

ENVISION

FALL 2022



MOTHER PAULINE SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT

ROSE-MARIE '54 AND JOHN DILENSCHNEIDER

Honoring an Everlasting Love with an Everlasting Gift



Jack and Rody Dilenschneider seated on a bench outside of Holy Cross Hall, Saint Mary's College. The bench was a 60th wedding anniversary gift from their children.

On a blind date in 1951, **Rose-Marie "Rody" Oppenheim Dilenschneider '54** and John "Jack" Dilenschneider, a Notre Dame student began an everlasting love. They enjoyed walking through the apple orchards on campus and socializing with other students through games of softball and red rover. Jack and Rody married in 1954, and welcomed ten children.

Rody was passionate about education and service. She taught in multiple school systems before directing her efforts to the literacy movement for

immigrants. **Mary Dilenschneider Condon '87** recounted that one of her mother's favorite sayings was, "Teaching children how to learn is necessary but teaching them how to think is invaluable."

Rody died January 17, 2020. In honor of Rody, Jack established the "Rose-Marie 'Rody' Oppenheim Dilenschneider Class of 1954 Student Research and Travel Grant" endowed fund. The fund's purpose is to support opportunities for undergraduate students to experience inquiry-based learning in collaboration with faculty and other students.

An endowed fund is created when a donor stipulates that a gift will be permanently invested to create income for a particular purpose. Only the investment income is available for spending. The gift, which serves as the principle, may never be spent.

In the event that Jack passed away before his pledge to the fund was fulfilled, he revised his estate plan to include a bequest of the pledge balance.

Six weeks after he documented this commitment, Jack died on September 22, 2021. The fund was fully endowed through the bequest from Jack's estate.

Jack's bequest to honor his beloved Rody has created a fund that will support generations of Saint Mary's students in the pursuit of their education.

If you want to learn more about establishing an endowed fund through a bequest at Saint Mary's College, please contact Lauren Henzel at lhenzel@saintmarys.edu or at 574.284.4600.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear friends,

The trees along the Avenue are aglow in the warm, rich colors of autumn. As the days grow shorter, their beauty will give way to winter's hibernation in anticipation of spring's budding growth and

summer's full blossoming. With every passing season, I am awestruck at this cycle of nature across our beautiful campus.

It is always a joy to meet with alumnae and friends to learn about their Saint Mary's experiences. Like the change of seasons, I am amazed by the consistent similarities of these Saint Mary's stories. Alumnae across the generations weave two common threads in their stories: Saint Mary's has enriched their existence with lifelong friends and empowered them to be collaborative leaders in all aspects of their lives.

Thank you for your commitment to Saint Mary's College and its mission. Your support ensures that future generations of alumnae will one day share their Saint Mary's stories, too.

Very truly yours,

Lauren Jaworowski Henzel, '91
Director of Gift Planning

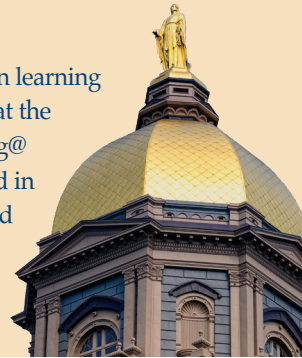
Saint Mary's to Mendoza College of Business: Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Programs

Saint Mary's is proud to have recently collaborated with the University of Notre Dame to provide Saint Mary's students with the opportunity to seek a direct admittance pathway to certain graduate business degrees through the Mendoza College of Business. These accelerated bachelor's-to-master's programs afford guaranteed admission to four master's programs so long as Saint Mary's students maintain a minimum GPA and complete various prerequisite courses. All programs may be completed within one year or less.

The four accelerated bachelor's-to-master's programs are: a Master of Nonprofit Administration, a Master of Science in Management, a Master of Science in Finance, and a Master of Science in Accountancy.

Saint Mary's students will be accepted into these graduate programs during the early application period. Depending on the program, graduate classes at Mendoza College will begin in January of the student's final undergraduate year at Saint Mary's or after their graduation in the month of June or August.

If you know a current student who might be interested in learning more about these amazing post-graduate opportunities at the University of Notre Dame, please direct them to advising@saintmarys.edu. Prospective first year students interested in these accelerated bachelor's-to-master's programs should contact admission@saintmarys.edu.



IN MEMORIAM

Saint Mary's acknowledges alumnae and friends who have recently passed away, naming the College as a beneficiary in their estate plans or establishing a life income gift with the College:

Sheila Conlin Brown '56

John Butkovich

Paul Eide

Janell Wenzel O'Barski '54

Julie Walsh Riester '63

Mary Lou Wiggins

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

Contact info:

Lauren Jaworowski Henzel, JD '91

Director of Gift Planning

Saint Mary's College

110 Le Mans Hall

Notre Dame, IN 46556-5001

phone 574.284.4600

To learn more visit:

saintmarys.edu/GiftPlanning



Kessler Scholars Collaborative: Supporting the First Generation Student Experience

Saint Mary's College was selected as one of 10 additional colleges to participate in the Kessler Scholars Collaborative. As part of the Collaborative, the College will receive a five-year, \$1 million grant to implement the Kessler Scholars model. The Kessler Scholars program offers a comprehensive model which includes financial support and services to first-generation, economically disadvantaged students throughout their college experience.



First-generation students Thalia (left) and Anais studying in Le Mans Hall.

The 2022/2023 school year will be devoted to adapting the model to campus, with plans to welcome the first class of Kessler Scholars in fall 2023. At least 40% of the total grant, or \$400,000, will be devoted to direct student aid.

Like all Saint Mary's students, first-generation students are obtaining an incredible education and experiencing amazing personal growth opportunities. However, being a first-generation student carries different burdens than merely adjusting to college academics and campus social activities. Saint Mary's first-generation students describe these burdens as having limited financial resources, feeling that they do not belong, and carrying the emotional weight of family members who were unable to attend college.

First-generation student Anais, a Global Studies and Economics major, noted that "Saint Mary's was my mother's dream school. Since she was a child, she always wanted to come here. Unfortunately, she never could. I am not only living out my own dreams here, but my mother's."

Similarly, Thalia, a Political Science and Global Studies major finds purpose in being the first person in her family to attend college. Thalia noted, "Stopping to recognize the little successes and celebrate those and even just celebrating that you're in college and doing what others in your family didn't have the opportunity to do, makes these times so much more meaningful and reminds you why you are here."

The Kessler Scholars grant will enhance the success of first-generation students and supplement the College's existing support of these students. Currently, the College serves first-generation students through various offices and divisions including the Office for Student Equity and Multicultural Student Services.

Saint Mary's first-generation students are grateful for campus resources which assist them with the unique obstacles

of their college experience. Often times, a teacher or mentor is critical for the development of a student. Anais noted, "I am fortunate enough to have the most amazing mentor on campus, Diane Fox. Through her mentorship, my confidence has grown dramatically – both academically and personally. I started to believe in myself because she believed in me."

Other first-generation students develop support networks through campus offices and activities.

Thalia commented, "I definitely think that my support network is the multicultural office in the student center here at Saint Mary's. It's really a safe space for me that allows me to talk to other students who have similar experiences to my own, talk to staff members that want to see me succeed, and either do work, socialize, or just rest."

Monica, a first-generation Applied Art & Design and Art History major spoke of the importance in finding support through her peers. She noted, "As a board member of the student led First Gen Family, I can proudly say that the members of the club have an amazing relationship with one another. I was a member of the Belles Connect Program my freshman year, and my mentor was one of my first friends."

To learn how your gift can impact the first generation student experience at Saint Mary's, contact Executive Director of Regional Development and Gift Planning, Carrie Mueller '92 at cmueller@saintmarys.edu or (574) 284-5334.



Saint Mary's College

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Lauren Jaworowski Henzel, JD '91

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



Calendar of Events

- November 11-13** Saint Mary's Theatre presents *Legally Blonde*
- November 16** Fall Concert: Belle Voix and the Collegiate Choir
- November 17-18** High School Treble Choir Festival
- December 3** Get Inked 2022: Teen Writing Conference
- December 2 - 4** 50th Annual Madrigal Dinners

To see more Saint Mary's events, both in person and virtually, go to saintmarys.edu/events

Guest Column

Leave a Lasting Legacy: Make a Gift to Saint Mary's in Your Will



Janet Horvath '00
Partner at Jones
Obenchain, LLP

Leaving a bequest to Saint Mary's is a wonderful way to ensure your values live on beyond your lifetime. And it often provides an avenue for alumnae to impact Saint Mary's beyond what would be possible during your lifetime.

A popular way is to leave a bequest to Saint Mary's when creating your will. Saint Mary's can also be added as a beneficiary to an existing will either by re-executing your will or by executing a separate amendment called a codicil.

If you are unsure of the specific amount to make your gift, a popular choice is stating your gift as a percentage of your estate. For example, "I leave 10% of my estate to Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana." Because the value of personal assets can rise and fall throughout your lifetime, a bequest stated as a percentage will automatically adjust regardless of future circumstances.

Specific language must be included in your will to ensure that your bequest is honored. That's why it's important to consult with an estate planning attorney. In preparation for a meeting with your attorney, you should consider whether you want your gift to benefit a particular area of the College or used for a particular purpose. If you plan to restrict the use of your bequest—designating to a specific area or program—your attorney will want to contact Saint Mary's when drafting your will to ensure your wishes can be met. You may also leave your gift unrestricted to allow Saint Mary's to apply your gift where it is needed most at the time.

As devoted alumnae, we know how much Saint Mary's enriched our lives, educationally and as a community. With a testamentary gift to Saint Mary's you can be sure that your love and commitment to our College continues even after you're gone.