

ENVISION

FALL 2021



MOTHER PAULINE SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT

DONNA DECRANE PANZICA '78 AND TIM PANZICA

Maximizing Support through Thoughtful Stock Gifts

Big philanthropic dreams require creative thinking! This strategy led **Donna DeCrane Panzica '78** and her husband **Tim** to establish an endowed fund at Saint Mary's College by thinking beyond cash.

Donna's mother, **Flora Friday DeCrane '51**, and several aunts attended Saint Mary's. "There's a warmth to sharing space and place where others have gone before me," Donna said. When she arrived on campus, she met lifelong friends, expanded her heart and mind, and experienced spiritual growth on our tranquil campus.

When Donna gives back to Saint Mary's, she and Tim donate appreciated securities. The couple loves the double tax savings – avoiding capital gains tax, as well as deducting the current market value of the stock. It's a "relatively painless" way of giving, as stock donors bought the asset long ago. "Most importantly," Donna adds, "it allows the opportunity to most impactfully share our resources and blessings with institutions that we hold dear."

The Panzicas were "thrilled" when Saint Mary's hired **Redgina Hill, Ph.D.**, now the Vice President for Inclusion and Equity. "As we have seen too frequently, people of color are severely disadvantaged in many areas of life: housing, medical, education, just to name a few," Donna said. She and Tim fully support the plan for the Division for Inclusion and Equity "to educate all about inherent bias, to call out discrimination and call for justice, to support minority communities, to educate all faculty, staff, and students, and to provide an inclusive learning and living environment on campus."

Donna and Tim donated securities to establish a fund on campus to support Achieving a Culture of Human Dignity and Solidarity, a key commitment of *Revere and Revise: Saint Mary's College 2030*.

To learn more about the benefits and "how to" of donating stock or mutual funds to accomplish your philanthropic passions, contact Valerie Sherman (contact information inside).



Donna '78 and her husband, Tim.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear friends,

Happy fall from Saint Mary's campus! We welcomed 375 first-year students this fall, with a total of 1,506 students (both undergraduate and graduate)!

Tumultuous times remind us of our resilience and the knowledge that we can tackle future challenges. Times like these also remind us to cherish the traditions that have linked Saint Mary's classes through generations. College staff returned to the office over the summer, and I am excited to write to you from **Mother Pauline O'Neill's** own desk! I also hope you will enjoy the photos and stories unearthed by our intern, **Mary Coleman '20**, as she sifted through files this summer.

As you visit South Bend in the coming months for the Inauguration of President Katie Conboy, maybe some football, or just visiting campus for a stroll, take a look around to see the hard work and renovations being made to preserve and enhance Saint Mary's College for future generations.

Yours in gratitude,

Valerie Sherman, JD, CFP®
Director of Gift Planning

Contact info:

Valerie Sherman, JD, CFP®

Director of Gift Planning
Saint Mary's College
110 Le Mans Hall
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556
voice: 574-284-4600
vsherman@saintmarys.edu

To learn more visit:

saintmarys.edu/GiftPlanning

Mother Pauline Award to Class of 1971

Joining us virtually for their 50th Reunion, the Class of 1971 earned the Mother Pauline Award for the most Mother Pauline Society members in their class. **Sarah Belanger Earley '71** accepted the award for the class.

In lieu of our reunion champagne breakfast, the Mother Pauline Society hosted a talk by the staff of Saint Mary's **Women's Entrepreneurship Initiative** and graduates of the **SPARK Business Accelerator**. The work these women are doing in South Bend is truly inspiring. To receive a link to the recording of the event, contact Valerie (see column at left).



Sarah Belanger Earley '71 accepted the Mother Pauline Award for the Class of 1971 over Virtual Reunion Weekend in June 2021. The class includes 19 Mother Pauline Society members and won the award with the Class of 1956 coming in next at 15 members. All Reunion activities were virtual in 2021.

IN MEMORIAM

Saint Mary's acknowledges alumnae and friends who have recently passed away, leaving thoughtful bequests to the College:

Beverly Ritz Bierbusse '54

Margaret A. Sullivan Hartnett '58

M. Kathleen Kitzmiller '67

Margaret Diver Mastros '64

Ann Leonard Molenda '58

Mary Ann Smith Riebenack '62

Bequest gifts from alumnae, parents, and friends enable future generations of students to access a Saint Mary's education.



Exploring Saint Mary's History

This summer, the Office of Gift Planning benefited from the splendid work of second-generation Saint Mary's graduate, Mary Coleman '20. Mary, now a second-year student at the Notre Dame Law School, enjoyed the campus research, donor visits, and tax research she was able to do this summer in our office.

Mary Coleman '20

Summer Intern

During my legal internship with the Office of Gift Planning, I learned a lot about the nitty gritty legal details of tax-savvy giving, but I also saw the joy of philanthropy behind those gifts. I was inspired to hear about the reasons that alumnae and friends establish legacy gifts for Saint Mary's College. As part of my internship, I discovered a treasure trove of photos from Saint Mary's past. These photos reminded me of the community of alumnae that I recently joined, and I hope these photos inspire you to think of the many generations of Saint Mary's women that build this community yesterday, today and into the future.

Always Prepared

Saint Mary's women have always been prepared. Whether it was learning how to fix a car in the early part of the twentieth-century, or farming on the campus farm, Saint Mary's women have had the skills they needed to be successful and independent. **(Photo A)** And it was not just these practical skills that made these Saint Mary's women savvy, it was also the skills they learned in the classroom. Dedication to science, education, nursing and other important skills set Saint Mary's women apart. **(Photo B)** Saint Mary's boasted other important draws for young women, like horseback riding. While it's difficult to imagine the area around Le Mans as fields, it was the perfect area to practice jumping. **(Photo C)** And horse riding was not the only skill that one could learn at Saint Mary's. Archery, fencing, tennis, and jumping hurdles were also available to Saint Mary's Belles. **(Photos D & E)**

Up for Anything

If the photos of the fencing and the archery were not enough to convince you that Saint Mary's women are up for anything, how about these photos of wrestling pigs in mud for An Tostal? **(Photo F)** Some of you may remember An Tostal as a joint campus celebration before finals. The history of An Tostal lives on, minus the wrestling. Other fun activities included eating contests and cart races. And of course, in the fall, there were football games. My how football attire has changed over the years! **(Photo G)**

While some things never change, like attending football games, some things have changed completely, like autos class. These photos highlighted the friendships shared on both sides of the street and the sense of collegiality that punctuates the Saint Mary's experience. Students' willingness to learn was evident across the photographs.

These photos inspire a sense of nostalgia and fascination with our shared past, as well as a feeling of connection with the Saint Mary's women who came before us and will come after us. Planned gifts including bequests and other tax-savvy gifts connect past and future generations of Saint Mary's Belles. These gifts help Saint Mary's to plan ahead and be up for anything...always!





Saint Mary's College

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Valerie Sherman, JD CFP®

Director of Gift Planning
110 Le Mans Hall
Saint Mary's College
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556



A new painting of Sister M. Madeleva Wolff, C.S.C., by South Bend portrait painter and muralist Alex Ann Allen graces Reignbeaux Lounge in Le Mans Hall. Students from the 1950s and '60s will remember how Sister Madeleva would lunch with students in the space. The 5 x 7 foot canvas features a knowing smirk from one of Saint Mary's most celebrated figures.



Guest Column

Maximize your impact at Saint Mary's through smart giving



Michele Malloy '71

Last year I started thinking about my then-upcoming 50th reunion and what I might do for Saint Mary's College. Memories of my four years there, the friends I made, all that I learned — especially in my favorite major, Humanistic Studies — not to mention the joy we experience every five years to be back with our class for reunion.

This year has been an extraordinary year for the stock market, and giving highly appreciated stocks is such an easy way to avoid capital gains tax, maximize your deduction, and also make a fundamental difference to others. Additionally, I was finally old enough to make direct donations from my IRA, again with great tax advantages.

("Old enough" in this case means age 70 ½ to make a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA.)

Realizing how easy this would be led to my decision to fund a scholarship for a deserving student to major in Humanistic Studies. This unique major was the springboard for my eclectic academic and career endeavors: master's and law degree, and work as a school psychologist, lawyer and environmental executive.

Please consider what you feel strongly about, use the tax laws to your advantage to make a gift of appreciated securities, and make a difference at Saint Mary's!

*For more information on giving to Saint Mary's through your estate plan, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at **574-284-4600** or plannedgiving@saintmarys.edu.*