurse in China and is very intelligent and hard-working. We meet for an hour and a half every Monday and Wednesday at the library. Several years ago, I accompanied my husband, David (now deceased), on a business trip to China. The visit taught me many things, including what it's like not to be able to read the signs! Our Saint Mary's Club of San Diego is very active. Our Christmas meeting included sharing homemade cookies and bringing gifts for the needy. This year we supplied infant clothing for mothers in Birth Choice."

**Lynn Dargis Ambrose** wrote of the same club meeting: "I'm hosting our annual Cookie Exchange for San Diego alums. At our very first one more than eight years ago, I recall each alum sharing something they loved about our alma mater — how similar our thoughts were despite some of us recalling over 65 years ago and others remembering just a year ago. We also collect items for a local charity — this year it's Birth Choice — and an alumna brings all the items to them as our contribution and blessing."

"Crossing off my bucket list continues with my Galapagos adventure with Road Scholar. After a long flight to Ecuador, we explored ancient Quito sights, standing with one foot south of Equator and the other foot north. Brought back 21 t-shirts for family, who wore them for our annual family picture on Leucadia's beach. My journey was like traveling back in time — iguanas, resembling ancient dinosaurs, scrambled at my feet, giant tortoises and playful sea lions swam alongside me as I snorkeled the warm reefs, Darwin yellow finches, blue-footed boobies, frigate birds, rare penguins were everywhere without fear of humans. We sailed on a small expedition yacht for two weeks, which allowed us to visit most of the volcanic and lava-strewn islands and pre-historic creatures. Nature is a mirror of God."

"I continue therapy dog visits with Caleb, my 9-year-old golden doodle, at the VA center, hospitals, the wellness zone at UCSD, libraries for Paws to Read with children, and assisted living centers with seniors. We were nominated by the district attorney as 'Volunteers of the Year' for San Diego with Caleb as a court dog team with me. Having many warm encounters with young and old, he's often called a live teddy bear."

"All the families are growing up and at different stages of life. We're all off to a Kona Plantation B&B to snorkel, sail, and explore the natural wonders of this Hawaiian island for our Christmas family gathering."

Lynn, too, is planning on coming to our 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion in June.

**Toni Diale Watkins**, who visited me while

spending time with her family vacationing near the San Diego bay, unfortunately won't be with us — a graduation that weekend came up. Mary Jean is now somewhat hesitant so I'm just going "with the flow." Hopefully, we'll be there ourselves!

**Vivian Tuerk Markham** wrote: "Where have the years gone? We now have sons ready to retire. We notice that we receive great courtesies from strangers when we are out with the public. We have three great-grands who help to enrich our lives. Re: Reunion '65 — only God knows if we'll be there. Meanwhile, keep the faith!"

For myself, I cruise on. In August, I cruised on the *Prairie Home Companion* to Alaska. By chance, all six of us who had dined together on the 2015 Caribbean cruise found each other again, almost as if we had planned it. Garrison Keillor and his cast provided two fun-filled weeks of entertainment as we stopped to see the Hubbard Glacier (six miles long) and visit the first Russian Orthodox church in North America in Kodiak.

In November, I sailed on the *Prinsendam* from Rome to Fort Lauderdale. In Rome, I went on a "Glimpse of Rome" excursion, which stopped at St. Paul's Outside the Walls, one of the Holy Year churches with a Jubilee Holy Door. I just made it! The year ended at the end of November. After seeing Columbus's tomb in the Seville Cathedral and Vasco DaGama's tomb in the San Jeronimos Cathedral in Lisbon, and having my picture taken by the Belem Tower on the Guadalquivir River, I was ready for the repositioning Atlantic crossing to Florida, feeling I was following the course of those early explorers. Seven sea days of sunshine, 70-degree weather: what could be more heavenly. I would do the same trip again next year!

Happy New Year 2017.

**'54**  
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Sad news seems to open our column all too often. Many of you knew **Ann McCullough** was seriously ill; she died September 19 in El Cerrito, CA. Ann taught in elementary school for 38 years. **Janell Wenzel O'Barski**, who did so much travelling with Ann, flew out for her funeral and gave one of the eulogies.

**Anne Feldpausch Hubert** reports that she was blessed this year with four additional great-grandchildren, making the number 21 with two more expected next year.

When Indianapolis Archbishop Joseph Tobin was named a Cardinal, **Bernice Boucher Hopp** was saddened but still thought it was great news. He had visited her retirement home twice. **Christine Magruder Hackl '49** and her husband recently moved into the Marquette retirement home where Bernice and Jim live.

**Jane Flynn Carroll** had her annual luncheon visit with **Helen Kuhn Carey '51** and their daughters in September. She's been working on downsizing my house (after 46 years) to get it ready to sell come spring. Jane recommends her book club's selection, *A Man Called Ove* (Fredrik

Backman), which she really enjoyed.

It's a shame **Pat Gannon Scully** doesn't live closer. Every so often she sends pictures of the beautiful pottery she's working on or completed. The last group was of three striking bowls. I'm impressed — the bowls had tops!

**Mary Shane Helfrey** sends greetings; she and her husband are hosting family members at their home in Whittier for Christmas.

Using her African background, **Sister Jo Magoffin Lucker, MM**, describes her reunion with **Maureen Bennett Brady**. "Elephants love reunions. They recognize one another after years of separation and greet each other with wild, boisterous joy. There is bellowing and trumpeting, ear flapping, and trunks intertwined." Sound like our Reunions?

Maureen remarked that in our time at SMC we had been blessed with so many gracious, gifted leadership figures such as Sister Madeleva, Sister Sophia, and Father Hesburgh; Jo added the winning ND football teams, so many pep rallies at home games, and victory dances afterwards. Maureen has a photo of herself with Bernie Sanders when she was volunteering at a campaign table. She gets audio books from Braille and recommends a good read — *When Books Went to War*, a true story about when we all were growing up during World War II.

**Joan Rossi** reports a conversation with none other than **Rena Bianucci Sereno**, who is still active with ALPHA Friends of Antiquity. Hopefully, one of these days, **Rita Giometti Zalesky**, Joan, and Rena will meet for lunch this spring. Anyone else? Joan, Janell, and **Rose Marie Murphy Foley** took their usual trip to the Shaw Festival.

Though she wishes the ND games this year were something to write about, **Bev Ritz Bierbusse** reminds us the Cubs and the Indians had a good series. I'll bet the Chicago alumnae think so, too!

The weather cooperated beautifully on November 12 for the inauguration of our 12<sup>th</sup> president. The festivities for Jan Cervelli began with a reception and dinner Friday evening, followed on Saturday by Mass, luncheon, and the inauguration (in O'Laughlin). **Mary Ann Kramer Campbell** and I were fortunate to attend the festivities. The inauguration was a beautiful, well-planned ceremony with representatives from across the college welcoming President Cervelli. I hope you were able to view it. You'd especially have liked the College choir's rendition of "The Belles of Saint Mary's."

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**Frances Clohessy Spillane** spoke with **Florence Senger Rose**'s daughter. We all miss our friends who have gone to Heaven. Frances had dinner with Stephanie Burke from Saint Mary's to learn that our '55 Scholarship Fund is "well and alive." Praise God! We do want to help as many young ladies as we can to have a Saint Mary's College education. Frances is also enjoying spending time at the Cape this summer with family and friends.

A great and lively conversation was had with **Sybil Emmett Tucker**, who lives in Dallas, TX. She stepped down from her long-time position as alumnae director at Ursuline Academy; however, she still works two days a week in the archive department. Her husband is well and enjoys his golf game as well as their travels together. Her final remark was, "We are so blessed to have good health and to be able to enjoy life to the fullest." Keep it up, Sybil!

**Shirley Wagner Van Devere** is still playing tennis and teaches the grandchildren who live in the area one morning each week. She is involved in her church activities, both at home and in Ft. Myers Beach, FL, in the winter. While in Florida, both she and Joe volunteer at the local thrift shop. At home, she takes Communion to and cooks for the homebound.

**Sally Teppert McKendry '58** invited a small group of SMC alums from the Detroit area to her home for coffee to share an evening with **Kara O'Leary '89**, executive director of alumnae and college relations. She gave us a peek into some of the plans that our new president, Jan Cervelli, has for the College.

I, Maureen, was privileged to attend the inauguration of President Cervelli. The weather was absolutely perfect; the trees on The Avenue held their beautifully colored leaves just for the occasion, and all the festivities surrounding the actual inauguration ceremony were absolutely better than first class. I am still getting to the gym every day to get rid of some of the calories I ingested that day from all the yummy goodies. I think you are all going to be very pleased with the future of the College under her presidency.

I hope you are all as well as can be considering our years of service, and I will look forward to talking with more of you in early winter.

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This column, with a December deadline, is destined for the spring 2017 issue of *Courier*. By then, plans to attend our amazing milestone Reunion will be in place. The first harbinger of the event came in August. I'm sure you saw the clever advance notice, which bore your own name tag! Did you notice pictures inside of our very own **Mary Baker Culhane** and **Jan Feldpausch Cavanaugh**? They were not identified in the brochure but I thought, "I'd know those two anywhere." Emails confirmed they were the models, snapped at a prior Reunion, and they hope to be there in June.

For years, 24 to be exact, our Trinity High School class has had a mini reunion with an overnight getaway alternating between Lake Geneva, WI, and Long Beach, IN. This past June, **Katie Adele Perry, Janet O'Connell McCue**, and I were among the group reminiscing at the home of **Peggy Kearin Carey**. An attempt to set up a lunch date with **Mary Comisky Riley** this summer in downtown Chicago led to my discovery that Mary had decided

to remain in Scottsdale this year. Mary never has a shortage of visitors, and both she and daughter Betsy enjoy Arizona's kinder winter weather. Mary's daughter Molly is now living in Maryland, where she is employed by Cystic Fibrosis at their national headquarters in Bethesda.

In September, **Josie Murphy Vorda, Dee Kiley LeFevour, Judy Hanks Maus, Jody Donohoe McGoldrick**, and I decided to visit **Peg Balfe** in Cape Cod.



Seated L to R: Josie Murphy Vorda, Peg Balfe. Standing L to R: Jody Donohoe McGoldrick, MG Turner Enderle, Judy Hanks Maus, and Dee Kiley LeFevour.

With Peg as our guide, we did some leisurely sightseeing, including the charming Atwood House Museum in Chatham, where Peg had recently volunteered as an archivist. Fifteen years ago, we were appreciating Cape Cod when 9/11 changed the world and extended our visit, so this trip was nostalgic. We missed those from the original trip: **Mary Kathleen Carroll, Mary O'Connor** (recuperating from back surgery in Palo Alto), the late **Sheilamae Shannon O'Hara**, and the late **Mary Alice (Mimi) Scanlon Ryan**, but were grateful for happy times and good memories. Right after returning, Judy went to Naples, FL, to celebrate the special birthday of her sister **Eleanor Hanks Connors '58**. Jody made a trip to South Bend for the ND-Stanford game, where she got to have lunch with **Maureen Butler O'Malley** as well as visit with her granddaughter Lauren, who is a sophomore at ND.

My October email appeal for news brought great responses. **Ellen Boyle Benish** was headed to their Benessere winery in Napa and planned to see **Mary O'Connor** while in California. John and Ellen have 16 grandchildren, with three of them college graduates (including Saint Mary's alumna **Madeline Inez O'Sullivan '12**); the youngest is 11 years old. **Kay Howard Boyle** and Mike happily report the arrival of their first great-grandchild. Kay and **Ann Schultheis Massey** still play bridge in the same group about once a month and as Kay said, Ann remains a "good and reliable friend." Our friendships are truly a blessing! **Bobbi Frederick Black** wrote from Mancos, CO, that she was recovering well from October ankle replacement surgery and hopes that by December she will "be ready to go out dancing." I'm not sure if dancing skills are needed for Reunion, but I was delighted to hear that she is already planning on attending with her "old roomy" **Barbara Barker Dooley**.

Others who look forward to Reunion — as everyone says, "God willing" — are **Anne White Maysak** and **Shirley O'Brien Creamer**. **Pat Bauervick Leonard** should be employed by the Chamber of Commerce of Northern Michigan. According to Pat, their summer weather was the



best in 60 years, enticing their grandchildren to thoroughly enjoy swimming in Grand Traverse Bay. Pat heard recently from **Theresa Binkley Byrne**, whom she referred to as our class “ball of energy” due to her work schedule at Trader Joe’s and tennis and yoga classes. Theresa celebrated her BIG birthday with her family in Hawaii.

**Irene O’Leary Van Beckum** has had a busy fall, returning in September to the same Tuscan villa she enjoyed with her family a year ago. This time the trip was with friends, and she extended her trip to explore Sicily on a week’s tour. Next was a mini family reunion in NYC, with enough energy left to host Thanksgiving dinner for 24!

Thomas L. Spalding, the husband of the late **Mary (Chickie) Taylor Spalding**, died on January 3, 2017.

I am certainly thankful for having attended Saint Mary’s and for all of you. With Reunion on the horizon, many have expressed concerns about attending, either due to health and mobility issues or family responsibilities.

Please try to join your classmates and make our 60<sup>th</sup> extra special!

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As reported in the last issue of *Courier*, two of our classmates have passed away. **Mary Ruth Lewis Cloudsley** on November 7, 2015, and **Diane Miskiewicz Golem** on February 19, 2016. Please remember them in your prayers. Sadly, the ranks are thinning as our column advances toward the front of the magazine.

**Mary K. Moran Gaudet** lost her husband, Bob, to lung cancer on February 12, 2016. She writes, “The support of my big family, friends and so many Saint Mary’s friends has helped me through the months.” In August, Mary K. met with **Mary (Meg) Stone Longtine**, **Louise Schulte Johnson**, **Peg Stratton Burleigh**, and **Mary Sheets Klinkose** in Chicago for three days of chatter, shopping, and museums.

I just heard from **Carol Podesta Foley** that she had a short visit with **Mary Hughes Enright**, who was in Chicago for her twin brother Jack’s funeral. Lots of people to pray for.

**Connie Roller Curtin** called me for my birthday in August. She didn’t sound well as she had just returned from the hospital, where she was treated for pneumonia, which had damaged her heart.

I speak with **Sarah Sceales Mulcahy** on a regular basis and she is doing very well in her new apartment. She says her grandkids come over to watch the Notre Dame football games with her because they know how much she misses Tom.

Gerry and I have decided to spend the last two weeks of December in Florida — a week with my sister **Betty Benford Belfiore** in Venice and a week with our youngest daughter and family in Naples. Preparations will be a little hectic, but it should be fun. We enjoyed our annual 10 days in Maui in October.

We have been glued to the TV watching the World Series because our youngest son, Tim, is a baseball agent and one of his players, Mike Montgomery on the Cubs, was the pitcher who recorded the final out when the Cubs broke their losing streak to win 8 to 7.

Welcome, to our new president, Jan Cervelli. She’s the 10<sup>th</sup> since Sister Madeleva. I had the privilege of working with four past presidents — Duggan, Hickey, Eldred, and **Carol Ann Mooney ’72** — while serving on the Los Angeles Club Board and the College Alumnae Board.

## **’60 From the Courier Office:**

**Rose Marie Nigro Groppe** reported, “I was contacted recently by a General Mills representative to be interviewed for a podcast on the GM blog. The podcast/blog ‘remembers’ the 1955–1977 Betty Crocker Search for the Homemaker of Tomorrow program sponsored by General Mills. I was the 1956 Colorado state winner in the program and won a trip to DC, Williamsburg, and Philadelphia along with the other state winners. As a state winner, I also won a \$1,500 scholarship, which helped defray my college expenses at Saint Mary’s. The podcast/blog was posted on December 14. My interview begins at approximately 19:35 minutes into the podcast. During the interview, I explain that I used my scholarship at Saint Mary’s College in South Bend, IN, and that I value the education I received there.” The link for the podcast/blog: <http://blog.generalmills.com/2016/12/podcast-homemaker-of-tomorrow/>.

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My news is to remind classmates to **save** the date for our 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion, June 1–4, 2017. Plan to attend, and **return** our class survey, even if you are not able to attend Reunion. I use the survey info for future *Courier* Class of ’62 reports. I plan to be there and greet everyone and enjoy another wonderful, fun-filled, and memorable Reunion weekend.

**’63** **Gail M. Donovan**  
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Two interesting stories about classmates — **Sue Sullivan Lane** and **Mary Rainey** — for this edition. In early October, I had a wonderful reunion with Sue and her husband, Chris (ND’63), in Denver. Lots of laughter and stimulating discussions and a great morning at one of the two soup kitchens where Sue volunteers each week. Making corn bread pudding for 300 was quite an experience, and I can envision a new and satisfying career in soup kitchens once I retire. Sue is the point person, making weekly visits to the markets, restaurants,

and other food vendors who provide regular contributions.

Shortly after I flew home to Boston, Sue and Chris traveled to the US-Mexico border for a weekend fact-finding trip organized for the Colorado Vincentian Volunteers. Bob Mosher of the Columban Mission Center in El Paso and Kari Lenander, director of the Border Service Corps in Las Cruces, enabled the Colorado folks to meet and talk in-depth with people who live and work with immigration and border issues daily in Ciudad Juarez and El Paso. First, Sue, Chris, and others in the group visited “the Wall” on both sides of the border — an 18- to 20-foot barrier of steel bars set in cement within 25 yards of a residential area where children play. Then they were introduced to an array of people with moving realities and stories — US Border Patrol agents, who described the poignant situations and people, including unaccompanied children, that they encounter in the remote areas; an attorney from the Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services Office, who described the avenues for legal migration that are theoretically available and yet encumbered with obstacles that result in a true “Catch 22” for most; an El Paso physician, who has spent 30 years working in clinics serving the most impoverished sections of Juarez; local women volunteering at a small mission near the clinic, who have organized a small library where they hold classes for neighborhood children and listen with compassion as the children’s parents wrestle with whether they should try to move north across the border; and Sister Betty Campbell and Father Peter Hinde, who have spent 50-plus years working with the systemic problems affecting the poor in Central America and Mexico — the last 20 in Juarez.

In relating their insights on how people cope with the growing violence and poverty, they touched on the US contributors to those issues through our trade policies and drug trafficking. They attended a Friday evening tamale supper at the tiny El Paso home of a family living in the States without papers, during which the husband and wife shared what motivated their coming — escaping violence and seeking educational opportunities for their children, as well as health care needed by a small daughter. They described the problems and fears of their daily lives as they sought work, experienced the threat of deportation, and suffered abuses related to their status, all the time yearning for contact with their family in Mexico. Only the outreach and support of their church and community sustained them.

Over Sunday lunch, a somewhat similar story of life on the margins was told by another young woman who had made a breathtakingly dangerous trip to the States with the two children of a friend who had entrusted them to her shortly before she died. This compassionate friend sought medical care for one of the “daughters,” who was disabled. She, too, found her sustenance in her church community and hoped someday to be able to give back in kind.

Sue looks back on this journey as “a mind and heart-expanding experience.” “We left Juarez-El Paso with few answers, many questions, and a much deeper understanding of the human elements that make up what is often called the immigration problem. One of the prayers we shared states it well — “You only leave home when home won’t let you stay.”

A few days after Sue's letter, I received a copy of a lovely letter written to our Reunion chairs from the first recipient of the scholarship that resulted from our class gift. **Maria Teresa Valencia '17**, wrote that she is the first member of her California family to attend college; she keeps busy as a social work major with several part-time jobs and involvement as a student activist in numerous on- and off-campus activities, committees, and clubs. She, too, spoke of the importance of solidarity with undocumented Latinos and the power of listening to the stories they share about their lives, an experience she has had access to through SMC's Church and the City program. There's no doubt we're helping to launch a young woman who will make a genuine contribution to the world.

And finally, **Mary Rainey** gave me a tutorial on the organizational dynamics and systems underpinning disaster relief missions across the country. During the summer and fall, Mary was part of Red Cross teams that moved in and took over once the scope of such undertakings exceeded what a state or county could handle. Often the



Mary Rainey during her recent Red Cross work on disaster relief after the Louisiana floods.

Red Cross inherits intense turf wars when a county seeks to serve only "their own," though a disaster might extend miles beyond county lines. Or there is the chaos caused by the well-intentioned who might arrive with 100 pizzas, but 1,100-plus people are yearning for a long-postponed bite to eat. Over time, Mary explained, the Red Cross has developed systems and processes that are "truly amazing." I could tell she was still dazzled by the brilliance of the organization's responses, which she saw most recently in the disaster relief efforts for those devastated by the Louisiana floods last August and, several months later, Hurricane Matthew. Mary had her preferred assignment in community partner services for both of those events, helping to coordinate the delivery of supplies and services proffered by churches, the United Way, FEMA, the National Guard, restaurants, child care agencies, and so on.

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**Fran Bardello Craig** is excited to share that our class scholarship fund has been given to Alice Johnson. To perpetuate this fund, when you donate to Saint Mary's, please designate that you would like your contribution to be in this fund.

**Pat Powers Gowdy** has written that she had an eight-day tour, which included New York theater, as well as visiting grandchildren in Maryland and New York and childhood friends from California and Pennsylvania. **Kathy Roeder** was caught in Haiti during Hurricane Matthew and ended up not only taking care of cholera patients but also painting the hospital. She had been there to help the Sisters of Mercy with the needs of the poorest of the poor women in the mountains. If anyone would be interested in going with Kathy on these trips, please contact her.

**Kathy Cullinan Seggerson** replied that she and her husband had been in Provence, loved the walled medieval villages, all the art and literature connections, and the absence of tourists in the late fall. They also met their daughter, who teaches in Zurich, for a weekend in Nice. Very nice! **Denise Cavanaugh, Carole Barskis Weber, and Kathy Roeder** went with the SMC alumnae to the Dordogne region of France and loved seeing caves 17,000 and 30,000 years old with art. Denny commented that it was a reminder of our fleeting importance.

**Linda Camiller Sanderson** had a very busy fall and loved gathering with so many friends during the ND football weekends: **Mary Whealen Burd, Roberta Limarzi Weinsheimer, and Ellen Brown McBride** at the Nevada game; and **Joanne Casellini Kelly, Anne Froning Laboe, Nancy L. Mascotte, Bobbye Borchers Flecker, Angie Braunstein Maher, Sue Shalgos Wolsfeld, Carol Cronin Moran, and Margie Carroll Flynn** at the Stamford game. In November, Mike and Linda joined **Mary Kay Brady Turner** and John and attended the dedication of a National Conservation Training Center Instructional Building in West Virginia.

Kent and I saw both **Molly Follis Tuton** and **Jinx Hack Ring** in California in October. Jinx is on her way to Kenya. **Nancy Drew Sheehan** is back in Naples, FL, after back surgery. **Roberta Limarzi Weinsheimer** and I spent a few days in Atlanta with our husbands, playing golf. **Karen Mortimer Williams** and I try to lunch every month. I am plodding through *Hamilton* — I can't believe the extensive research! My husband, daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughter all were at the seventh game of the World Series — great excitement for the Cubs and Chicago.

**Jane Clemens Stiles** reported that she was in Fort Worth, TX. **Marilynne (Sue) Prendergast Burtenshaw** is celebrating Noel's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in December, and in February, Sue is off to an SMC reunion in the Texas Hill Country. Both **Susanna Hayes** and **Marty Thompson Coe** have published their books. Susanna's is on the Native American Pacific Northwest people and Marty's is on how to live an enriched married life.

LOVE, ENJOY, PEACE

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As I sit writing this on a sunny Illinois 55-degree day on the last day of November, I think to myself

that I don't ever recall such lovely weather in South Bend 50 some years ago at this time of year. I was so grateful for the tunnel in those dark days of winter.

**Sheila Flynn Boone** from Denver writes: "On our way to South Bend in June for Michael's 50<sup>th</sup> at ND, we stopped in Dixon for an all-too-short visit with **Sheila Kelly Ames**. In July, we left for a Great Rivers of Europe cruise. Wonderful sights and fun people on the small ship."

From **Rosann Gorman Conroy**: "We arrived in Florida the same day that Hurricane Matthew was passing by Miami. Fortunately, Naples did not receive any effects of the storm."

On that stormy note, all our '65 gals who live on the East Coast were fine. Lil and I started checking as soon as the storm was ready to hit.

**Judy Gerhart Lynch** just returned from Ohio, after helping her sister who is being treated for an aggressive form of breast cancer. A request for positive thoughts and many prayers would be so appreciated from our class.

**Elise Meyer, Kathleen McAnaney Campbell, and Valerie Maracz Perrone** got together for lunch in the Denver area, where Valerie and Tony live. In the evening, Kathleen and Elise attended an art invitational. Elise writes: "Valerie's exceptional work was featured. That girl has talent! And, she won the People's Choice Award with an oil portrait of her grandson!"

**Dolores Cummings Kurtz** and **Pat Hoben Daniels** kept me updated on **Ruth Clement Affeldt**, and asked for continued prayers. Ruth's new address is Mrs. Ruth Affeldt, 1224 13<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. From what I understand she is not doing well. We are keeping her and husband, Jim, in our thoughts and prayers. It would be a small kindness to drop a note to Ruth, and I know our class will respond generously.

**Jan McCale O'Neill** and **Theresa (Teffy) Lyons Brosnan** got together at Jan's house in Williamsburg, VA. From Teffy: "I just returned from Poland in September and on my way back went to the canonization of Mother Teresa. It was an experience of a lifetime."



Jan McCale O'Neill and Theresa Lyons Brosnan together in Williamsburg, VA.

"Also, I would like continued prayers for the transitional house for men coming out of jail. I'm very close to opening it. It will be called 'Francis House' after our wonderful Pope."

**Patsy Callahan Barry** writes from Texas: "We are heading to Chicago to watch our grandson play football. We are driving up from Texas and stopping to see **Kate Della Maria Weidner** and husband, Steve, in Iowa on our way."



I love the SMC '65 Facebook site that **Sheila Flynn Boone** and husband, Michael, have set up for us. Great pictures from fellow students! They make me homesick for our days at our alma mater.

Classmates **Carla Aderente, Kathleen McAnaney Campbell,** and **Pat Farrell Wareham** enjoyed lunch together and catching up on life in Kansas City, where Kathleen spends time. Carla is on the tail end of a long driving trip to see all her grandfather's large murals.

**Betty Ann Rice Kaminsky** from Arizona writes: "In May, a friend and I flew to Pittsburgh to join a tour headed for Europe. We were exhausted every night, but could not wait to get up and see what adventures the next day would bring. The biggest highlight of the summer came in July with a visit from **Carla Aderente**. We had **Regina Parks** over a time or two. Carla kept me amused with her tales of all the places she had visited, classmates she had seen, and adventures in Airbnb's."



Betty Ann Rice Kaminsky, Carla Aderente, and Regina Parks visited each other in July.

I was in Chicago recently and had a delightful time catching up over dinner with **Cille Sorrentino Bucolo**. She sees **Marianne Spalding Schiavone** quite often, ran into **Kate Della Maria Weidner** quite by accident, and was planning on a get together with **Katherine Zeller Nicklin** in Michigan. **Mary Delaney Willer** was planning on joining them.

New from **Marianne Spalding Schiavone**: "Thank you for such thoughtful, fun, challenging, warm wishes for an enjoyable birthday. And thank you to many friends who reached out to reconnect. Tonight **Cille Sorrentino Bucolo** is having us and a few other couples to her home for dinner. How nice!"

And, more excellent news from Marianne: "As a founding member of the West Side Heroin Task Force in Oak Park, IL, I am working with amazingly committed people who have come together to try to diminish the number of heroin and opioid overdoses. There is much work to be done."

Please remember in your prayers the family of **Gail Wegman Tobin**. She passed away Saturday, July 23. We all have lovely Saint Mary's memories of Gail.

This interesting news from **Pat Hall Choiniere** was sent to me by **Nancy Wagner LaValle**. Nancy had contacted Pat about attending Reunion, and Pat felt compelled to explain why she will not be coming: "Although I attended Saint Mary's off and on from 1953 to 1965, when I finally graduated, I did not know any members of that class personally. I am an ex-Sister of the Holy Cross and in those days novices were not allowed to talk to the college girls. Upon leaving the Sisters of the Holy Cross, I joined the US Foreign Service and had a fabulous

career working in embassies throughout the world. After retiring, I started an early education center in Alexandria, VA. Currently, I live with my husband in Fredericksburg, VA, and do some volunteering at our local hospital."

And, from Nancy to me: "After Pat's endearing response, I felt obligated to email her at least a small part of my life story. While mine certainly lacked the glamour and zest of hers, I was glad to share since she opened up so readily to a stranger, albeit one with a common core. We *thought* we were living in a convent while she really was. I think SMC made most of us stronger than we were when we arrived."

Ladies, kindly remember our Class of '65 Memorial Scholarship. We have two young women from the class of 2018 and 2019 who have benefitted from our scholarship this year: **Kylie Marie Bridegroom** from Knox, IN, majoring in social work, and **Grace Caroline Donnelly** from Winchester, CA, majoring in art. Both wrote beautiful thank-you letters. We wish these lovely young women all the very best in the years to come. \$29,300 was distributed.

**'68 Elizabeth Elmore**  
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**Ginny Ward** writes that it has been a big year. She turned 70 in November and has, as have most of us, entered a time of great loss and a greater appreciation for the upcoming joys. On the heartbreaking side, her beloved sister Jane died in June after a long battle with leukemia. She requests prayers for her family. To help with the healing process, there was joyful news: Her third great-grandchild, Blakely Kay, was born in April 2016. In July, she moved into a wheelchair-accessible apartment for John. She says she is grateful for every day.

**Pat Applegate Bartoshesky** writes that she is greatly enjoying retirement and her grandchildren. She has started teaching a class for English language learners though her local literacy organization. She and Lou try to get to a couple of ND football games each fall.

**Kathy Huisking Sullivan** sent a picture of seven Belles at Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater,



Gwynne Morgan, Susan Deddish Mazilauskas, Vera (Penny) Wingeier Sullivan, Barbara Gibson South, Kathy Huisking Sullivan, Susan Dickey Smith, and Karen Huisking Coffey.

one of the stops during their SMC Pittsburgh reunion. **Barbara Gibson South** and **Gwynne Morgan** planned a fascinating trip. All the Belles were impressed with the transformation of Pittsburgh into a thoroughly vibrant city.

**Gwynne Morgan** also wrote about the Pittsburgh reunion where the "seven '68 Belles rang up a good time," celebrating their big birthdays and discovering a very changed city from the one in which **Barbara Gibson South** and **Gwynne Morgan** grew up. **Kathy Huisking Sullivan, Karen Huisking Coffey, Vera (Penny) Wingeier Sullivan, Susan Deddish Mazilauskas,** and **Susan Dickey Smith** joined Pittsburgh-based Barbara and Gwynne to tour the city's sights.



Karen Huisking Coffey, Susan Dickey Smith, Barbara Gibson South, Vera (Penny) Wingeier Sullivan, Gwynne Morgan, Susan Deddish Mazilauskas, and Kathy Huisking Sullivan.

They also studied the Three Rivers City by boat and viewed its multiple bridges from one of the city's remaining inclines. The city was recently touted by the *New York Times* for its exploding restaurant scene, which the Belles researched thoroughly. Pittsburgh is now a center of medicine, research, insurance, robotics, and finance with not much evidence of the "Steel City" or its polluted past. For example, Gwynne and husband Bill Golden, Boston residents, spent the year on the former site of Jones & Laughlin Steel, where Bill runs a biotech company.

**Helene Marie Curry** has been living in Niles, MI, just up the road from Saint Mary's, for the last 42 years! She retired two years ago as a social worker at a nursing home, where she had been employed for almost 22 years. She loved the work but decided it was time to leave when the privately owned facility was bought by a corporation. She now spends much of her free time working outside in her gardens, where she grows herbs, veggies, and perennials. She and her husband, Dan, still working at his tire shop, have traveled extensively around the world, always a dream of hers while in school. She has three sons who live out of the area. She has also taken full advantage of the auditing program at Saint Mary's, taking history classes pertinent to her travels; she cannot thank the College enough for this wonderful opportunity. She writes, "The professors are still as engaging and as helpful as they were 50 years ago." She admits it is easy to be intimidated by the young beauties gracing the campus, but she keeps telling herself, "Wait, I was here first! And 50 years ago at that!" When cold weather hits, she returns to the "Y," attempting one class a day in Pilates or yoga while still trying to walk four miles a day. Helene concludes her news with: "Life is good and I live in a state of gratefulness!"

**Joan Waters Dunfey** writes that "because most of us turn 70 this year, some of us had a mini reunion in Provincetown, MA, this fall." **Vickie Marani Lee** from California, **Ronnie Lynch Hanpeter** from DC, **Anne Elizabeth O'Sullivan** from Philadelphia, **Mary Leahy Keaney** from

Maine, **Carol Naper Flood** from Chicago, and Joan joined the group from Boston. They stayed in a renovated tea shop (or was it a bordello?) with a fantastic view of the harbor, took a bumpy tour of the National Sea Shore Dunes, shopped, and best of all spent a lot of time remembering and reminiscing.

**Sally Blackley Clemmer** writes that she and Dayne were just getting back to email after cruising, an activity they are still enjoying with plans for more over the next two years. She believes it is never too soon to start ticking off those items on the bucket list. She hopes everyone is practicing their beeps for our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion trivia game. As do many of us, Sally asks, "Can you believe it's been almost 50 years since we left campus?" She hopes that **Donna de Manbey Boynton** will create this fun game for us for Reunion 2018.

**Marne Roark Roche** and I had a brief email exchange after I learned from a Belles68 Facebook post that Hoop was recovering well in a Cleveland clinic. Marne let me know that she attended the weekend events for the inauguration of President Jan Cervelli.

I will end by apologizing to anyone whose news has been omitted; please know that this was totally unintentional. I have not been including in the Class News any postings from Belles68. Do feel free to send your news before any blast email request from the Office of Alumnae Relations. I did just comply with the requests of **Terri Bell Sullivan, Nancy Krupnick Freeman**, and **Judith Davis** to be added to our Belles68 Group. Do continue to send news and requests to be added to our Facebook group to [econprofessor@gmail.com](mailto:econprofessor@gmail.com).

**'69** **Joyce O'Donnell Bussewitz**  
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Greetings, classmates! Our family has had a busy autumn highlighted by two wedding celebrations. In October, Roy and I went to Roanoke, VA, to celebrate with family and friends at a beautiful winery. In November, we went to Virginia Beach, VA, for our niece's wedding and had such a great

family reunion. The lowlight of the autumn was Hurricane Matthew, which damaged so much of North Carolina with terrible flooding. Roy and I were actually in Raleigh that weekend for the ND-NC State game and the weather was worse than here in Wilmington along the coast. We are currently gearing up for another road trip, leaving for Thanksgiving in New England with our daughter Christine, who is in Massachusetts. We'll also see my sister and brother-in-law in Massachusetts. On our way back south, we'll stop in Alexandria, VA, to see our daughter Katie and son-in-law Kelly. We plan to go to the Scottish Walk with them and their little Westie, who loves to march with the bagpipers.

**Barb Dowd Arkedis** reported that **Laura Beth Berkshire** and husband, John Hoff, have a lovely new home in St. George, ME, where they just spent several months.

**Fran Peterson Allen** wrote, "I've discovered there really is such a thing as 'too much information!' After nearly 40 years of social work, disability rights advocacy, and then mediation, I'm trying to bring my business home so I can better care for my husband (Dick, ND '67). This information junkie has accumulated A LOT of wonderful articles, letters,



"SAINT MARY'S GAVE ME SO, SO MUCH."

—KATHY MALONE BEELER '69



*"It is just the right thing to do, to give back in gratitude for what we were given."*

Bequests are a wonderful way to ensure your vision of a strong future for Saint Mary's College and benefit the Belles of tomorrow. Scholarships, endowed funds, capital improvements, faculty support, program support, and other areas of the College have all benefited from the generosity and wisdom of our alumnae, friends, faculty, and staff.

For more information about including Saint Mary's College in your estate plans, please contact **Anne M. Morgan, JD, LLM**, Director of Gift Planning.

(574) 284-4600 | [amorgan@saintmarys.edu](mailto:amorgan@saintmarys.edu) | [saintmarys.edu/GiftPlanning](http://saintmarys.edu/GiftPlanning)



court cases, etc. Assuming I can purge all that, I'm sure being semi-retired (I'll keep doing some mediation) will be delightful. Our daughter's family is here in town (Parkersburg, WV) and our son's is near Youngstown, only three hours away. We have a small church family that's extremely supportive as well. Life just doesn't get much better. We've had some great visits with **Maureen Cefalu Gannon** and her husband, Dick, and I'm hoping to see **Mary Lou Goyette Folts** and **Mary Ellen Lyons McGuire** at our 50<sup>th</sup>."

From California **Therese Ambrusko** sent her update: "My husband and I moved to San Diego three years ago because he wanted to take a job with a biotech company here. We kept our house in San Francisco, where we lived for 26 years, because we think we will go back when he retires. I stopped working as a recruiter for a group of software companies last year, and I am itching for another job. I got to see **Margaret (Muggsie) Robertshaw Shern** last spring. She was in San Diego with John and her whole family for her son's wedding. It was wonderful to catch up after all these years, and I got to meet all of her children, which was a big treat!"

Here is an intention to add to your prayer lists, friends. I heard from **Mary Noelke Nesius**, who shared the following information: "My husband, who has cancer, is somewhat stabilized and therefore not on chemo. He has lived meaningfully for far longer than projected — almost five years since diagnosed — and we are both happy with that. My two daughters have been wonderfully supportive. I had rotator cuff surgery in July and am recovering well. And hooray, I can drive again! Wish I were closer and could see some of you. The reunion that has flowed about and since the Reunion has brought so many happy memories."

Finally, I want to submit **Nan Raaf's** thoughts on her latest adventures/travels. "I picked up quite an SMC Facebook following while on my trip to Dubai and India. I appreciated the interest and support of those who commented on many of my photos and videos. After catching up with all our mutual Facebook friends, I am anxious to hear more at Reunion '19. Hopefully the Class of '69 Facebook page that **Sally Strobel Ladky** set up will pick up more followers so we can enjoy more news about our friends, who have turned into the amazing women of today, who, by the way, still look the same to me.

"Back to Dubai and India... When the opportunity came up to join a group touring India, I cancelled my plans to hang out in Hawaii so I could experience worlds unknown to me. The easiest way to understand one's own culture is to visit another. There are always so many aspects of daily life that are the same on this side of the world and the other, but travel helps us see the differences that make us who we are, not just who we always thought we were.

"It took walking the streets alone in an Arab country to realize how far women have come in our world. Visiting temples and mosques strengthened my belief that religion is a universal need to direct our lives in a positive direction, through rituals that are more similar than not. Watching people easily balance their ancient traditions of family life, dress, and communication with the magic of today's technology was fascinating. It was not my choice to be born a white woman into a blessed situation in the middle of the most powerful country in the

world. As I travel, I appreciate my good luck but also wonder what I missed by not being that beautiful dark-skinned woman in a sari walking barefoot along a path in a town where I could trace my ancestors back a millennium."

There is plenty of food for thought there, not to mention stunning photos for those of you on Facebook who would like to access Nan's fantastic journey. What talent and spirit!

Classmates, I count you and our beloved Saint Mary's College among my many blessings as Thanksgiving approaches. Please stay in touch — send me your news at any time. Deadlines are April 1, August 1, and December 1. God bless!

**'70 Karen Preston McCarty**  
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As I write this column, we are well into the holiday season, finishing off one year and soon to embark on a new one. Where does the time go?

**Ann Strieber** sent me a lovely note sharing that she was in the process of moving to a senior living community in Grand Junction, CO — sharing life and meals with 150 others. She was off to the Bahamas for Halloween and then planning to see the monarch butterflies in Mexico in February. She has loved living in the Grand Valley in western Colorado.

**Rosemarie Rinella Stocky** has been a "girl on the go." She attended her 50<sup>th</sup> high school reunion at Trinity High School in River Forest, IL, in October and went to Orlando, FL, for her nephew's wedding in November. A family group rented a home with 10 bedrooms and a swimming pool near Disney World for the week and arranged for a one-day VIP tour of Disney World, Epcot Center, Pixar and Universal for 14 people — no lines and at an incredibly reasonable cost. Her granddaughters felt like they had died and gone to heaven, having the chance to meet their "heroines." The grownups in the group loved the ease of providing this experience and enjoying the younger generations' delight! Reach out to Rosemary for details if you are headed that way. Next adventure is a 10-day Princess Cruise for Rosemary and Tom (ND '70), departing from San Francisco with stops at four ports in Mexico after Christmas.

**Addie Stefanac Cashore** and Tom's (ND '70) son Matt Cashore (ND '94) has added to his series of *Unseen Notre Dame* videos for an inside look at three rarely visited campus locations: the Log Chapel, St. Michael's Laundry, and the office of the late Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC. Check it out on the Notre Dame website.

**Pat O'Hara** and Steve (ND '70) enjoyed another great August summer vacation in Gloucester, MA, with their children and children-in-law — Andrew (Nicole), Margaret (Ryan), and John (Catalina), and grandchildren Daniel, Gigi, and Thomas. They are also all still celebrating (as I am sure are all our Chicago classmates) the Cubs first World Series win in forever!

**Cecile Naulty Heimann** and her husband, Tony (ND '70), are in the process of building a new home on the water in Ipswich, MA. Keeping up with her posts on Facebook, it looks like this undertaking is

moving along quickly!

I am staying close to home this holiday season, celebrating with my daughter and some close friends. Still working and loving it — who wouldn't if you have the opportunity to work from home full time with people you love and always learning something new!

Please all stay warm, healthy, and happy in this coming year and share your news!

**'71 Maureen Phillips Murphy**  
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**Sara Ballard Call** wrote, "We have just harvested 8,400 pounds of Vidal Blanc grapes from our vineyard in Frankfort, KY. We sell the grapes to a local winery. We stay at the farmhouse when we visit Kentucky now since moving to Alexandria, VA, in July 2015. Both our daughters live in the DC area, so we decided to move there to be close to them, their husbands, and our 2-1/2-year-old grandson, Finn. We feel very fortunate to be healthy and able to enjoy all the DC area has to offer."

**Susan Rossman Hall** traveled to western Turkey in the fall of 2015. Susan, however, is now facing a huge challenge. In April 2016, she was diagnosed with uterine cancer (stage 3). She has undergone chemotherapy and continues to undergo radiation treatments. Our prayers are heading to you in Maryland, Susan.

**Nan Kavanagh Poore** and **Susan Herbert Timmons** joined the SMC tour to Dordogne, France, in October. They posted photos of beautiful sites, yummy food and wine. They decided to celebrate being friends for 50 years with Saint Mary's alumnae, as Saint Mary's brought them together.

**Mary Chris Morrison Knorr** wrote that now she is really retired! She continued to teach in a new position after her first retirement but now says she is done. She and John live in Austin, TX.

**Sarah Bird** and husband, Ken Peczkowski, owners of the Griffon Bookstore in South Bend, celebrate 40 years in business. As proprietors of the downtown game and bookstore, the long-married couple have seen their business continue to improve during its 40-year existence. Now, they're the second oldest game store in the nation, by Sarah's calculation, bested only by a store on the East Coast and only by a year.

In October, Sarah and Ken hosted GriffCon 40, a combined gaming convention and celebration for the store spurred by the enthusiastic Facebook group, Fans of the Griffon Bookstore. A crowd of nearly 500 people took over the Scottish Rite building for a weekend, and two proclamations from Sen. Joe Donnelly's office officially marked the anniversary and Sarah's contribution to gaming as a female pioneer.

**'72 Missy Underman Noyes**  
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I am sure you all are aware of our Reunion this June 1-4. I hope you can attend! It is a weekend filled with lots of laughs and sharing memories of our days at Saint Mary's and a chance to reconnect with classmates. What could be better? **Anne Pryser Leary** and I are chairing our Reunion Gift Committee again. We are determined to have a high participation rate, raise a lot of money for Saint Mary's, and, maybe, be the winners! Can't wait to see you!

I received this email from **Melissa Uelk Smith** about Reunion activities for those who spent a year in Angers. Lisa writes: "In 1969-70, 53 SMC and ND students spent a year in the university's program called SUNDEF in Angers, France. For several years, some SUNDEFERers have managed to locate all but a few of our group to set in motion a SUNDEF reunion during the larger SMC/ND reunion this summer in early June. We hope to have an informal get-together Thursday evening, June 1, at a location TBD. We have plans for a reunion dinner on Friday evening, June 2, in the lower level of the Student Center at Saint Mary's. The evening will include a slide show of photos collected from that year accompanied by the music we enjoyed while in Angers.

This will be the first time most of us have gotten together in 47 years! More information will be forthcoming in the Reunion materials sent to our class by the alumnae office. **Kara O'Leary '89** has been invaluable in helping us plan this event.

"For my part, I have retired as a practicing attorney and teacher of trial law to students of all ages in Madison, WI. My husband still has a demanding law practice, but we have found time in the last four years for travel up the Danube River, to Prague and Cracow, to prehistoric caves in the Dordogne Valley in France, and to cruise the Mediterranean exploring Barcelona, Marseille, Corsica, and Sardinia, in addition to our yearly visit to Cape Cod. We have one son who is an antitrust lawyer in Washington, DC, and one son who is a banker in Madison."

In early November, Bill and **Claire Mignelli Hughes**, Bill and **Heather Tripucka Carr**, and Larry and I flew to San Antonio for the Notre Dame vs. Army game in the Shamrock Series. It was one of too few Irish victories! We had a wonderful time touring the Alamo, taking a meandering boat trip through the city, and eating and sightseeing along the beautiful Riverwalk. San Antonio is a lovely city to visit. Of course, spending time together with great friends made it a perfect weekend. Do you find that when you see "old" friends, you pick up like you have not been apart?

I received an email from **Sheila Cronin '71** that said, "Notre Dame's online magazine *The Golden Domer* published my story: 'Remembering Father John J. Cavanaugh.' He was campus chaplain at Saint Mary's when I was a student. You and your classmates might remember him and enjoy this story." <http://bit.ly/2fLYbDY>

I am planning to get a lot of information from all of you at Reunion. This column will (hopefully) be FULL for many issues to come. With hugs and best wishes!

'75

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Old friends, new traditions! When some of us were not able to attend Reunion two years ago, **Mary Ellen Beebe Cositore** and **Ginny Ann Lee** decided that we needed a mini reunion of our own. They brought **Rita Murphy Carfagna**, **Kristin Ingrid Helland**, **Kathy O'Brien Miller**, **Ginny Gibbs**, **Rory Devine**, and me together at the Jersey Shore for a weekend celebrating friendship and memories. We all had such a good time catching up, feasting, and sipping great wines; many of us were able to repeat the event this past September. We are already working on dates for next year's visit. Beebe is retired from IBM, while Ginny Lee continues her career there. In addition to an expanding family, Rita focuses her attention on her family's philanthropic efforts and professional baseball endeavors. Kathy's family is also rapidly expanding with the addition of in-laws and grandchildren. Ginny Gibbs is with the Federal Reserve in Washington. We were fortunate to have

# DISCOVER FALL IN IRELAND



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SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE  
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All members of the Saint Mary's community, Ireland Program alumnae, and anyone interested in experiencing the country's beauty and history are invited.

The trip will culminate in an anniversary dinner and celebration with President Jan Cervelli and dignitaries from Maynooth University at Barberstown Castle.

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Ginny's mom join us for the inaugural get-together! Rory Devine is a member of the news team at NBC's affiliate in San Diego.

I am fortunate that **Diane Johnson Speck's** daughter lives in the Portland, ME, area. With the arrival of grandson Liam, Diane has made a couple of trips out here from Indianapolis. Diane, a nurse, works in a small cardiac hospital. With her season Notre Dame football tickets, she makes the trek north for just about every home football game. While on campus, she's had the chance to connect with **Rita Murphy Carfagna** and **Mary Pat Leyes Nussbaum**.

Facebook has been a great way to reconnect. I stay in touch with **Trish O'Loughlin Erickson, Paula Martin Roveda, Peg Ann Tallet-Myks, Marianne Rinella Fotopoulos, and Caron Cronin Green**. There are also some long-time friends you might recognize, including Evelyn Mungoven McCaffrey Pape (ND '75), Christine Gocke Rusin (ND '75), and **Linda Conner Wong**. I hope that you'll join all of us virtually.

I am very happy to be our new class reporter. I've been doing the same thing for my Notre Dame MBA class ('78) since we graduated. When I'm not tracking down news, I focus on my husband and our extended families, watching sports (especially the Fighting Irish and hockey), reading, or working with a knitting or embroidery needle. After stints in manufacturing, banking, accounting, and law, I finally found my niche with an MLIS as a public librarian. I am currently the director at the Auburn (ME) Public Library.

I will do my best to keep in contact and hope you will do the same!

**'76** **Marianne McCabe Brehl**  
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Reunion weekend at SMC was a whirlwind. Lively election discussions, talk about retirement, updates on family news. Forty-year reunioners have the choice of staying at the hotel or dorms. Some of us opted for the air conditioning and private baths, but many of us elected to share the weekend in the familiar surroundings of Le Mans Hall. This was our year to enjoy a few rides across campus aboard golf carts driven by SMC staffers. Our new president was on hand for her first SMC Reunion weekend, and she wowed us both in her address and with her amazing vintage convertible!

**Mary Sheeran** leads a very creative life in New York City—singing, acting, and writing. She has authored several books that are available on Amazon.

**Mary Schirmer Strembel** is a retired teacher. Mary and her husband just sold their house and bought two condos so they could be near their children and their families. Now Mary will split her time between Atlanta and Iowa. Goodbye, Indiana.

**Kim Olmstead Ostrowski** was a chemistry major at SMC and went on to work in product development. Her second career is teaching third grade in a Catholic school in the Chicago suburbs.

**Teresa LaCava Gaydosz** is a retired teacher in Elwood City, PA. She loved teaching and is happy

to now have time with her growing family. The business that her husband, Steve, launched many years ago now employs all their children.

**Mary Reynolds O'Connor** is beginning another school year in West Chester, PA, but has an eye on retirement. One of Mary's daughters, Flannery, got married this summer. Both Flannery and her new hubby work in Philadelphia inner-city charter Catholic schools.

**Mary Angyus McLaughlin** lives in Hammond, IN, a short ride from Saint Mary's. Mary was a med tech for years after graduation, then taught high school science. Now, she is back in the lab.

**Jane Meagher** lives in Longmont, CO, and is delighted to be so close to hiking and kayaking opportunities. Jane has three sons, one of whom currently runs an orphanage in Rwanda.

**Eileen Klee Sweeney** has always been an artist — working as a photographer, creating using computer software, and quilting as a hobby. She is delighted to report that her quilting hobby has turned into a profession, and she enjoys her job at a local quilting business.

**Mindy Montesi Chalmers** was a long-time FedEx employee in Memphis. She served as a high school principal at a Catholic school and is now developing training for FedEx in Memphis.

Roughly 25 percent of '76 graduates attended Reunion. Being on campus, seeing the school in its June beauty, witnessing the construction and re-creation of college spaces is gratifying. I think it is always worth the effort every five years to reconnect with classmates and the college grounds and buildings. It is wonderful that so much is happening here! If you weren't on campus, we missed you. If you still have the survey we sent with the Reunion packet, take a few minutes to fill it out — or email me with your news. We'd love to know what you're up to!

**'78** **Susan Margiotta Salem**  
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**Sue Coliton** was in Barcelona to facilitate a meeting of global libraries for a client and finally met her co-facilitator, whom she had been speaking with by phone for several weeks. Over dinner the



Sue Coliton and Kelly Carey '85 wandering the streets of Barcelona after their meeting.

shopping after their meeting. How great to connect with another alumna!

first night, they realized they were both graduates of Saint Mary's College! And both had attended the Rome program, which had profound effects on their lives. Sue and **Kelly Carey '85** wandered the streets of Barcelona,

**Colleen Clucas Wilcox** recently celebrated a 28<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with her husband, Wil. Colleen is a residential real estate broker in Hinsdale, IL, with Coldwell Banker and has been assisting buyers and sellers for 14 years. Before that she worked in a federally funded agency in the governor's office and drafted Illinois's legislation that resulted in the state's Early Intervention Act to fund services for children with developmental delays who are from birth to 3 years old. She also worked to coordinate state legislation titled Family Support for children and adults with disabilities; the law has helped families receive needed services to keep their family members at home. She is currently the vice chairperson of the Hinsdale District 181 Elementary Foundation, which provides grants to students and teachers to enrich the curriculum and provide educational models.

Colleen's husband, Wil, has a commercial production company in Chicago. He has worked on numerous national commercials you would recognize. "I Love You, Man" is one.

This summer, I had the pleasure of attending the surprise 60<sup>th</sup> birthday party for **Susan Plavac Heidkamp** and her husband, Terry (ND '78). It was held in Chicago at an Irish pub, which made for a perfect setting. Terry and Suzy were totally, completely, absolutely surprised. Their children did an amazing job of organizing and planning for months beforehand. They gathered friends from all phases of their lives. It was quite the party, and as Suzy said, "We are blessed beyond words." We did a Facetime with **Lisa Maglio Brown** and birthday wishes came in from **Sherry Anne Antonini, Shelia Matthew Wales, Jo Ann Baggiano Hunter, and Kathy Groskopf**. Also attending was **Colleen Clucas Wilcox**. Suzy said turning 60 "definitely has Terry and I reflecting and taking a pause; life is going too fast. May we all remember to slow down and enjoy life, our families, and friends." Suzy and Terry continue to live in Hinsdale, IL, and are the proud grandparents of two. Grandparenting is the best job in the world. Genevieve is their last child to graduate from ND last May. Her other children are Lisa (ND '10), George (ND '07), and **Erin Heidkamp Trier '05**.

**'79** **From the Courier Office:**



Kim Davis Van Fossan, Eileen Lynch Fahey, Anne Davey McKenna, Mary Ann Cooke Meyer, Mary Pat Riley McQuillan, Lynne Ewald Gerding, Mary Beth Vieha '78, and Beth Menke Redwine during a summer get-together in 2016.

**Kim Davis Van Fossan** reported that some of her classmates are pretty successful at getting together annually, sometimes in the summer and sometimes at Christmas time. The group included **Kim Davis Van Fossan, Eileen Lynch Fahey, Anne Davey McKenna, Mary Ann Cooke Meyer, Mary Pat Riley McQuillan, Lynne Ewald**

# PLAN NOW TO ATTEND



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**Gerding, Mary Beth Vieha '78, and Beth Menke Redwine.** Grandmothers include **Kim Davis Van Fossan, Eileen Lynch Fahey, and Mary Pat Riley McQuillan.**

**'83 Susan Poss Harrison**  
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Hi, everybody. There's no news this issue but I'm sure we'll have some for the next one. If you're reading this now and thinking you'd like to send in some news, please do so. I'm confident I speak for everyone reading this column when I say that we love hearing from you!

**'85 From the Courier Office:**

**Kelly Carey** was in Barcelona to facilitate a meeting of global libraries for a client and finally met her co-facilitator, whom she had been speaking with by phone for several weeks.

Over dinner the first night, they realized that we were both graduates of Saint Mary's College! She and **Sue Coliton '78** wandered the streets of Barcelona after their meeting. What a great story, to connect with another alumna!

**'88 MaryKay Scheid**  
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December is a busy month for union work. I will spend much of my time in the weeks before the Christmas holiday at conferences both in and out of California. I am enjoying my new role as president of the Ontario-Montclair Teachers Association. It's hard to believe I am already one-fourth of the way through my first term; there's still so much to learn.

Outside of my working world, I've learned that many of us are still celebrating milestones. **Beth Whelpley Bennett** reports she and husband, Tony (ND '88), have six kids ages 3–20 years old. They live on Long Island, where Tony is a patent attorney and Beth manages the circus at home. With the two oldest in college at Boston College and Miami of Ohio, Beth appreciates her Saint Mary's experience even more with the wisdom of her 50 years. She reflects: "We really had something special, didn't we?" She and some SMC pals got together in October in Minneapolis at the home of **Nicole Bonacci Pugliese**. The following ladies attended: **Kathleen Bock Roche, Amy Appleby Hubbard, Ann Wilson, Moira Aileen Cronan-Vogt, Angela Leahy Esteve, and little sister Stephanie Ann Leahy Trujillo '91.**

**Nancy Fazio Finn** shares: "Not a lot new in my world...still teaching middle school, but this year I am teaching seventh- and eighth-grade science. I have one daughter graduating from college this year with a triple major in anthropology, history, and German and one graduating from high school,

who is preparing for college as a history-teaching major, so life has been crazy around the Finn house. The youngest is right behind the others, graduating in 2018. Finally, the eldest daughter just returned from a year teaching in South Korea and is now in the process of traipsing around the world and figuring out what she wants to do with her life. I got a chance to get back to SMC/ND for the Virginia Tech vs. ND game on November 19 and caught up with **Heather Hypes O'Bryan** at her tailgate. Also hanging out there were **Jamie Smith Taradash, Kathleen Mary Moran, and Debbie Keller Shishman**. We had a great time hanging out both before and after the game, but it was a cold one! Sitting at the snowy football game reminded me of the brutal winters in South Bend, which I truly DO NOT miss. So great to see these ladies, though! Both campuses look a lot different, but they are still so beautiful. Looking forward to my next adventure with old SMC friends — we seem to have a few each year!"



Nancy Fazio Finn, Jamie Smith Taradash, Heather Hypes O'Bryan, Debbie Keller Shishman, and Kathleen Mary Moran during a tailgate in South Bend.

**Heather Hypes O'Bryan's** husband's family farm in Wisconsin had a celebration of celebrations



that included a few Saint Mary's/Notre Dame past, present, and future graduates. The '88 Saint Mary's connections are **Kathleen Clark Feldmeier**, **Kathleen Mary Moran**, **Lisa McGowan Seymour**, **Maureen Ryan Lyons**, **Katy Englehart**, and **Heather Hypes O'Bryan**. There were other Saint Mary's students: Kathleen Clark Feldmeier's daughter **Meghan Kelly Feldmeier**, a freshman at Saint Mary's; **Susan Tobin Cernugel**, also a Saint Mary's graduate; the guys are all ND as well as Kathleen's daughter Kelsey Elizabeth Feldmeier, who is a junior at ND; and Heather's daughter Delaney O'Bryan, who is a freshman at ND.



Mini SMC/ND reunion at Heather Hypes O'Bryan's husband's family farm in Wisconsin with representation from past, present, and future Belles!

Watch for my next request for news in the spring, but feel free to forward your reports and your photos at any time. Send information to marykay\_scheid@yahoo.com or leave a message at (909) 592-7737. It's always thrilling to hear from an old friend.

**'89 Karen E. Crespy**  
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Hope the holidays were joyous and filled with fond memories...and happy 2017!

More Belle legacies for our class... **Marilyn Benchik Klimek** is excited that her daughter Karen Cecelia (Cece), a triplet and a senior at Trinity School at Greenlawn in South Bend, will be a member of the Saint Mary's class of 2021. And, she's the recipient of a \$20,000 annual Moreau Presidential Scholarship! For the past two summers, Cece has worked at Notre Dame's Harper Cancer Research Institute in breast cancer research — particularly notable because her aunt **Jackie Benchik-Osborne** is a breast cancer survivor.

Cece's sister Lizzie also applied to Saint Mary's and is hoping to join her sister; her brother Kenny, applied to Notre Dame and Purdue.

Jackie's eldest son, Jack, is finishing his freshman year at Notre Dame and is planning to major in mechanical engineering. He also plays tuba in the Notre Dame Marching Band.

**Trish Tierney Keilman's** daughter **Kelsey Anne Keilman '20** is at Saint Mary's and plays softball. Each October, the current Saint Mary's softball team plays a game against the alumnae softball team, and Trish and her daughter played against each other last year. The alums lost 11-1. Ouch! But it was a great time!

Speaking of softball, Trish is reaching out on behalf of Coach Scott Biesel, who would like to have a softball reunion for all the alumnae who played for him. If you're interested, please contact Trish at trish.keilman@keilman.com.

Trish also met up with **Amy Cuti Sullivan** in Bloomington, IN, where both have children studying at Indiana University. They enjoyed catching up and reliving their memories of Saint Mary's.

Mike and **Mary (Mimi) Tuohy O'Leary** had a great time moving their daughter, Mary Kate, into her Notre Dame dorm last August. She lives in Flaherty, a brand-new women's dorm that is so nice that Mimi and Mike call it "Five-Star Flaherty." In November, they traveled from Florida to the Notre Dame vs. Virginia Tech game. The O'Learys tailgated with **Colleen Martin Garrity** and **Peggy Kramer McLaughlin** and had a blast. **Patrice Jordan** stopped by to visit, too. Though it was cold, it was all worth it to laugh and catch up with wonderful friends.

Classmates on the move include **Anne Palamaro Wynne** and **Karen Krok Hasler**.

Anne and Jay moved from the Pittsburgh area to southeast Wisconsin last September when Jay left FedEx after many, many years to take a new job with Amazon. The Wynnes are happily living near water again, and their older girls can't wait to explore Chicago. A Notre Dame football game might be on the agenda in the fall since they are no longer so far away.

Karen and Doug Halser and family are relocating from Elkhart, IN, to Duluth, MN, where Doug is now the CFO for Duluth Public Schools. Congratulations!

**Karen Crespy** attended the Notre Dame vs. Duke game with family and the Notre Dame vs. Stanford game, where she met up with **Barb Moorhead Vedders** and Joel and their son Jack. Tailgating provided the opportunity to meet up with **Jackie Brody Tavit** '91 and Adam, Tom Schlegel (ND '90), Paul Waguespack (ND '89), Jim Barrett (ND '89), and Theresa Barnhart Sedlack (ND '89). And to run into, literally, **Kara O'Leary** by the stadium. Karen went back to Grand Rapids with the Vedders and enjoyed a nice visit, including a visit to Calvin College to get a campus tour from Abby, who is finishing her first year.

The Notre Dame vs. Michigan State football



A large group of Saint Mary's alumnae and current students represented at a tailgate hosted by Jennifer Rourke Sante-Soller and Barbara Bolla Kopko.

game was the setting for a fantastic Saint Mary's tailgate hosted by **Jennifer Rourke Sante-Soller** and **Barbara Bolla Kopko** and their husbands, Rick and Tom, respectively. The gathering was large as well, with more than 50 Notre Dame fans packed around the RV that Jen and her family rented for the drive from Pittsburgh. This event was the first time since their own graduation that all these Saint Mary's friends were on campus at the same time for a Notre Dame football weekend! It was a great opportunity for alums to get to know the current

students, as Jen's daughter **Katherine Anastasia Soller** is a first year at Saint Mary's. There were even a few current students who were excited to meet chemistry major alums — the Saint Mary's bond is great!

Traveling in from near and far for the tailgate reunion were **Melissa Carpenter Miller**, **Rachel Chua**, **Sheila Feeley Dodds**, **Katie Rose Gogle**, **Peggy Halloran** (Brian Einloth ND '89), **Lynne Lauer Kasperan**, **Deanne Wachel Sabatino**, **Mary LaSata Spiegel '88**, and **Karen Marie Walker '88**, as well as their family and friends.

Our departed classmates, **Bridget Mary McCarthy** and **Julie Ann Stautberg**, were thought of often during the day. And Bridget's mom, **Bobbie Schnaus McCarthy '66**, was the surprise guest at the tailgate — all orchestrated by Sheila. Jen made the infamous "Stautberg ND tailgate gooey brownies" in memory of Julie — yum!

To add to the tailgate fun, the chemistry major alums re-created their sophomore year "beaker party," complete with a borrowed beaker from the Saint Mary's chemistry lab. The infamous tailgate souvenir — Saint Mary's "A Tradition of Women on Top" koozies — were provided through the generosity of Karen. No, the koozies cannot be purchased at the Saint Mary's bookstore, but there are a few showing up on campus.

Who knows... this tailgate may become an annual tradition and continue to grow over the next few years. Hope everyone is doing well. Please keep in touch.

**'90 Sue Elizabeth O'Connor**  
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**Tina Donahue Hatch** joins the list of Class of '90 alumnae with a daughter who's also a Belle. Her daughter **Blair Christine Darrah** will join the Class of 2021 in the fall. A few Class of 1990 alumnae were present at the inauguration of Jan Cervelli in November. **Peggy Hoban Chinoski** and **Amanda M. Stechschulte** met and enjoyed a beautiful fall day on campus. I was disappointed to have missed them that day, but had my own beautiful fall day on campus a few weeks earlier where I got to spend a little time with **Anita Knebel**. Anita has recently moved to West Des Moines, IA. Her daughter **Haleigh Marice Ehmsen '16** works as the media relations associate at Saint Mary's, and her daughter **Keighley Marie Ehmsen '18** is also a Belle, so Saint Mary's is never too far away from Anita.

I recently enjoyed a wonderful weekend in Lancaster, PA, visiting **Laura Ann Jacob**, and her husband, Kevin Wozniak. Laura has her hands full (literally) as the mom of nearly 2-year-old twins, Genevieve and Jacob. Laura arranged a great evening for us with our old friends, **Sarah Hughes Smith** (who drove down from her home in Hamden, CT), fellow Lancasteran **Linda Enright Riva**, and **Colleen Mooney McGee**, who came in from Allentown. Five Saint Mary's gals at an Irish pub in the middle of Pennsylvania — pretty hard to top a night like that. Many laughs and many stories not suitable for print were told and rehashed that evening.

Beautiful fall days and Pennsylvanian Irish pubs weren't the only mini reunions this fall. **Eileen Gallagher Lorange**, her husband, **Matt, Katherine (Kim) Mahoney Barrio**, and her husband, Jerry, joined me in a group outing to see the musical *Hamilton* shortly after it opened in Chicago. Eileen and I bonded over how it resonated with our government majors, and I think we may have created a history fan out of Kim. **Patti Weed Bennett** and **Mary Kay Gaido Werner** are coming to Chicago in the spring to see it for themselves as well.

Lastly, many of our friends and classmates gathered in Jacksonville, FL, for the Notre Dame-Navy game. They met **Lisa Catenacci Midkiff**, who lives in the area and has a personal connection to that game, as it was at a Notre Dame-Navy game at ND that Lisa met her husband, Captain James Midkiff, a midshipman. **Patty Piercy Cushing**, **Maria Telesca**, **Amy Elizabeth Heimberg**, **Beth Bowman Zuhosky**, and **Kathy Frederick Grashof** reunited for merriment and, unfortunately, an Irish loss.

As always, we'd love for you to join our SMC '90 group on Facebook — 180 members strong and hopefully growing. It's a wonderful way to reconnect with your fellow Class of '90 Belles!

**'91** **Katy Calsin Keffler**  
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I hope everyone is having a wonderful 2017! I'm sorry to say that I don't have any class news to share because nobody sent me any. I do have some news of my own, though. I have been doing a lot of volunteer work and will be taking on some new ventures, so this will be the last issue of my being the class reporter. If anyone is interested in taking over, feel free to contact me and I can give you the information; or the contact at SMC is **Shay Jolly '05** at [hjolly@saintmarys.edu](mailto:hjolly@saintmarys.edu). Thanks to all of you who have sent me news over the past four years. It's been fun connecting with all of you!

**'92** **Patsy McGowan Donahue**  
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It is impossible to believe that our 25<sup>th</sup> Reunion is in June. So much has happened since we all left our beautiful campus. I hope everyone is doing well and plans to attend. See everyone in a few months!

**Alissa Marie Murphy** had a fun time at the ND-Stanford game with **Laura Flood Palmer** and **Robin Spurr Singer**. It had been four years since she last visited the campus. Both campuses look beautiful and the transformation of Eddy Street is amazing. Alissa is still promoting her book *Who's that Dogger?* which can be found on Amazon.com. Please check it out!

**Greer Gilliland Stasko** and her family enjoyed a fall visit to their oldest son at Wake Forest. They are now beginning the college search for their middle child, who is a junior in high school.

**Susanne Largura Benedict** continues to teach at Indiana University School of Dentistry. She has also become a style consultant for the fashion line Etcetera.

**Mary Kathryn (MK) Larsen Harby** lives in Fair Haven, NJ, with her husband and five children. When not running them around, she's busy with her public speaking company. MK is the speaker coach for TEDxNavesink and coaches speakers on their TED Talks. The theatre degree from SMC has served her well!

**Barb Young Gerdenich** and her family have been in Beverly, MA, now for three years. Kurt works in the Back Bay part of Boston.

Congratulations to **Alysann Sieren Johnson** and Al, who welcomed their daughter, Eliza Emily Johnson, on August 22, 2016. Eliza is named after her great-great-grandmother on the Johnson side — Eliza Adams Brookbanks Johnson — as was her brother Banks and her sister Katerina.

Please keep in touch on Facebook or email your news to [smc92news@yahoo.com](mailto:smc92news@yahoo.com). I hope to hear from more of you soon.

## '95 From the Courier Office:

**Colleen Morrissey Ralph** and Brian shared their good news that Colleen gave birth to twins: Marin Kathleen and John George, November 17, Chicago.

**'97** **Amy Lynn Brabeck**  
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*Bonjour tout le monde!* I hope you are doing well and getting excited for Reunion. It will be here before we know it — still can't believe it's our 20<sup>th</sup>! I hope 2016 treated you well. Here's hoping for an even better 2017. As I am busy grading final exams and wrapping up the fall semester, I will get right to the classmate news, which is from **Anna Rafaj Rosenberg**. Enjoy the update and have a wonderful start to the New Year!

Anna wrote: "My kids are Alexis (13), David (10), and Charlie (7). I began working last year after 12 years of maternity leave. I am substitute teaching at a local high school, working mostly with Spanish classes, as I am licensed to teach that subject. Subbing has been a great transition opportunity for me after so many years of not working. I've learned so much. All is good over here. I can't wait until Reunion."

Thanks, Anna, for writing. Wishing you all a blessed and joyous 2017 — *à bientôt!*

**'01** **Molly Kahn Allen**  
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From **Molly Kahn Allen**:

**Katie Quinn Veeneman** reports, "My husband, Joe Veeneman (ND '00), and I had a baby boy on June 28, 2016. His name is Michael Patrick and he is an amazing, beautiful baby boy. We now have four children: Joseph, 6; Luke, 4; MaryKate, 3; and Michael, 5 months. I put my career as a teacher on hold while I enjoy my busy job as a stay-at-home mom."

**Genevieve Yavello Boyle** and husband, Jamie, recently became a party of four. "Patrick Thomas burst into our lives at 11:32 p.m. on October 10, 2016!" Genevieve says. "This little miracle is so very loved, especially with kisses, snuggles, and lots of help from big brother, Matthew. Jamie and I are very happy and grateful parents!"

**Katie Marie Hummer's** beautiful daughter, Elin Grace, was born March 19, 2015.

**Allison Sarnecki Morales** shares, "Bryan and I welcomed our first daughter on January 30, 2015. Clare Cecilia is adored by her three big brothers, John-Paul, Max and Andrew, who are slowly learning to welcome pink into our house." Allison and family recently moved to West Chester, OH, after six years in San Antonio. Welcome back to winter!

**Kathryn Elizabeth Trnka** began working at Ross University School of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine as the associate director of admission in July. She recruits undergraduate students in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin. She also professionally sings at three parishes in the Old Town neighborhood. She continues to reside in Chicago.

May 2017 be blessed with good health and kindness to all. Take good care and be in touch.

From **Alyson Leatherman**:

**Lindsay Landvogt Leahy** wrote with some exciting news: "I can't remember if I ever updated you about the birth of our first daughter, Grace Slight Leahy, born July 6, 2015, but we have welcomed our second daughter. Catherine Conlon Leahy arrived October 23, 2016. A few weeks prior, I accepted a promotion with Marriott and am now the revenue management operations leader for the Northern Virginia cluster. I transitioned out of the DC market into Northern Virginia and am loving my new role, especially as we purchased a home in Burke, VA, in September, and I now have a relatively decent commute." And **Molly Banahan Edwards** shared blessed news, "My husband, Andy, and I welcomed Mary Catherine Banahan Edwards on April 18 to the world. Mary Catherine is loved by her brothers Aidan (9) and Brendan (2) and her sister Finley (6)." Congrats!

**Mary (Katie) Paccione Icasuriaga** also wrote with some family additions: "My husband, Jorge, and I relocated from Danbury, CT, to just outside Houston, TX, in June as he was offered a new opportunity in his company. I had our fourth child on August 3, Emilia Mary, and she joins big siblings Evelyn, Ethan, and Henry. I'm taking this year off from teaching to be a stay-at-home mom and get us situated down here in the south." And **Amanda Myers Babin** added, "My husband, Nathan, and I relocated to the San Francisco Bay area from San Diego in 2014 and welcomed our daughter Avery Grace on February 26, 2016. I am really enjoying my new role as a stay-at-home mom."



**Chrissy Ann Govorko** also checked in with some great news: "I changed jobs this year. After working at St. Joseph Grade School for 14 years, I made the move to public school. I am currently teaching fourth grade at Perley Fine Arts Academy in South Bend." And **Nicole Bolka Mayfield** shared, "My husband, Will (ND '00), and our three kids have moved to Singapore for an expat assignment for the next few years." So fun! Congrats!

And lastly, my fall has been eventful with the start of a new school year, college football, and an October trip to Chicago for a conference. I was able to spend time with **Molly Strzelecki Olson** and her new baby boy, Soren, and also unexpectedly bumped into **Kathleen Ann Kennedy** while out to dinner. I also saw **Kate Dolezal '00** and Mona Bowe, whom I worked with in the Saint Mary's admission office. Since I live in the Pacific Northwest, it's not often that I see reminders of our college days, like another alumna or a French cross, so I feel grateful to have had my time in the Midwest. Until next time, my best.

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Hi, Belles! Happy 2017! There's lots of wonderful news from our classmates. Thanks to everyone who shared. Please continue to keep your class representatives informed. We love hearing from you!

**Amber Leigh Jernigan** was married on May 28, 2016, to an amazing man, Luke Messmann. The newlywed couple is opening a hot yoga studio in their hometown in downtown Fort Wayne, IN, in early 2017.

**Katie Rand Davis** was married on July 9 in Killington, VT, to Joel Davis from Ottumwa, IA. The couple met while they were both living in Colorado.

**Mary Campe Reyes** was a bridesmaid in absentia since her baby girl was born just weeks before. Katie and Joel moved from Denver to Cherry Hill, NJ, this summer, where Katie is a fourth-grade language arts teacher at Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart in Princeton. A wedding, a cross-country move, and new jobs have kept the newlyweds quite busy this summer.

**Susan Luczek Greutman** and Ryan Greutman had a baby girl, Zita Anne Greutman, on January 3, 2016. Zita joins older brothers John, Paul, Christopher, Thomas, and Francis.

On March 31, 2016, **Sarah Nestor Babcock** and her husband, Brock, welcomed their third child, Brooks Aaron Babcock, to the world. Sarah writes, "Brooks is a happy baby who brings much joy to his mom, dad, sister Bailey (2), and brother Brendan (5)." Sarah and her family currently live in Fort Wayne, IN, and Sarah recently accepted a new position with the University of Saint Francis. Sarah is the coordinator of teaching and learning services and also an instructor of English at the university. Sarah enjoys the USF community and, in particular, working at a Catholic university. In 2016 Sarah also attended two Saint Mary's weddings, traveling to Maryland in April to celebrate with **Shannon Nelligan Yarish** and then to Vermont in July to celebrate with **Katie Rand Davis**.

**Mary Campe Reyes** and her husband, Jorge, welcomed daughter Shay Marie Reyes on June 18, 2016.

**Gabrielle Campo Neal**, husband, Roger, and sons Daniel and Matthew welcomed Noah Anthony into the world in August.

**Bridget Myers Mullins** and her husband, Vince, are thrilled to announce the arrival of their daughter Aubrey Marilyn on August 17, 2016. Bridget writes, "She is such a blessing and has filled our life with love and happiness!" Aubrey's grandmother is **Connie Long Myers '75**, her great aunt is **Kerry Long '70**, and her cousin is **Maggie Celene Long '17**.

**Erin Schultz Sherer** and husband, Dan, welcomed a baby girl on August 29, 2016. Erin shares, "Her name is Sadie Lily and she is her big brother Leo's second greatest love, right behind his love for trucks, trains, and cars. We have also recently purchased a house in Evanston, IL, and we'll be moving from Chicago after the New Year."

Last but not least, our own class reporter, **Meganne Hoffmann Brezina**, and her husband joyfully welcomed son Samuel Giovanni Brezina, on October 28, 2016. Meganne writes, "We are simply smitten with him and his full head of hair! In other news, my husband Chuck and I celebrated the one-year anniversary of our restaurant, Subito, in downtown Indy in September. I am getting back in the saddle (literally!) and look forward to competing with our horse Dante in 2017 after a year off due to an injury. Life is good and we are so grateful for each and every day."

## RAISING CITIZENS OF THE WORLD



Replenishing the pantry for the Newcamp family means strapping the three young children into a "box bike" and peddling from their home to the nearby market or local farm. The kids get to meet the cows that give them milk and the chickens that give them eggs.

In Delft, Netherlands, it's just another day in the life of **Elizabeth Diehl Newcamp '04**, as she, husband Jeff, and their sons Henry, Oliver, and Teddy embrace what it means to be "citizens of the world."

GO TO [SAINTMARYS.EDU/COURIER](http://SAINTMARYS.EDU/COURIER) TO READ HER STORY.

Congratulations to all who shared their happy news! All the best in the New Year!

## '06 From the Courier Office:

**Katherine Kelly Valent** is currently practicing commercial litigation in Texas, representing architects, engineers, and other design professionals. Katherine and her husband, Joe, recently welcomed their third child, Francis "Frankie" Daniel Valent, a very happy little guy. They also have a very fearless 2-year-old, Mary Elizabeth, as well as a very intellectually curious 5-year-old, Lucas.

**'07 Lisa Victoria Gallagher**  
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Congratulations to all the 2007 Belles welcoming babies over the past year!

**McKenna Keenan Anderson** married Nicholas Andrew Anderson. They welcomed their son Wyatt Andrew on September 17, 2016.

**Erin Turner Rotterman** and her husband, Cory Rotterman, were blessed with a daughter, baby girl Grace Araibell Rotterman, on August 5, 2016.

On June 20, 2015, **Rachel Mondello Henderson** married Nicholas Henderson in Brookfield, WI. She writes: "We were also ecstatic to welcome our first child, Genevieve Ann Henderson, on May 18, 2016. Genevieve was baptized on August 7. I am so excited to be able to stay home with Genevieve for her first year and watch my sweet baby girl grow! She is the light of our lives and amazes me every day."

**Christina Pales Blazin** writes: "My husband, Neil, and I welcomed our first child, Theodore Blazin, into the world on June 4, 2016."

**Megan Osberger** and her husband, Ben Deneweth, brought a future Belle into the world! Myra Jean Osberger Deneweth was welcomed to the family on August 26, 2016. (Osberger is a second middle name.) Myra has adjusted well to life in Chicago and gets along nicely with her older brothers, family dachshunds Didier and Hubbins.

**Erin Anhut Schwanger** and her husband were blessed with their first little one (and future Belle!), Eleanor Catherine Schwanger, born November 29, 2015.

**Sarah Mullin Scheuer** and her husband, Matthew, welcomed their fourth son, Kellan Andrew, on November 1, 2016.

**Audra Maxbauer Kirby** and her husband welcomed their second child on April 15, 2016, a girl named Emma Jones.

**Erin Maureen Condon** married Ed Kodman on May 7, 2016, in Downers Grove, IL.

**Jessica Marie Binhack** writes: "Jessica moved out from the frat house she lived in and took every cent she had to invest in a triplex in downtown Indianapolis. Upon moving into her 'penthouse,' she realized it was a giant rehab project. Gross. In order to keep her sanity, she left Indy for the summer and went on an 8,000-mile road trip that took her about six weeks. Highlights included almost being eaten by

a bear (probably), literally getting lost in the Grand Tetons, off-roading in her Mazda 3, befriending Canadians, visiting friends (**Anne Elyse Cusack**), making campfire fondue, hitting 40,000 steps on her Fitbit (Booyah! Cleats Badge achievement unlocked!), and summiting the highest point in Arizona (basically almost died). Running away from her problems and having near death experiences really helped her sanity! Upon returning, she endured the toughest beginning of the school year yet. A low point was having a hocker spit on her face by a tantruming, office-destroying 5-year-old, and a high point was having a kindergarten scream at her, "You're making bad choices," when asked to sit in her seat. She is still teaching K-1 special ed, coaching basketball, and waitressing at her parent's pizza place on the weekends. She still isn't married, has zero children, and is contemplating furthering her education. Future plans are to Airbnb her house to truly become a Slumlord Hundredaire, seriously open that American flag jorts Etsy shop, attend SMC Reunion this summer, and probably impulsively move back to Chicago."

## '08 From the Courier Office:

**Kathleen Captola Sabol** is currently in her second year pursuing a PhD in political science from the University of Florida. After graduating from Saint Mary's, she secured an MA in women's studies from the George Washington University, Washington, DC. In addition to pursuing her PhD, Kathleen is currently the SMC rep on the board of the Notre Dame Club of Central Florida. She also started her own jewelry company this summer called Mila and Stevie. [www.milaandstevie.com](http://www.milaandstevie.com). Kathleen has her signature agate bracelets on sale at three boutiques in Arizona. She is also a cantor at her parish, Holy Family of Orlando. She's running for the fifth time in the Disney Marathon in January 2017. Saint Mary's produces such diverse and accomplished women!

**Monica Mastracco Dolenc** began working at Stark State College in North Canton, OH, as a grant writer in May. A few months later, Monica and her husband, Paul Dolenc, welcomed their first child into the world. Stella Josephine Dolenc was born on October 26, 2016. Coincidentally, Stella was born on Monica and Paul's third wedding anniversary. She gave the happy parents one more reason to celebrate such a special day!

**'09 Liz Ann Harter**  
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Happy spring, Class of 2009! I just figured out that I've been our class reporter for six years. I can't believe it's been that long, but I've truly enjoyed keeping up with all of you throughout the years!

I've heard from a lot of busy Belles in the past few months, but **Rachel Ann Scott** checked in for the first time since graduation! Rachel spent two years post-graduation volunteering with AmeriCorps in their Emergency Services Division and ended up getting a firefighter certification. She is currently the only female firefighter in the

Muskegon Fire Department and only the third in the department's history. She says, "It's good to feel like I'm making progress for my gender in this field, which is well behind others in terms of female employment." It's wonderful to hear from you, Rachel, and if anyone else hasn't submitted an update since 2009, please get in touch!

We've added more to the ranks of future Belles and Domers this update.

**Lisa Anderson Herpy** and her husband welcomed Diana Grace on June 19. On the same day, **Meghan Larsen-Reidy** and husband, Tim, were welcoming Samuel Richard to the world. Meghan reports that Samuel is named for her late father, who loved Saint Mary's so much.

**Kristen Anderson Zwieg** and husband, Mike, had a baby boy, William (Liam) Michael, on September 9. They live in Minneapolis.

**Laura Kinney Maher** and husband, Niall, welcomed their first son, John Ace, into the world in early November.

**Courtney Elizabeth Parry** and Joshua Talley welcomed baby Julia on November 29, 2016. All doing well!

**Nicole Ann Beier** is still living in Ann Arbor, MI, working at NSF International as a chemist. She's spent part of the last two winters in Dutch Harbor, AK, doing microbiology work, developing some new test methods, and trying her best to make her way into an episode of *Deadliest Catch*, which is filmed in the city.

**Brianna Collins Little** says she traveled to Fort Worth in July for **Kellie Anderson Beyer's** wedding to David Beyer. Congratulations, Kellie!

**Brianna Collins Little** and **Kelly Ann Yurasovich** also attended President Cervelli's inauguration festivities in November.

**Jenny Michelle Antonelli** is in her sixth year working at the FOX affiliate in Miami, WSVN. She's the 11 p.m. producer and says 2016 was a busy year covering the presidential election, the Pope's visit, mass shootings, and the death of Fidel Castro. She's also the vice president of the Notre Dame Club of Miami, which keeps her active with the ND/SMC community in a place so far from South Bend.

**Marye (Molly) Goldsmith Sutton** reports that she's still living in Mitchell, SD, with her husband, Tyler, and dachshund, Louie. She was named director of the Avera Queen of Peace Foundation, the regional hospital, in October.

And finally, **Molly Lamping Fleck** wins this update for farthest move. She and her husband are moving to Sydney, Australia, for her husband's job. They'll be down under for three to five years, and while she's sad that it means they won't be able to visit campus as frequently, they're looking forward to new adventures. When can we all come visit, Molly?

**'10 Michelle Alyse Giannola**  
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Hello, Class of 2010! I hope everyone has been doing well these last several months, enjoying the holidays, and catching up with friends and family.



**Maria Didier Schroeder** and Andrew Schroeder announced the birth of their daughter Eleanor Elizabeth Schroeder born on December 8, 2016.

Don't forget to send updates on your successes in life, marriages, births, mini reunions, and anything else to me via the above email or feel free to shoot me a text!

**'11** **Christina Kolling Carlson**  
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**Kate Lynn Kryk** married Nicholas Gonzalez on October 22, 2016, at Saint Stanislaus in East Chicago, IN. The newlyweds are currently living in Lowell, IN, where Kate is working at a veterinary and dentistry marketing job.

The Saint Mary's Alumnae Club of NYC convened for fellowship this fall at the Trump Hotel Soho in NYC. Attendees included **Christina Alice Grasso**, **Ashley Michelle Ryan**, and **Lisa Mari Bauman '82**. Great times were had by all three!



Christina Alice Grasso, Lisa Mari Bauman '82, and Ashley Michelle Ryan enjoying an afternoon happy hour!

**Christina Alice Grasso** was named social media editor at Stylecaster, as well as a board member at Glam4Good and Project HEAL, both nonprofit organizations.

**'12** **Kate Alycia Kirbie**  
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We have had a bit of a gap in updates from the class of 2012, but I am proud to share some of the many achievements from our class.

**Carrie Altick Maierhofer** married Kyle Maierhofer (ND '11) in Larkspur, CO, on September 24, 2016. Carrie and Kyle spent a month after the wedding traveling around Asia and have now settled into their new home together in Denver.

**Katie Ciresi O'Brien** started teaching English at Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis in August 2015. She and her husband moved into a new home in May and welcomed their son Logan

Anthony O'Brien, on August 19.

**Stephanie Cherpak Clary** started a new job as mission outreach and communication coordinator for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington in August. She also presented "Rooted in Common Ground: Our Universal Call to Care for Creation" at the Diocese of Harrisburg LARC Dialogue Day on November 7, 2016.

**Peggy Dobihal Torbert** and her husband, Charlie, welcomed the birth of their baby girl Elaine April Torbert on October 19.

**Kerriann Clare Dooley** became a Certified Emergency Nurse in 2014 and was promoted to RN clinician 3 for the University of Virginia Emergency Department in 2015. She is back at Saint Mary's for the doctorate of nursing practice program.

**Elizabeth Downs O'Connor** married Daniel O'Connor on October 24, 2015, in Chicago.

**Katie Bridget Fisher** relocated to Columbus, OH, in August to begin her master's in fine arts at Columbus College of Art and Design.

**Hannah Hupp Cain** moved to Nashville, TN, in July 2015 and started a new job at Newell Brands as a senior sales analyst. Hannah married Cory Cain on June 18, 2016, at Saint Mary's.

**Emily Jean Kieffer** completed a master's in theoretical and applied linguistics at the University of Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain, in July. Emily married Darwin Valdes in La Rioja, Spain, on August 13, 2016.

**Kate Alycia Kirbie** moved to Wauwatosa, WI, in July and is studying elementary Montessori education at the Montessori Institute of Milwaukee.

**Taylor Patton Lough** married Bryce Lough on June 13, 2015. Taylor and Bryce bought a house in Richardson, TX, in September 2015.

**Elizabeth Anne Maltby** accepted a position as associate dean of high school boarding at Korea International School Jeju in April. It is her fourth year working at KISJ on Jeju Island in South Korea. Elizabeth also recently graduated and became a registered *haenyeo*, a female free diver found only on Jeju Island.

**Bridget Meade Edmonds** married Tim Edmonds in Bankston, IA, on September 10, 2016.

**Jordan Nine Rudolph** married Kyle Rudolph (ND '12) on February 13, 2016. They welcomed the birth of twin girls Andersyn and Finley on October 4, 2016.

**Megan Reardon Sutter** married Austin Sutter on July 30, 2016, in Chicago.

**Abby Skinner Reardon** completed the Family Nurse Practitioner Program with a master of science in nursing in May 2016 from Olivet Nazarene University; she is now officially a certified family nurse practitioner. Abby married Edward Reardon on July 1, 2016, and bought their first home in St. John, IN.

**Alicia Smith Albertson** passed the Indiana Bar exam and was sworn in as an attorney in the State of Indiana in late September 2015. She has worked at Ryan, More, Cook & Triplett for over a year. Alicia and her husband, Nathan Albertson (ND '12), purchased their first house in Frankfort, IN, in 2015.

**Alessandra Marie Stamper** graduated from the master of arts program in the humanities from the University of Chicago in June 2015, where she studied art history and film.

**Kamara (Kami) Marie Umbaugh** left her position at KPMG after working there four years and

now works at Apollo Global Management in New York City in their Credit Controllers Group.

**Ellis Maire Wasserman** graduated with her master of science in education in college student personnel from the University of Dayton in May 2015 and now works as the assistant director career coach at Ball State University.

**Angela May Willson-Conrad** received her master's degree in chemistry from Western Michigan University in June and started working as a doctoral research associate for the Center for Research on Instructional Change in Postsecondary Education (CRICPE). Angela married James Conrad in August.

**Kelli Kristine Zeese** graduated with a dual-degree master in business administration and master in sports administration from Ohio University in May 2015. Kelli returned to the University of Notre Dame in September 2015 as the director of baseball operations and is the only woman on a collegiate baseball coaching staff in the ACC.

**Natalie Matuszak Emmanuel**, gave birth to a daughter, Stella Juliette Jeanne Emmanuel, on August 9, 2016. Natalie, her husband, Julien, and Stella reside in Orlando, FL, where they own and operate the Winter Park Kilwins, a chocolate and ice cream shop.

On September 24, 2016, **Katie Dapper** married Michael Dressing (ND '11) in their new home of St. Petersburg, FL. "The Belles of Saint Mary's" was sung before mass. Many friends from the class of 2012 and Notre Dame traveled to celebrate; a true representation of the lifelong connections formed at Saint Mary's College.

**'13** **Meghan Kathryn Feasel**  
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Lots of good things happening for the class of 2013! **Kaley Brea Braunsdorf** is now Kaley Renko. She married Daniel Renko on October 1, 2016.

**Maria Mathew Thuruthiyil** married Mark Russ (ND '13) at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on July 30, 2016. Congrats, ladies!

In baby news, **Bonnie Sanders Knuth** and husband, Greg, welcomed son Peter in September.

In job news, **Meghan Katherine Dillon** started a new job at Medline Industries in Northfield, IL, as a product data coordinator.

**Jennifer Ann Gracyalny** received the EXTIMO Student Voice Award for Outstanding Spanish Teacher from the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in Indiana at the Indiana Foreign Language Teacher's Association Conference in Indianapolis on November 5, 2016. Congratulations on this great accomplishment, Jennifer!

Email smcclassnews2013@gmail.com with any updates.

'14

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Hello, 2014 Belles! We had a great outpouring of news this edition — from weddings, to buying our first homes, to starting new careers; 2014 Belles certainly have been busy!

Wedding bells rang brightly for **Abby Burgan Peek** who married Brandon Lee Peek on November 13, 2016. The couple is eager to begin their new life together in their new home in Charleston, SC, come spring 2017. In April 2016, **Ashley Plenzler Walsh** married Colin Walsh on the ninth, and **Emily Engler Puck** married Jesse Puck on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, both in South Bend.

A number of our classmates are continuing their education and eagerly pursuing secondary degrees. In the fall of 2016, **Kaitlin Elizabeth Teichman** began graduate school at the University of Colorado Denver to pursue a family nurse practitioner specialty. She also accepted a new position with the bone marrow transplant unit at University of Colorado Hospital in November. **Lauren Marie Murphy** recently began a graduate program at the University of Illinois for her master's in human resources, labor and employee relations. **Lauren Elizabeth Wozniak** began graduate school at Lewis University for her master's of education in curriculum and instruction with dual endorsements in ELL and reading. **Margaret Carolyn Boden** just completed her first semester at Rush University in the primary adult-gerontology nurse practitioner program. She will graduate in 2019 with a doctor of nursing practice degree. Also, she recently began a new job at Northwestern Memorial Hospital as a medical-surgical float pool RN. **Kate Maire Russell** is working on her clinical doctorate in audiology at Purdue University. She is currently halfway through the four-year graduate program. In her final year, she is excited to complete her full-time clinical externship at the University of Michigan Hospital and Health Systems. Best of luck on your studies, Belles!

While some Belles are entering graduate school, a number are graduating and landing their first jobs post graduate school. This past May, **Emma Kathleen Derheimer** graduated with a master's in the art of teaching from Marian University. Upon completing Teach for America in June, she returned to the social work field and began working at the Indiana Department of Child Services in Marion County as a family case manager. This past August, **Regina Catherine-Anne Mauck** graduated from the University of Dayton's Lalanne Service Through Teaching program with a master's of science in education with a focus in special education. She has now moved back to South Bend and is teaching art and special education at St. Matthew Cathedral

School for grades kindergarten through eighth. **Bethany Blaise Tabor** graduated from New York University with her master's in performance studies and is now living in Brooklyn, NY, working for the nonprofit arts organization Pioneer Works. She is managing the creative technology integration and youth education initiatives. Congratulations, Belles, on your recent achievements!

Belles are continuing to pursue their passions and are starting new jobs and careers. **Kelly Morgan Murphy** is working as a speech-language pathologist with the geriatric population at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, IL.

**Clair Elizabeth Kusbach** accepted a lower elementary teaching position at Marquette Primary Montessori Academy in South Bend. As Marquette is a Montessori school, she gets to have the experience of teaching grades one through three all in one classroom.

**Sophia Viola Schrage** earned a new promotion within Lincoln Financial Group and is working with LFA compensation.

**Jordan Ashley Diffenderfer** started writing articles for *L'italo Americano* newspaper, which she enjoys greatly, as it provides her with the opportunity to reminisce on her study abroad in Rome. She is currently working at Frederik Meijer Gardens and as a sales representative for Better Advertising Professionals in Grand Rapids, MI.

**Shelby Ann Del Regno** moved to South Bend and bought her first home. In August, **Carrie Christine Hobt** started a new career working at a national CPA/professional services firm called the Siegfried Group in a business development/recruiting role. Although lacking a background in accounting, she is grateful to fellow Belle **Bridget Lebiecz Oliveira '07**, who connected her to the unique position at the firm. Carrie is currently completing her training program, which has allowed her to travel across the country, and will graduate in January when she will then begin doing business development in the Chicago market. Thus far, she has loved this new learning experience and is willing to continue networking and sharing information with any Belles who might be interested in learning more about her firm. Well wishes go out to all our Belles embarking on new professional journeys!

We love to hear from and celebrate our 2014 Belles and can't wait to hear what this group of women will accomplish next! Be sure to keep in touch by joining and participating in the Saint Mary's Class of '14 Facebook group. #gobelles

'15

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Hello, Class of 2015! We hope this issue finds you and the special people in your lives in good health and happiness as we begin the holiday season. We are thrilled to share news of new careers and weddings with you all.

**Kaitie Marie Maierhofer** married Patrick Monahan on October 8, 2016. Katie and Patrick now live in LaSalle, IL, where Katie is a math teacher at LaSalle Peru High School. Congratulations, Katie and Patrick!

**Emily Brooke Haskins** married Andrew McNally in Greenwood, IN, on October 15, 2016. Congratulations, Emily and Andrew!

**Becky Jeanne Walker** accepted a position teaching fourth grade at Saint Rita School in Alexandria, VA. Enjoy your REAL chalkboards, Becky. Your students are so lucky to have you as their teacher!

**Carolyn Annick Rigby** married Matthew Tansey (ND '13) on August 27, 2016, in Red Bank, NJ. Carolyn and Matt now live in San Diego, CA. Matt is a Navy helicopter pilot and Carolyn is a second-grade teacher. Congratulations, Carolyn and Matt!

**Alyssa Ashley Lanting** married Christopher Henneman (ND '15) on October 22, 2016. After being engaged for 17 hours, Alyssa was walked down the hallways of Community Hospital by her grandfather. Days before their engagement and wedding, Alyssa's grandfather was given only a week to live. Only close family were in attendance. Congratulations, Alyssa and Christopher. We are so happy your grandfather was able to be a part of your special day!

Hope you are all doing well! Don't forget to send in your updates to bellesnews2015@gmail.com. #GoBelles #SMCBold

'16

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Happy 2017 to the Class of 2016! This is the first year since 2012 that we haven't spent at least part of it at Saint Mary's. But instead of being sad, read on about how our classmates have been living life to the fullest since graduation.

Baby news comes first! **Emily Rojas Zelaya** and her husband, Henry, welcomed their son Enzo Ademar Zelaya on September 19. Emily says he is a happy baby who enjoys the Ocean Waves playlist on Spotify and likes looking at himself in mirrors. The family makes their home in Mishawaka, IN. Congratulations to the Zelayas!

Best wishes are also due to our newly married classmates. **Shelby Matison Vargas** married Alberto Vargas Jr. on July 9 in Elgin, IL, where the bride and groom grew up. The couple now lives in Chicago.

**Elizabeth Maynard Denman** married Buddy Denman on October 22 in Sturgis, MI, where the couple now lives. **Margaret Ann Kane** stood as Elizabeth's maid of honor.

Several SMC nursing alumnae are celebrating the start of new careers. **Mary Robin** accepted a position this past August as a mother/baby nurse in a postpartum unit at Good Samaritan Hospital



in Downers Grove, IL. **Anna Cronin Lacey** began working at the oncology/transplant unit at Avera Health in Sioux Falls, SD. **Kaitlyn Marie Kernicky** also started her career on the oncology floor as a registered nurse at Virtua Hospital in Mt. Holly, NJ. Great work, Belles!

Another '16 grad has begun a two-year assignment in the Peace Corps. **Helena (Nellie) Therese Petlick** moved to Ukraine this past September to teach English in the city of Bar. She also conducts afterschool clubs for students and organizes conversational classes and methodological seminars for English teachers. At the Peace Corps swearing-in ceremony in December, Nellie was chosen on behalf of her 77 fellow volunteers to read the Peace Corps Pledge and deliver a speech in English and Ukrainian to the

government dignitaries, journalists, host families, and counterparts who attended. You make your alma mater very proud, Nellie.

After living for several months in Geneva, Switzerland, while interning at the IIMA Human Rights Office, **Sofia Maria Piecuch** begins a two-year mission in Senegal this January. She will live in the city of Dakar while ministering with Hearts Home, an organization that serves people who are homeless, impoverished, elderly, mentally ill, and physically impaired. If you can contribute money or prayers to sponsor Sofia in Senegal, please visit her page: <http://usa.heartshome.org/Sofia-P-Holland-MI.html>.

And just like old times, several Belles were able to meet up at football games this past fall. On the weekend of October 29, **Miranda Elizabeth**

**Oltmanns, Olivia Mary Beck, Andree Wilson-Nixa, Katelyn Sierra Smith, Julie Galvin, Rose Katelin Krzemien '14, and Anna Cronin Lacey** reconnected in South Bend and celebrated ND's victory over Miami. We hope you drove down The Avenue for all of us, ladies!

**Diana Marie Matuszak**, accounting major, successfully completed the CPA exam and is working for the CPA firm, Grant Thornton, PLC, in Orlando, FL.

Keep connected with your classmates! Send news such as births, deaths, marriages, moves, new jobs, graduations, Belles reunions, and other life events to [smc16news@gmail.com](mailto:smc16news@gmail.com).

## SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE FINE ARTS & SUMMER ACADEMY CAMPS FOR GIRLS!



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# Excelsior

**NORA BARRY FISCHER '73** received Honorary Membership in the Federal Bar Association in November 2016.

**MARY LU BILEK '77** has been named one of the Most Influential People in Legal Education 2016 nationwide by *National Jurist*, a leading news source for law students.

**LUCIA ANNA TRIGIANI '80** has been named a 2017 Best Lawyer by *Best Lawyers of America*. The publication also ranked MercerTrigiani as a Tier I "Best Law Firm" in real estate for metropolitan Washington, DC.

**KELLY FRANCES CRAVEN '83** was named the Senior Advisor to Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill.

**ELLEN D. CROWLEY '86** was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award by the Mendoza College of Business at the University of Notre Dame. This award recognizes her demonstrated achievement in business and her continued commitment to the Mendoza College of Business through leadership and service to the graduate business community.

**SARA NIENABER VANSLAMBROOK '98** was named the new director of Great Families 2020 by United Way of Central Indiana. This program is a five-year initiative designed to improve the lives of Indianapolis's most vulnerable families.

**BRIDGET HEFFERNAN LABUTTA '00** was named a Pennsylvania Rising Star by the Super Lawyers rating program.

**ASHLEY MARIE ULBRICHT '04** received the 2016 Indy's Best and Brightest award by Junior Achievement of Central Indiana Inc. The organization annually recognizes professionals under the age of 40 in 10 industries. Ashley won in the government category.

AS PART OF PRESIDENT JAN CERVELLI'S  
LISTENING TOUR,  
THE DIVISION FOR MISSION  
LAUNCHED AN INITIATIVE CALLED

## *Landscapes of the Spirit.*

The project brings alumnae voices together in a virtual community.

Have you shared your story yet?

Visit [saintmarys.edu/Courier](http://saintmarys.edu/Courier) for the link to record your Saint Mary's experience.





# *Landscapes of the Spirit*

## How a Catholic, Holy Cross Education Formed Me

By Laurie Bracken Flanagan '74

Emptying the dishwasher,  
I remove my mother's  
sugar bowl. Vintage  
Homer Laughlin china,  
"made in the USA," ivory  
with a flourish of pink  
roses, gold accents on its  
scalloped edges, crafted long before  
dishwashers had even been invented.  
If you consider that I had used the  
sugar bowl for a gravy boat, you'll soon  
get to the heart of my Saint Mary's story  
— a story about family, faith, discovery, and joy.




In 1970, I landed on the steps of Holy Cross Hall. Over the next four years, Saint Mary's introduced me to complex philosophical treatises and the mystical beliefs of Eastern religions, challenged me with the rigors of calculus and chemistry, and inspired me with theater and music and art.



Last year, I retired as the director of a global training team for the world's leading educational publisher. Foundationally, Saint Mary's had everything to do with my career journey, from teaching high school and college to managing a global team. I learned organization, scheduling, and prioritization at Saint Mary's, as well as critical thinking and problem solving. Saint Mary's also taught me about people, how to live with and love others, how to listen actively and empathize sincerely, and how to counsel and lead.

As I cradle that sugar bowl, I realize it's a bit like me: vintage, yet still resilient. Like the sugar bowl/gravy boat, I am discovering that I have new uses, too, and there is so much I still want to learn and become.

The Homer Laughlin sugar bowl holds memories of the day my mother released me into the waiting arms of Saint Mary's, but also makes me hopeful and joyful. I am what author Joan Anderson calls the "unfinished woman." Forty-three years after my graduation, Saint Mary's is still helping me "become" and discover more about myself, my world, and my place in it.

You know, I don't think I'm putting that sugar bowl back in the cabinet after all. I'm going to leave it out on display. Who knows what's next for it...or me! 

# Saint Mary's College COURIER

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"EYE SEE ALL"  
Caitley Sosnowski

Caitley Sosnowski '19, nursing major, designed "Eye See All" in her Silkscreen class taught by professor Doug Tyler. Intrigued by outer space and the universe, her piece is a representation of the one who can see all. She said, "I have such a deep desire to understand the universe, but I know my human mind will not allow me to do so."