

# Saint Mary's College COURIER

Fall/Winter 2022





# UPON REFLECTION

Each autumn, we wonder when the first leaf will turn: first one, then a few—and, overnight, a panorama of reds, yellows, and oranges! The campus canopy is constantly adapting. In my comings and goings along The Avenue, I note its enchanting display of the seasons, and I often imagine how our founders thought of this tree-lined Avenue as an example for our students. The word “resilience” feels appropriate: the trees bend (mostly) without breaking, and they experience change, rebirth, and loss every year.

When I joined the College in 2019, I noted that Sister Madeleva Wolff, a transformative past president, had also been attuned to the idea of resilience. At a time when the education of women was subversive in itself, she ensured that Saint Mary’s would further cultivate women’s resilience by combining a liberal arts education with exposure to technical fields and to advanced study. Because of these early steps, Saint Mary’s today offers a comprehensive program portfolio: the liberal arts, yes, as well as professional programs such as Accounting, Engineering, Nursing Science, and Speech Language Pathology. A strong interdisciplinary foundation prepares all Saint Mary’s graduates with the ability to flex with life’s demands, to apply a critical mind to any field, and to adapt across the seasons of life.

As the beneficiary of a liberal arts education, I often struggle to answer questions about my own career path. How did a B.A. in Music go on to a Ph.D. in Neuroscience and a career in strategy and finance? The liberal arts are the secret sauce! Contrary to skill-based education, the liberal arts train students in the art of learning—ensuring the development of foundational skills that transfer across jobs and careers. Workforce research points to a real urgency for more such graduates: the skills most in demand by employers today are the educational strengths of Saint Mary’s College, including critical thinking, research and evidence-based practice, problem-solving, and the ability to acquire new skills.

Saint Mary’s has also developed expertise in institutional adaptation. We have emerged on this side of a pandemic stronger than where we began, with over 400 new undergraduate students this year and a growing balance sheet. Stability in our undergraduate core is augmented by growth in new programs that diversify our reach, including accelerated bachelor’s-to-master’s pathways, both at Saint Mary’s and in partnership with the University of Notre Dame; new graduate programs in Nursing and Social Work; and a suite of new summer youth programs to be launched in the summer of 2023. These summer camps and pre-college offerings are being created with support from Lilly Endowment, and youth programs are key to our vision to serve girls and women across the lifecycle.

The Avenue’s extravagant hues are soon replaced with bare branches that will, in turn, bud, leaf, and flower in time to celebrate our seniors as they move into their own next seasons. The liberal arts foundation offered by Saint Mary’s promises a lifetime of opportunity for these graduates—and the certainty of impact for the communities they serve.

Warm Regards,



Dana Strait, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President for Strategy and Finance

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**On the Cover:** Crystallized anti-GERD medicine, Famotidine, is part of a research project by senior **Mackenzie Weaver '23**. Studying the crystals allows researchers to identify what molecules are present in the substance and is the first step to better understand the chemistry behind paper analytical devices (PADs). See page 4.



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Courier is published three times  
a year by Saint Mary's College.

Nonprofit postage paid at the  
Post Office at Notre Dame,  
IN 46556 and at additional  
mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address  
changes to Alumnae Relations  
Saint Mary's College  
110 Le Mans Hall  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5001



# Launching Generations of SMC Researchers

by Lisa Knox

In her lab at University of Colorado Denver, **Mary Bevilacqua '13** is facing a challenge. How can global-health engineering teams and industry personnel in low-resource environments effectively create biomedical devices to meet the specific needs of their communities? How can the available technology be adapted to work for them? The questions are not easy, but the answers are there—and Bevilacqua is poised to find them.

Bevilacqua has worked non-stop as a chemist and researcher since graduating from Saint Mary's. She was an analytical chemist, then earned her master's degree in tissue engineering from Johns Hopkins University. Now, as an instructor at CU Denver, Bevilacqua teaches bioengineering, introducing students to the world of regenerative medicine, device design, and prototyping. In the lab, her focus is more on the processes and methodology of device design as part of her doctoral research.

The focus is specific, her end-goal is well defined. And she credits her approach to research and her ability to connect with students back to her experience at Saint Mary's, particularly to chemistry researcher and mentor Professor Toni Barstis.

Barstis is a professor and Fulbright Global Scholar, as well as the Denise DeBartolo York Endowed Chair of Science. Until this term, Barstis was the director of both the STEM Division and the Engineering Program.

Now, after 30 years at the College, Barstis is retiring at the end of the academic year. "Her influence, her style of research, definitely made a permanent imprint on how I approach medical technology and design," Bevilacqua said. "I didn't know it at the time, but it has become the driving force for my research focus."

An accomplished researcher, Barstis is named as the inventor on two US patents held jointly by the College and Notre Dame for her work with Paper Analytical Devices (PADs). Bevilacqua, who was a double-major studying chemistry and art, was also credited as inventor on the second PADs patent—the first time this was achieved by a student at SMC.

At the time, Bevilacqua saw the blending of art and science as a natural expression of who she was. She couldn't imagine having to choose between the two, and the College encouraged her work in the lab and the studio.

Barstis was one of Bevilacqua's many professors who understood the value in this multidisciplinary education. She remembers well the need to fuel her own passions. When she arrived in 1993, Barstis had just earned her Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of Michigan. "Every day I asked myself if I belonged at that school, if I was smart enough. Imposter syndrome was part of my every day," she remembers. As a first-gen student, Barstis credits *her* college professors for showing her how much bigger the world

*"I'm proud of all my students, whether they're chemistry or engineering students. They have an attitude that resonates with me, this 'pay it forward'."*

—Toni Barstis,  
professor and Denise DeBartolo  
York Endowed Chair of Science



was. Then, when the SMC position teaching physical chemistry presented itself, "You couldn't have pulled at my heartstrings more. I wanted to show women that they can do this. I knew, I just *knew*, research could influence a student in a way that the classroom could not." She was moved by the variety of women at Saint Mary's, and saw the opportunity to influence the way students—especially first generation students—saw their place in the world, and the vast opportunities available to them.

Over the years, Barstis became a force of nature with her students and developed a reputation as a mentor—from guiding a group of research students in Nepal to helping them solve real-world problems in the Saint Mary's lab. Rather than focusing solely on her own projects with students as assistants, she encouraged her undergraduate students to pursue their own ideas. She has influenced generations of students who, like Bevilacqua, have become researchers and lovers of science. To Barstis's mind, no interdisciplinary barriers should exist if they prevent students from learning.

"People don't understand that one of the biggest influences of an all-women's college is that these students take ownership; they are leaders. Here they don't know the word *no*," Barstis said. "Sometimes they are shocked when they leave here and see boundaries that would limit them. But I have spent nearly 30 years trying to enable these students to do whatever the hell they want to do."

Her approach and influence has had a ripple effect, one that over time helped further refine all research at Saint Mary's.

"At Saint Mary's, there is a range of students in the research field. Toni understands this," said Don Paetkau, a 19-year professor of biology. "Some have a certain thing they want to do. Others want a lot more guidance. In the middle are students who are interested in an instructor's project and become passionate about it. Everywhere in this range is a way that Saint Mary's research can help." He said that right from the beginning, Barstis paved the way for this kind of customized research. Now, legions of alumnae are research professionals, blazing their own paths with the model they learned at Saint Mary's.

Toni Barstis, center, has spent 29 years teaching applied chemistry and encouraging undergraduate women to find their voice as scientists. Here, she consults with students **Julia Crowley '23** and **Mackenzie Weaver '23**.



**Mary Bevilacqua '13** is a bioengineering instructor at University of Colorado – Denver, and a Ph.D. candidate studying biomedical technology design. After graduating from SMC with dual degrees, Bevilacqua learned to blend her diverse interests in art, engineering, global health, and research into a purposeful vocation.



*“I admire Toni for her ability to build such a distinctive and productive undergraduate research group at Saint Mary’s—taking advantage of the opportunity to expose these smart undergrads to leading-edge collaborative research.”*

—Patrick Flynn,  
professor of computer science  
and engineering at Notre Dame

**Kate McMahon '18**, is a doctoral candidate at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. At Saint Mary’s, she did much of her undergraduate research with Jennifer Fishovitz, professor of chemistry and physics. In her junior year, she became interested in research funding—an audacious focus for an undergrad. Rather than downplay her interests, members of the department of chemistry and physics helped champion her efforts. The result? McMahon, along with **Catherine Bruno '18**, founded SCORE—Student Committee on Research Expansion—as a way to bring more funding and access to student research at the College. Barstis served as an early supporter of the program, and liaison to the administration.

McMahon, a third-generation alumna, remembers how empowering that support was. By introducing STEM students to alumnae and other industry professionals, the College provided life-changing connections. “As a sophomore, I remember thinking it was so cool; the opportunities here are endless! At the professional development workshops, I remember seeing captains of industry, these alumnae who are leaders in their fields coming back to their humble little college and love being here—and enthusiastic about the next generation,” McMahon said. “And Toni really helped facilitate that. If I had questions for someone I’d met, she’d immediately get an email and provide an introduction. If I had an idea, she would validate it. She always pushed us to ask the next question. At Saint Mary’s, you really get to be original as an undergraduate.”

For several years Patrick Flynn, professor of computer science and engineering at Notre Dame, worked closely with Barstis and their colleague Marya Lieberman, professor of analytical chemistry at Notre Dame, together inventing the original PADs. Flynn describes Barstis’s remarkable enthusiasm for “nearly everything” and her effortless talent to get students excited by the technical side of chemistry.

“Toni has remarkable skills as a mentor to undergraduates interested in research,” Flynn said. “To do this is a challenge, and requires sustained commitment, as well as an ability to spot talent, recruit it, and plan to develop it.” Strong mentoring of undergraduate student research is essential to the work they do to train the next generation of scientists, he continued. “I admire Toni for her ability to build such a distinctive and productive undergraduate research group at Saint Mary’s—taking advantage of the opportunity to expose these smart undergrads to leading-edge collaborative research.”

Other colleagues at Saint Mary’s have stretched their own style of teaching and research as well, the effect of Barstis and her infectious attitude. “She definitely paved the way for

funded research at Saint Mary’s,” Paetkau said. “And when I say paved the way, she really took some of the hits. As we developed a grant to conduct research in Nepal, she took on the work of being part of the National Science Foundation review panel to get the experience and to really understand how to do this. There were many learning curves for the College to obtain and maintain grants—for the researchers *and* administration—and she pushed to see it through. Her hope was always that it would be easier for new faculty who want to do work with outside funding. And to this day, it is.”

She also went through the first patent process, questioned the College’s reliance on other institutions, and created internships at the College so students could stay on through the summer and learn here rather than going elsewhere for research. “Both of our departments—chemistry and biology—have changed because of her legacy,” Paetkau said.

Indeed, Barstis’s legacy at Saint Mary’s is deep and will impact generations of future scientists. In addition to helping hone the summer science research communities, she expanded the College’s 5-Year Dual-Degree Engineering Program with the University of Notre Dame, increasing the number of engineering students to record numbers. And she was instrumental in starting the STEM professional development series, empowering students in the sciences so they can secure jobs more easily upon graduation.

While she is quick to defer attention away from herself, particularly when it comes to accolades, she *is* proud of the relationship she helped forge with the University of Notre Dame for Saint Mary’s students interested in engineering. It is significant because students leave with two bachelor’s degrees—one from Saint Mary’s and one from the University of Notre Dame—and also because SMC graduates leave confident they are at the same professional level as those from a top-tier research institution.

“I tell them ‘*You’ve* done this; it’s yours. You’ve gone toe-to-toe with the students who graduate with the same degree at Notre Dame.’ We have been able to focus on this with all of our engineering students, and help them understand themselves, to negotiate for themselves, to become equals.”

The students who go through this program have the best of both worlds, she said. “They learn these incredible things at Saint Mary’s, have the ability to do research, learn to write. Then they can take advantage of the resources at Notre Dame. And they just love it. You remember being 18 to 22, the world is open to you! The energy, the excitement, the exhaustion, the dreaming. This program changed my life and I’m just really pleased with that. That tells me it was blessed. That’s what I love Saint Mary’s for.”

In her Fulbright year and beyond, Barstis says it’s finally time to focus on her own research, taking the PADs project further. Of the two paths, commercializing the devices and continued research, she chooses the latter because it helps get the technology in the hands of other inventors who can continue to develop it.

“It was always very ‘real-world’ application with her,” Bevilacqua said. Barstis encouraged students to think beyond the lab, to think of the end-user when conducting their research. “It is something that I think is unique in a lot of academic experiences, where research tends to be isolated in the bubble of the academic community. For those of us who studied at Saint Mary’s, taking this (PADs) technology and going further with it, is something we can do.”

“I’m proud of all my students, whether they’re chemistry or engineering students. They have an attitude that resonates with me, this ‘pay it forward,’” Barstis said. “I’ve been blessed to pay it forward, using my intelligence and stubbornness to make a difference. I’ve helped the students at Saint Mary’s, and that was so much fun.”

In the classroom with her own students, Bevilacqua carries with her the lessons she learned at Saint Mary’s and in Barstis’s lab. Her students choose an obstacle that exists in the medical world, then design and build a novel device to try to overcome it. “I try to create for them the same kind of opportunity that I had through Toni—to create something people could potentially utilize, to solve a real problem. She created something special at Saint Mary’s. We can all try to do that too.”

*“People don’t understand that one of the biggest influences of an all-women’s college is that these students take ownership; they are leaders. Here they don’t know the word no.”*

—Toni Barstis



For her research, **Julia Crowley '23** measures pharmaceutical samples with the high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) instrument. Gifted to the College by Stephen and **Kathryn Wiedl Mettler '63, MD**, the HPLC has become an integral tool in the chemistry lab.





# Expanding Worldviews

## My Experience at the Border

by Margaret Cicchiello '22

*“We believe in a God of love, a God who tells us we must welcome the stranger.”*

—Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ

*Editor’s Note: As part of her global studies experience at Saint Mary’s, Margaret Cicchiello ’22 traveled to the US/Mexico border as part of a spring break cultural immersion trip organized by SMC faculty members Leonard Sanchez and Kathryn Lyndes. Here she shares a reflection of her time there, and the impact it has had on her life.*

The sidewalks of Brownsville, Texas, were crowded as a group of students pulled wagons full of blankets, toiletries, and cooking ingredients toward the border checkpoint into Matamoros, Mexico. Once through, the sidewalk suddenly gave way to rocky dirt. They didn’t stop to buy candy from the children who ran up to them, because they had used their

change to pay the border toll. Tents—dozens of them in every direction—made it clear they had reached their destination. This ‘tent city’ was flanked by a fence on one side and a river on the other; laundry strung along its bank. Residents used water to turn the dusty dirt into clay to make simple ovens. It was here where the students delivered their wagons, full of ingredients like salt, cooking oil, and flour to the 2,000 people who were living there indefinitely, waiting for information about their asylum status.

On spring break in 2020, I joined four Saint Mary’s students and two professors in McAllen, Texas to assist the men, women, and children waiting at the borders. This week-long experience was

facilitated by Leonard Sanchez, professor of social work, and Kathryn Lyndes, assistant professor of social work and gerontology. It was important to both of them that students from Saint Mary’s were able to meet personally with people who are directly impacted by this humanitarian crisis, so we could better understand the situation. In partnership with Respite Center Ministries (RCM) and Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, our small group joined RCM to offer aid throughout McAllen and in Brownsville, about an hour’s drive away.

According to Sanchez, the idea for this trip started when Rev. Joe Corpora, CSC,

a priest at the University of Notre Dame, asked Sanchez if he knew of a social work student who could complete her practicum with Sister Norma. Father Corpora had known Sanchez for a long time; he had been his pastor in Goodyear, Ariz. where he had worked with Sanchez’s mother. “In 2019 I went on a site visit to Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley to meet with Sister Norma’s staff. I knew soon after I arrived that I wanted to organize more than a practicum experience,” Sanchez said. “I felt a strong need to start the border immersion program so that students have their senses filled with sights and sounds of what a modern miracle looks like in the year 2020. Sister Norma has moved

*Public artist Anat Ronan created this mural in 2019 for her portion on the 360-foot Welcome Wall at the National Butterfly Center in Mission, Texas. Ronan chose Monarch butterflies for her contribution because it parallels their migration between the US and Mexico to people migrating and living in asylum at the border: “It’s a human thing, immigrating, migrating, moving to find better life, better food sources, better climate, safer home.”*



mountains to help masses of humanity in search of a better life, and God.”

He continued, “I wanted groups of students from Saint Mary’s College to learn about the journeys of the countless number of refugees seeking political asylum on the US/Mexico border.”

Lyndes agreed, joining forces with Sanchez. “Part of Saint Mary’s mission is to promote a life of social responsibility, that we are called to build awareness for our troubled world and social injustice, and to respond to it with compassion.”

We learned from the people we met at the border. Each individual and family was trying to reach US soil to be granted asylum. I remember being impressed by everyone there, how innovative they were, how calm they were under the circumstances. There were volunteers from multiple organizations working with the people living in the tent city; some were singing songs with a group of children, a group had provided portable charging stations, and stylists were giving haircuts. While it felt good to see volunteers there providing comfort, I knew that we needed to be doing more. The basic needs of the asylum seekers

were not being met. With so many in such a small area, there were not sufficient showers, toilets, or security, and it was unclear if they had safe drinking water.

Sanchez recalls spending his first visit preparing meals and driving people to the bus station. Because of the volume of people seeking refuge through RCM, some days were entirely spent making sandwiches. When we arrived in March 2020, most of those seeking asylum were unable to stay in the United States with their sponsors while they waited. As a result, the tent city on the Mexican side of the border was created as a temporary waiting location, established by humanitarian aid centers, like RCM. But asylum seekers frequently wait an indefinite time for news on their asylum status. Many wait years. So, instead of providing fresh clothes and food at the respite center, as Sanchez intended for us, we spent our time packaging ingredients and other toiletries, loading them into wagons, and walking them across the border. There clearly would not be enough for the thousands there. But still, we delivered the supplies.



Students spent an emotional day learning about La Lomita Chapel in Mission, Texas. A historical landmark, La Lomita was built in 1865 and served as a church for local ranchers as well as a place of rest for generations of travelling missionaries, like the Cavalry of Christ.

On one delivery day, children asked us for milk. It was frustrating and disappointing that we didn’t have any to offer them. Later, as we processed what we were seeing and hearing, one in our group remarked how calm, and even hopeful, people seemed, even without milk or toothpaste or countless other provisions. Student volunteer **Magdalena Hernandez ’20** reflected that the asylum seekers were survivors who often fled unsafe, even life-threatening environments in their home countries, and said “Their resilience and motivation to find a better life held them together” while they were waiting for asylum in less than ideal conditions.

On our trip, we spent time learning from Sister Norma. Her commitment to helping asylum seekers lies in her Catholic faith. “We believe in a God of love, a God who tells us we must welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, clothe the naked,” she said. She and her staff arranged for our group to help at other nonprofits and visit area sites.

One day we visited La Lomita Chapel, a one-room chapel built 150 years ago as a meeting place for the Cavalry of Christ.

Volunteers **Magdalena Hernandez ’20** (l) and **Marie Burke ’20** (r) join Professor Kathryn Lyndes (white hat) in handing out supplies with the other Respite Center volunteers in the tent city just across the border in Matamoros, Mexico.

The chapel is a historical landmark and serves as a physical reminder of hope for all who encounter it on their way to the border. Learning that the chapel had been a place for Masses, baptisms, weddings, and funerals for all of that time was poignant. However, when I learned that the diocese was fighting to keep the chapel from being torn down to make room for the border wall, I was overcome by the strength and determination that was the legacy of those who had built the chapel and those who had been taking care of it since.

At Saint Mary’s, we are taught to value life and help each other. This was motivating for our work. But the lack of resources for the asylum seekers adding to their dangerous journeys was frustrating. Although we were awed by the strength of the people we met, it was easy to feel that the work would not make a significant difference for this enormous problem. I’m glad we were able to provide help for a few days, but most of the support at the border is being provided by volunteers who were there before we arrived and would be there after we left. After we got back and I had time to reflect on the people we had met, I realized that this trip had been for us. Like with so many other

*“Part of Saint Mary’s mission is to promote a life of social responsibility, that we are called to build awareness for our troubled world and social injustice, and to respond to it with compassion.”*

—Kathryn Lyndes; asst. professor of social work and gerontology

cases “it is in giving that we receive.” Our intention may have been to provide support for people who do not have sufficient resources, but we were the ones who gained something important. The lasting change was within myself—the faces I now put with the facts I know about this humanitarian crisis, and the increasing motivation I have to help people understand the situation.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has not been another McAllen immersion trip since 2020, although Sanchez is committed to continuing it. “My vision for the McAllen border immersion is that the College creates

a community on campus to support future trips,” Sanchez said. “So we can continue learning about the precious life of an asylum seeker.” In addition to students receiving course credit, as the first group did, a longer internship with RCM may be a possibility in the future, he said.

The Saint Mary’s community is made up of people who are invested in social justice and human dignity. Our community understands that in order to avoid dynamics like white saviorism, it is important to acknowledge what we don’t know about new situations, and be open to learning. After meeting people who are personally affected by life-threatening situations in their countries, and who are trying to build new lives here, I understand more about asylum seekers than I did before.

My own commitment to social justice deepened while at Saint Mary’s. And by reflecting on the bravery and patience of those who are crossing our border to work and learn here, I am emboldened to do as much as I can to help. How can I do any less? 🙏

To learn more about the trip, email Kathryn Lyndes or Leonard Sanchez. You can follow the student organization for the McAllen Immersion Trip at @SMC\_McAllen.



On their one-week border immersion trip, **Rebecca Klaybor ’21**, Professor Kathryn Lyndes, **Reina Galvan ’22**, Sister Norma Pimentel, **Magdalena Hernandez ’20**, **Marie Burke ’20**, Professor Leonard Sanchez, and **Margaret Cicchiello ’22** make a stop at the Rio Grande.



# 100 Years of Educating the Educator

by Terri Suico and Steven Mast



Angelina Lazovich '15, sixth-grade teacher at Beiger Elementary in Mishawaka, Ind.

## Saint Mary's first awarded diplomas in education in 1923. That year just four students completed their Bachelor of Philosophy in Education.

One hundred years later, the Education Department at Saint Mary's College is in a far different place.

In its first years, the four-year education program focused on preparing high school teachers—one of the few professional avenues women could pursue—with a two-year option for those who chose to earn the Elementary Provisional Certificate. Besides religion, English, and modern language, students also took coursework in philosophy and education.

Saint Mary's students are now unlimited in their choice of career opportunities. The education program has expanded to include not only majors in elementary and secondary education, but also programs in early childhood, English as a second language, mild intervention, and reading. Students who are majoring in elementary education with mild intervention now have the option of pursuing the 4+1 with a master's in Autism Studies. The department also welcomes students from the University of Notre Dame, who can get their teaching license at Saint Mary's by the time they graduate with their bachelor's degree.

We are fortunate to have graduates who remain in the area to teach who serve as fantastic ambassadors for the profession, the department, and the College. They have also given back in other ways—about 20 of the clinical instructors in the Education department are graduates of the Education program at Saint Mary's.

"I am so grateful and genuinely enjoy giving back to Saint Mary's by co-teaching with current students and learning from them as I help prepare them to be future educators," said **Michelle Van Meter Sanchez '97**, a first-grade teacher at Prairie Vista Elementary in Granger, Ind.

*The need for well-prepared and committed teachers is more important than ever.*

In addition to their vital work as classroom teachers, our graduates have gone on to earn graduate degrees and work in school leadership roles. **Kim Holly Maher '05**, who just started her ninth year as principal at Wilson Creek Elementary, in Manhattan, IL, credits the department and the College, stating, "Everything Saint Mary's promises about discovery and leadership is true. None of this is a coincidence... The experiences we had at Saint Mary's along with the field opportunities provided to us laid the foundation for the educators we would become."

Likewise, **Franca Peluso Mulhern '11** currently serves as an adjunct faculty member at the College, and is assistant principal at Walt Disney Elementary

in Mishawaka, Ind. She says, "The confidence instilled in me through these field experiences and the continued support from my Saint Mary's family has pushed me to strive for achievements I once thought unattainable. Not only have I become a part of our school district's leadership team, but, today, I am also beginning my second year of doctoral studies in educational leadership.

"My parents always believed in my abilities to lead and achieve, but Saint Mary's gave me the confidence to truly believe in myself," Mulhern continued. "It is my sincere hope that I will continue to encourage young women to find their voice, strive for excellence, and pursue their passions without limitations."

## 700 Hours

While the programs have changed since 1923, the department's commitment to preparing teachers has remained. At the center of the program are the diverse field experiences. From their initial course in the program, students are placed in a local K-12 classroom. These placements are carefully designed to expose students to multiple grade levels and school districts, as well as to diverse student populations.

Placements serve multiple purposes. Besides providing students with the opportunity to experience a variety of school settings and teaching styles, they also help students confirm that teaching is right for them, before they get to the next step of student teaching. By the end of their time in the program, Saint Mary's graduates will have over 700 hours of field experience—a distinctive feature that sets the College apart from other education programs. Our graduates are well-prepared to lead their own classrooms the moment they graduate.





**Michelle Van Meter Sanchez '97**, a first-grade teacher at Prairie Vista Elementary in Granger, Ind.



**Amy Noppenberg Gallo '00**, a K-5 music teacher at Prairie Vista Elementary in Granger, Ind.

Recently named Teacher of the Year for School City of Mishawaka, **Angelina Lazovich '15**, who teaches sixth grade at Beiger Elementary, says, "I will never forget the variety of field placement opportunities I was given throughout my years in the education department. This array of grade levels and districts allowed me to be exposed to so many different teaching and building styles and prepared me to conquer whatever I was given as a teacher."

To provide students with these wide-ranging opportunities, the department has cultivated strong community partnerships throughout the years with many schools, including Beiger Elementary in School City of Mishawaka, Swanson Traditional School in the South Bend Community School Corporation, and Walt Disney Elementary School in the Penn Harris Madison School Corporation. These partnerships allow consistent placements in each of these schools for our teacher candidates and student teachers. Consistency is key not only in ensuring that the students get quality experiences but also in helping the department improve, since the teachers and administrators at these schools provide feedback that helps shape our program.

In turn, the schools appreciate our emphasis on co-teaching as well as having well-prepared, professional teacher candidates. With class sizes growing due to teacher shortages, everyone involved benefits from these placements—teachers, K-12 students, and the teacher candidates.

During the pandemic, our teacher candidates were great resources for local teachers, when a quick pivot to virtual learning was required. Our students' experience with a variety of online learning platforms and programs provided invaluable assistance to classroom teachers.

The Partners in Education Committee, composed of local administrators, teachers, and alumnae, is key in evaluating practices, offering insight, and providing support for our current students. This volunteer group, which meets with faculty at Saint Mary's after school each semester, always surprises us with their enthusiasm and insight as they share suggestions and provide feedback on how the program can grow and improve. Guest speakers share their expertise as administrators, as the teacher candidates prepare for student teaching and

job interviews. Our adjunct faculty include alumnae, clinical educators, and other classroom teachers who come to campus to teach methods courses and use their rich experiences to prepare our students.

### A Look Ahead

As the department looks to the future, it is clear-eyed in its understanding of the challenges teachers face. As more people choose other careers and a teacher shortage looms for many areas, the need for well-prepared and committed teachers is more important than ever. Faculty remain resolute in their commitment to preparing new teachers for the realities of the classroom.

**Maggie Pacana '17**, who teaches sixth-grade language arts at Kaneland Harter Middle School in Sugar Grove, Ill. says, "I felt extremely prepared to enter the teaching profession. I had practice using State standards as guides for planning my units, knew how to use professional development opportunities effectively to my benefit, could comfortably communicate with parents and fellow staff members professionally, and understood how to educate the whole child, looking at more than just their academics."

**Amy Noppenberg Gallo '00**, a K-5 music teacher at Prairie Vista Elementary in Granger, Ind. remembers talking to education professor **Sister Marilyn Zugish '70, CSC**, as the moment when "I [realized] I did in fact love music and more importantly loved teaching young people...she changed my life and the lives of thousands of children who have entered my classroom over my 20-plus year career."

From the days when we had four graduates, the Education Department at Saint Mary's has graduated thousands of students from the program. As we move through our celebration year, we eagerly await Commencement in May, when we'll award degrees to the 100<sup>th</sup> graduating class of teachers. 🌸

*Terri Suico is an associate professor and the chair in the Education department at Saint Mary's College. Steven Mast is director of student teaching and field placement, and the Education department coordinator.*



*Lepore is the David Woods Kemper Professor of American History and Affiliate Professor of Law at Harvard University, as well as a staff writer at The New Yorker. Other essays and reviews have appeared in the New York Times, Times Literary Supplement, Foreign Affairs, Yale Law Journal, American Scholar, and American Quarterly.*

# Jill Lepore Talks Democratic Process

by **Tori Murphy '19**

Jill Lepore, Ph.D. wears many hats: author, essayist, staff writer for *The New Yorker*, professor at Harvard University, podcast host, and most recently, the 2022 Christian Culture Lecture speaker at Saint Mary's.

"As a writer, thinker, and researcher, her reach is unspeakably vast," said Laura Williamson, associate professor of the Department of Humanistic Studies. "Her award-winning work on American history and politics has impacted not just academic circles but also community book clubs, readers of *The New Yorker*, and podcast listeners."

Lepore is a best-selling author, writing about American history, law, politics, and popular culture. Her impressive career includes a long list of published work and many prizes and accolades, including the Bancroft Prize and the American History Book Prize. *These Truths: A History of the United States* was named one of *Time* magazine's top-10 nonfiction books of the decade.

"We were especially excited about the seminar that Dr. Lepore offered Saint Mary's students in Humanistic Studies and History as this afforded students a chance to learn from a top historian and public intellectual," Williamson said.

Lepore sat down with the small group for a writing workshop. During the session, students asked questions about her writing process, shared stories of inspiration, and connected as women writers.



Later, Lepore spoke in O'Laughlin Auditorium about her work as a historian and asked everyone to participate in an anonymous poll about democratic culture. She focused on the Amendment process in the United States, relating the Amendment clause to a self-cleaning oven. "When The Framers wrote the Constitution they were very mechanically minded. They wanted the Constitution to be a watch, and when you wound it up it would just go and it would always be able to correct itself," said Lepore.

Following the lecture, **Jill Tiefenthaler '87**, CEO of The National Geographic Society and vice chair of the College's Board of Trustees, joined Lepore for a spirited conversation to answer audience questions. 🌸

Learn more about the Christian Culture Lecture [saintmarys.edu/christian-culture-lecture](http://saintmarys.edu/christian-culture-lecture)





## Women's Colleges Unite for Unique Career Fair

The Career Crossings Office at SMC held a virtual career fair in collaboration with nine other women's colleges and universities across the country—the first of its kind. The Women's College and Universities Diversity Career Expo was held September 27 to help current students land internships, jobs, and post-graduate service opportunities. More than 115 employers attended the fair, giving participants the opportunity to connect with job and internship opportunities ranging from Amazon to Apple, the FBI, and 1st Source Bank. Once participants registered, they were able to sign up for group sessions to learn more about the organizations and to explore various career paths or intimate one-on-one sessions to connect directly with recruiters. According to program organizers, Saint Mary's wanted to lead the charge on bringing together similar institutions to help our students get recruited and our employer partners gain access to more student candidates.



## Summer Camps Offerings to Expand

From forensics to lacrosse, campus was lively throughout June and July. The College hosted nearly 500 girls from across the country at nine summer camp experiences, including the new Dialogue and Democracy Academic Institute. Thanks to a \$1 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., future campers will be able to choose from even more programs. President Katie Conboy announced that the grant will enhance and expand on-campus educational summer programs for girls over the next three years, modernizing the College's summer programming. Saint Mary's is committed to broadening its impact as a place of lifelong learning for women and girls, she said, adding that "As the only women's college in Indiana, located in a region where girl-specific resources are scarce, Saint Mary's has both the opportunity and the obligation to lead. The summer youth programs will specifically emphasize access for Indiana girls and help strengthen how Saint Mary's recruits students, especially students who have been underserved in higher education."

## SMC Professors Compile South Bend's COVID Stories

At the South Bend Heritage Center, audience members found themselves transported back to the height of the pandemic, when fear combined with resolve, when uncertainty met with hope. They gathered to listen to audio clips containing a collection of voices from the community to remember—and archive—how COVID-19 affected South Bend.



"Listening to Pandemic Narratives: Selections from COVID-19 Oral Histories in the South Bend Area" is a project of Jamie Wagman, professor of

history and gender & women's studies, and Julia Dauer, professor of English at Saint Mary's. The event was held on October 11 and featured audio clips from interviews conducted with members of the South Bend community to get different accounts of what pandemic life was like for residents.

"Together, we interviewed an emergency room nurse, a public high school teacher, a mother of four, a community organizer, a yogi, a small business owner, an oboist, a priest, and the director of the LGBTQ Center, among others," Wagman said. "They reflected over loss, isolation—at times gains—and how they are emerging today. Altogether, their narratives make up a generation of people who have collective memory built around the trauma of the pandemic."

Wagman and Dauer had noted other oral historians doing these collections but no one was documenting South Bend. So,

a year ago, the two researchers worked with students to compile the recordings. Through a class called Doing History, the professors taught students historiography and the critical examination of the sources who write historical documents. Dauer said looking at these narratives from a humanities perspective helped to process the events of COVID. Using audio to capture the stories rather than video lent a particularly compelling sensory experience for the audience.

"Their memories differ and coexist with one another, not disputing facts but rather offering a layered picture of what life was like for residents of South Bend throughout quarantine, vaccination rollout and beyond," Wagman said.

"Listening to Pandemic Narratives" is part of a series sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and Indiana Humanities as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

## Honoring Our First African American Alumna



Saint Mary's College remembers **Juanita Boozer Bay '52**, a pioneering alumna who died on August 28 at her home in Haliburton, Ontario in Canada. Bay is considered to be Saint Mary's first Black alumna, graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in 1952. Prior to her retirement, Bay was the acting director of policy at the Ontario Women's Directorate, an organization that promotes women's economic independence and fights against gender-based violence. In 2007, Bay returned to campus to lead a roundtable discussion, "African-American Trailblazers in Post-War America," examining diversity issues. Bay compared experiences with other panelists, and recalled that her experience on campus was difficult at times, "but the education I received here has stayed with me and instilled in me a love of learning. It also taught me about leadership and how one person can make a difference." In her memory, the Juanita Boozer Bay '52 Scholarship Fund has been established.

## New Hang Out Corner

Tables, fire pits, ambient lighting, and brick pavers were among the amenities installed this fall in a near-vacant corner outside of Le Mans Hall. Where bike racks once stood now has become a popular gathering place for students, employees, and visitors of the College. Officially called Belles Corner, it began as an informal location during COVID to provide an outdoor eating and safe socializing space. Tucked in the corner just outside the west entrance of Le Mans, students enjoyed the space throughout fall and winter in

the pandemic months thanks to comfy Adirondacks, firepits, and Edison bulbs strung among the oaks and maples. Eventually, that furniture was moved to the lawn on the north side of Le Mans to a space known as Belles Backyard. This summer, the College decided to formalize Belles Corner, adding 21 tables and chairs, more lighting, wi-fi and electricity for outdoor events, and stable flooring to be handicap accessible. The grounds department maintains the space, even adding seasonal decorations, said Ben Bowman, director of facilities.



## Madrigal Dinners To Celebrate 50 Years of Performances

Year after year, the immersive Christmas Madrigal Dinners have invited audiences to step back in time through



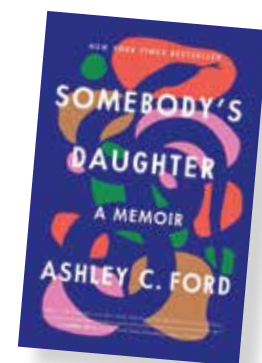
the food, music, scenery, costumes, and performances of the Renaissance period. When this year's Madrigal holiday banquet and performances take place this December 2-4, it will be momentous as it marks its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As is customary, singers from the Women's Choir are featured, as are dancers, actors, and musicians from the College community. In the months leading up to this year's event, organizers are encouraging former performers to come to campus to see the show. For many alumnae and friends of the College, the Christmas Madrigal Dinner is a tradition that signifies the official start to the advent season. For ticket information, visit [saintmarys.edu/events](http://saintmarys.edu/events).



## An Evening with Author Ashley Ford



In late October, Indiana author Ashley C. Ford spent an evening at Saint Mary's as the Department of English's 2022 Visiting Writer Series speaker. Ford read from her *New York Times* bestselling memoir, *Somebody's Daughter*, followed by an informal Q&A with the audience. Growing up a poor Black girl in Indiana with a family fragmented by incarceration, Ford shared excerpts from her book about her isolating and complex childhood, and the common experience of those complexities, regardless of our circumstances, and the powerful journey she embarked on to find hope and meaning. Ford's visit was sponsored by the Gender & Women's Studies department, the history department, the justice studies department, Campus and Community Events, the Center for Women's



Intercultural Leadership (CWIL), the Belles Against Violence Office (BAVO), the Office for the Common Good, the Center for Spirituality, the sociology department, the religious studies and theology department, and the Division for Inclusion and Equity.

## College Names New Vice President for Mission

Julianne Wallace, Ph.D., D.Min., joined the College's leadership team August 1 as vice president for Mission. Wallace comes to Saint Mary's from the Congregation of Holy Cross-US Province of Priests and Brothers in Notre Dame, Ind., where she served as director of apostolic mission and charism.



Wallace is an experienced mission leader. The past five years she was at Alvernia University, a Franciscan institution in Reading, Pennsylvania with approximately 2,000 undergraduate students, where she served most recently as vice president for mission and ministry. Prior to Alvernia, she was associate director of faith formation, worship, and ministry at St. Bonaventure University.

### ALUMNAE DEATHS

<b>1938</b>	Mary Elizabeth Broussard Donovan	May 28, 2022
<b>1946</b>	Peggy Pfeil	May 20, 2022
	Patricia Patterson Van Heck	June 29, 2022
<b>1947</b>	Mary Baker Fisher	April 7, 2022
<b>1948</b>	Marguerite Chenal Jans	April 21, 2022
	Jane Somers Lamm	March 25, 2022
	Rosemarie Kohne O'Donnell	March 7, 2022
<b>1949</b>	Marian Cannon Clark	May 25, 2022
<b>1950</b>	Rosemary Foley Bigelow	May 27, 2022
	Margaret Gardner Haaser	July 10, 2022
	Joanne Hoelderle Zamorski	May 27, 2022
<b>1951</b>	Betty Bader Hayes	June 11, 2022
<b>1952</b>	Juanita Boozer Bay	August 28, 2022
	Joyce McMahon Hank	October 3, 2022
	Nancy Hutchison Newton	July 11, 2022
	Kathleen Smith Schaffer	August 3, 2022
	Annemarie Matt Seidler	July 26, 2022
	Joyce Dyckes Slavsky	July 2, 2022
<b>1953</b>	Joyce Carroll Skaggs Butler	March 1, 2022
	Barbara Jenkins Mills	April 29, 2022
<b>1954</b>	Janell Wenzel O'Barski	July 31, 2022
	Mary Myler Russo	June 24, 2022
	Rita Giometti Zalesky	July 9, 2022
<b>1955</b>	Lora Pagliari Mraz	July 20, 2022
<b>1957</b>	Mary Veronica Kilgallen Holzhall	June 9, 2022
	Jane Rolfe Rigsby	August 12, 2022
<b>1958</b>	Frances Tetaz Juliano	April 27, 2022
<b>1959</b>	Julia Henne Lehman	April 19, 2022
	Mary Sonntag O'Donnell	April 28, 2022
	Nancy Olsak Southworth	May 3, 2022

### 1960

Sister Mary Brooks, CSC August 30, 2022  
Sally Friday Martz June 22, 2022

### 1961

Mary Pat Zick Deputy July 4, 2022  
Mary Cecilia Roemer July 14, 2022

### 1963

Julie Walsh Riestler July 31, 2022

### 1964

Sheila Walsh George July 3, 2022  
Sister Ruth Evelyn Mauch, CSC July 18, 2022

### 1965

Elizabeth Griesbauer Fahey August 4, 2022  
Margo Lawrence Ludwig May 7, 2022  
Therese LeRose Olsen May 12, 2022  
Rita Vincent June 28, 2022

### 1966

Karen Holmes McBride July 10, 2022

### 1967

Sister M. Clare Alfred Bill, CSC November 13, 2021

### 1970

Christina Rowe Slayton April 16, 2022  
Serelda Smith June 4, 2022

### 1971

Carol Sturm May 19, 2022

### 1973

Margaret Klaybor Weber June 13, 2022

### 1975

Paula Norine Homer June 21, 2022  
Paula Carpenter Porcaro June 24, 2022

### 1977

Diane Baldwin Klee August 9, 2022  
Maureen G. Tomshack June 28, 2022

### 1978

Susan M. Ballmann April 26, 2022

### 1979

Lynn Solnoky Lichatowich March 19, 2022

### 1986

Anne Dalzell Nachtigall July 6, 2022

### 2004

Emily Marie Ford July 12, 2022

### 2013

Caitlin Marie Richardson May 21, 2022

### FAMILY DEATHS

Beatrice Agostino, mother of Alba Agostino Irons '81, grandmother of Anna Marie Irons '19, mother-in-law of Kathi Katona Agostino '95, May 23, 2022.

Sven Ahlstrom XIV, son of Eileen McElligott Ahlstrom '77, July 3, 2022.

Patricia Albert, mother of Elizabeth Albert Cichowicz '04, sister of Katherine Grass Pola '81, July 29, 2022.

Dorothy Allen, mother of Catherine Allen Carlson '72, July 21, 2022.

Natal Amadeo, husband of Jane Drafke Amadeo '79, February 9, 2022.

Steven Arends, father of Holly Arends Murphy '99, May 29, 2022.

Scott Atwell, husband of Patricia Plunkett Atwell '67, April 12, 2022.

Peter Bannon, husband of Theresa McCusker Bannon '67, uncle of Kathleen Poole Baron '92, June 16, 2022.

Dolores Barnes, mother of Sheri Lynn Barnes '94, March 11, 2022.

Elaine Beaulieu, mother of Kathleen Beaulieu '76, May 9, 2022.

Sara Bir, mother of Rachel Bir Stroop '88, June 23, 2022.

C. Dennis Blanz, father of Jennifer Blanz Staud '87, brother of Dolores Blanz Miller '64, July 8, 2022.

Thomas Bleisch, father-in-law of Hallie Nolan Bleisch '18, March 8, 2022.

Jeffrey Block, father of Jennifer Block Howard '90, May 31, 2022.

George Bonich, father of Marcia Bonich Hickey '85, April 27, 2022.

Robert Bradley, husband of Mary Clark Bradley '61, June 6, 2022.

Brian Briggs, father of Heather Briggs Stancil '91, May 26, 2022.

George Broucek, husband of Margaret Smith Broucek '57, May 21, 2022.

Bernard Budd, father of Becky Budd Stocker '76, Melanie Budd Hatem '82, and Michelle Budd Munch '93, April 27, 2022.

Edward Burke, father of Elizabeth Anne Burke '85, June 16, 2022.

John Burke, father of Brigid Burke Gilmore '88, Helen M. Burke '90, and Deirdre Burke Moser '91, April 22, 2022.

Maureen Cafaro, mother of Therese L. Cafaro '81, September 26, 2021.

Robert Callaghan, father of Joan Callaghan Comfort '86, May 1, 2022.

Kathleen Canepa, mother of Julie A. Canepa '79, June 28, 2022.

Peter Casazza, father-in-law of Laurie Kielbasa Casazza '80, July 20, 2022.

Read more *Courier* stories online at [saintmarys.edu/courier](http://saintmarys.edu/courier)





FOR THE RECORD

Rita Cashman, mother of Maribeth Cashman Coughlin '73, June 14, 2022.

Rolando Casis, father of Myra Victora Casis '88 and Liza C. Casis '89, August 3, 2022.

John Cerulli, father of Catherine Cerulli '87, April 19, 2022.

Graham Collette, husband of Catherine A. Reynolds '87, July 10, 2022.

Richard Connor, father of Mary Connor Rubin '93, January 3, 2022.

Dennis Costello, husband of Joan Remini Costello '75, April 2, 2022.

Jacqueline Cox, mother of Christine Cox Roemer '87, April 8, 2022.

Rosemary Cox, mother of Mary Cox Coffey '84, Maureen Cox Scanlon '86, Margaret Cox '88, Rosemary Cox Conway '94, and Catherine Mary Cox '98, grandmother of Margaret Hogan Cox '18, mother-in-law of Mary Jo Hogan Cox '85, May 27, 2022.

Mildred Crouere, mother of Paulette Crouere Gamard '65, Patricia Crouere Denechaud '67, and Jeanne Crouere Monsour '73, May 1, 2022.

Dave Curto, husband of Joan S. Curto '80, brother-in-law of Elizabeth Skelly Haag '78, July 14, 2022.

Richard Daley, father of Jill Daley Gibson '84, July 10, 2021.

Helen Diegel, mother of Mona Ann Diegel '91, June 20, 2021.

William Dinger, father of Lauren Dinger Wyss '06, March 10, 2022.

Loraine Dodd, mother of Anne Dodd Schramm '83, April 28, 2022.

Raymond Dolan, husband of Carol Williams Dolan '57, father of Michelle Dolan Cannan '85, April 29, 2022.

John Doyle, father of Terri McBirney Begas '70, May 5, 2022.

Thomas Dunne, husband of Carol Lucas Dunne '59, July 14, 2022.

John Dziminski, father of Carole Dziminski Klaudt '83, April 28, 2022.

Paul Eide, husband of Rosemary Treacy Eide '50, father of Nancy A. Eide '83, July 27, 2022.

Bruce Emerick, father of Jodie Marie Emerick '05, May 10, 2022.

Theodore Erkman, father of Victoria Erkman Livingston '93, August 3, 2022.

Paul Estrada, father of Frances Estrada Brewka '77, August 14, 2021.

James Farrell, father of Margaret Farrell Jackson '78, August 11, 2021.

Nicolas Flucus, father of Sharon Flucus Zain '84, February 1, 2022.

David Foy, husband of Gayle Baumer Foy '56, father of Christine Foy Purich '82 and Margaret Foy Meinhart '83, grandfather of Lucille Semler '20, brother-in-law of Jacquelyn Baumer Berg '59, July 13, 2022.

David Fraboni, father of Karin Fraboni Laue '83, March 17, 2022.

Julie Frantz, mother of Mary Catherine Frantz '08 and Margaret Mary Frantz '16, August 28, 2022.

Joseph Friedheim, brother of Jeanette Friedheim Burdell '87, Cynthia Friedheim Fey '88, and Denae Christine Friedheim '05, uncle of Bridgett Fey LaBella '13, April 15, 2022.

Margaret Friedheim, mother of Jeanette Friedheim Burdell '87, Cynthia Friedheim Fey '88, and Denae Christine Friedheim '05, grandmother of Bridgett Fey LaBella '13, August 9, 2022.

Lynn Frisch, husband of Claudia MacConnell Frisch '79, May 15, 2022.

Dionel Garza, father of Gloria Garza Caughlin '94, April 20, 2022.

James Geelan, father of Barbara Geelan Wareham '94, May 21, 2022.

John Griffin, father-in-law of Maria Vecchio Griffin '90, December 19, 2021.

Patricia Guzzi, mother of Jennifer Guzzi Barker '94, August 12, 2022.

Isabell Haggar, mother of Lydia Haggar Novakov '72 and Marian Haggar Bryan '76, aunt of Patricia Haggar Turner '67, Mary Lynn Vaughan '77, and Victoria Vaughan Miller '79, sister-in-law of Rosemary Haggar Vaughan '48, June 12, 2022.

Joyce Hauser, mother of Melissa Kelly Hauser '99, June 29, 2022.

Adam Herbst, husband of Susan Hillenbrand Herbst '65, June 22, 2022.

Joan Hetland, mother of Rebecca Hetland Pettigrew '87, May 9, 2022.

Jerry Hibbard, husband of Mary L. Jorda '79, June 11, 2022.

James Higgins, father of Allie J. Higgins '03, May 9, 2022.

Samantha Hoelscher, mother of Hannah Marie Stacy '22, July 5, 2022.

Stephen Jones, husband of Margaret Quinn Jones '61, April 23, 2022.

John Kelb, husband of Pamela King Kelb '74, April 7, 2022.

Suzanne Kochanowicz, mother of Kathleen Kochanowicz Asmar '04, May 28, 2022.

Robert Kraft, father of Mary Kraft Shanahan '74, July 29, 2022.

John Kruse, son of Katherine Burke Kruse '85, May 10, 2022.

Nadine Kuhns, mother of Laura Kuhns O'Brien '94, July 8, 2022.

Richard LaFree, father of Bonnie LaFree Suttor '78, June 23, 2022.

John Landgraf, father of Jessica Marie Landgraf '06, June 19, 2022.

Robert Landman, husband of Jo Ann Nichols Landman '56, August 3, 2022.

Donald LeClair, father of Jodi LeClair Zombolo '90, March 4, 2022.

Anson Liu, father of Ana Marie Liu '21, July 2, 2022.

Charles Lorenzen, husband of Melinda Rohrmann Lorenzen '66, March 6, 2022.

Jerome Lowney, father of Erin Jean Lowney '94, July 14, 2022.

Paul Marz, husband of Jane Gember Marz '53, June 12, 2022.

Robb Mayo, husband of Susan Kapp Mayo '66, May 22, 2022.

Kevin McCarty, father of Taryn McCarty Cahill '10, April 11, 2022.

John McDermott, husband of Gertrude Croxall McDermott '58, June 15, 2022.

Thomas McDonald, father of Anne McDonald Hammond '85, May 11, 2022.

Woodrow McDonald, father of Angela Marie McDonald-Fisher '91, August 15, 2022.

Paul McGivern, father of Karen McGivern Curthoys '79, June 12, 2022.

Daniel McIntyre, father of Catherine McIntyre Lesh '02, April 12, 2022.

Theresa McNeill, mother of Debra McNeill Russell '73, March 9, 2022.

Emil Medianka, father of Stephanie Medianka Smullen '03, April 17, 2022.

Barbara Merritt, mother of Sandra Merritt Lyons '70, July 20, 2022.

Wayne Micek, father of Amy Marie Micek Sadkowski '92, May 11, 2022.

Eugene Mikel, father of Nancy E. Mikel Bulic '93, May 20, 2022.

James Miller, son of Therese Kachur Miller '57, October 7, 2021.

Suzanne Mobley, mother of Diane Johnson Speck '75, April 30, 2022.

Robert Moore, father of Gretchen Elizabeth Moore '97, June 22, 2022.

Randall Myers, father of Megan Grace Myers '08, June 24, 2022.

Dorothy M. Wodtke Nave, mother of Cynthia Nave Prendergast '71 and Sandra Nave Grenda '72, sister of the late Elizabeth Wodtke '52 (formerly known as Sister Francis Jerome) and the late Alice Wodtke Caputo '60, August 26, 2011.

Henry Neuhoff III, husband of Kay Roberts Neuhoff '58, father of Ellen Neuhoff Elpers '80, Carolyn Neuhoff Shaw '83, Maryjane Neuhoff Brezette '85, March 12, 2022.

Margaret Nemzura, mother of Marjorie Nemzura '72, April 28, 2022.

Patrick O'Donnell, father of Lynn Tracy O'Donnell '94, February 11, 2022.

Robert O'Keefe, husband of Sarah Struett O'Keefe '55, father of Bridget O'Keefe Sepich '81 and Kathleen O'Keefe Flores '83, January 29, 2022.

Robert Olsen, husband of Anita Martin Olsen '57, August 11, 2022.

Alberto Orozco, father of Diana M. Orozco-Garrett '82, June 6, 2022.

Susan Peterson, mother of Julia Peterson Hannan '01, March 5, 2022.

William Powers, father of Jean Frances Powers '95, August 14, 2022.

Michael Rader, father of Karin Ann Rader '90, July 3, 2022.

Clyde Richardson, father of Lindsay Richardson Bigler '00, March 23, 2022.

Sabine Richey, mother of Jessica Alexandra Richey '14, June 22, 2022.

Karl Rieger, brother of Holly Rieger Curley '80, uncle of Maeve Curley Burns '15, July 24, 2022.

Timothy Ritchie, father of Maire Katherine Ritchie '20, August 22, 2022.

FOR THE RECORD

Ursula Ritter, mother of Jill Ritter Catizone '97, Cynthia Elizabeth Ritter '00, and Lisa Ritter Pilarski '03, August 5, 2022.

Michael Roberts, husband of Karen Deranek Roberts '85, uncle of Kelly Marie Deranek '10, brother-in-law of Jacquelyn Meluch Deranek '85, July 8, 2022.

Frederick Rogers, father of Shannon Rogers Spratt '02, July 3, 2022.

Mary Ryan, mother of Mary Ryan Buddig '81, Eileen Ryan Seyfarth '84, Therese Ryan Rooney '86, and Donna Ryan Coffey '90, May 30, 2022.

William Sante II, father of Jennifer Rourke Sante-Soller '89, June 8, 2022.

William Seidler Sr., husband of Annemarie Matt Seidler '52, July 16, 2022.

Toni Seilkop, mother of Meaghan Melora Seilkop '03, April 18, 2022.

Thomas Shanley, father of Mary Ellen Shanley Whelan '82, June 10, 2022.

Philip Sheridan, father-in-law of Lois Morahan Sheridan '88, July 2, 2022.

Eugene Simon, father of Mary Simon McCoy '90, May 1, 2022.

Grace Smeriglio, mother of Maria Smeriglio Mulhair '91, November 11, 2021.

Donald Smith, father of Christine Smith Moran '85, March 15, 2022.

Judith Sorota, mother of Nancy Sorota Poznick '97, August 8, 2022.

James Spencer, husband of Mary Lee Hamilton Spencer '66, June 11, 2022.

John Teske, father-in-law of Meghan VandeWater Teske '03, April 14, 2022.

William Van Eck, father of Linda Van Eck Shepard '84, July 8, 2022.

James Van Vlerah Jr., father of Abigail L. Van Vlerah '04, May 26, 2022.

William Varanka, father of Emily Patricia Varanka '20, April 19, 2022.

Michael Veglia, husband of Marie Muscarello Veglia '58, August 14, 2022.

Charles Wenner, father of Jo Ann Wenner Warren '82, May 13, 2022.

Harriet Wysocki, mother of Joy Christi Wysocki Lee '93, October 22, 2021.

**FOR BIRTHS AND WEDDINGS PLEASE VISIT BABY BELLES AND WEDDING BELLES AT ALUMNAE.SAINTMARYS.EDU**

IN MEMORIAM

Joyce McMahan Hank '52

Joyce McMahan Hank '52, passed away on October 3, 2022 in her home at The Glenn in Minnetonka, Minnesota. She was 92 years old.

When Joyce first visited the campus of Saint Mary's College, she was moved by the words of John 8:31-32 carved in stone on the west portico of Le Mans Hall, "And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." She carried with her the meaning of this verse as she pursued her studies, graduating with honors from the College in 1952 with a bachelor's degree in philosophy. She continued to seek truth and wisdom during her many years of engagement at her beloved alma mater.

Joyce's significant contributions to the College include service on the Board of Regents from 1989-1994 and the Board of Trustees from 1995-2014. She was elected Trustee Emerita

and ultimately received an honorary degree in 1995 and the Distinguished Alumna Award in 2002. She and her late husband, Bernard J. (Jerry) Hank, Jr. established the Edna and George McMahan Aquinas Chair in Philosophy and the Joyce McMahan Hank Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology. A talented artist, she painted the official portraits of Saint Mary's presidents William Hickey and Marilou Eldred.

President Katie Conboy reflected: "Joyce Hank's many gifts to Saint Mary's leave a tremendous legacy. Her service and philanthropy to the College express the unwavering love she had for Saint Mary's and will long be remembered by those who continue to benefit from her generosity."

Joyce was mother to five children: **Kathryn Marie Hank '75**, Carol Hank Hoffmann (ND '78), Ann Hank Monahan (ND '82), James Bernard Hank (ND '83)



(deceased), and Margaret Hank Requet (ND '85). She also leaves many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as two alumnae sisters-in-law, **Jeanne Hank Dale '67** and **Marie Hank McKellar '62**.



## SMC Talks Brings Alumnae Together

The Alumnae Association Board of Directors' mission is to provide volunteer leadership for the alumnae community of Saint Mary's College, and to promote opportunities for alumnae to connect. Promoting connection among alumnae from across the country and around the world has always been a challenge but never more so than when the pandemic began in 2020.

The world changed in 2020 and what had previously been impossible became common — including meetings and events online. For years, the AABOD had considered ways to highlight alumnae with interesting careers, involvement in their communities, or ideas similar to TED Talks. However, we were limited by technology. All that changed when the

whole world went virtual and from these monumental changes was born SMC Talks.

SMC Talks is a virtual seminar modeled after TED Talks, whose slogan is "ideas worth spreading." Each short program features an alumna who shares insights on professional topics, personal growth, spiritual inspiration, or distinctive talents.

Beginning in January 2021 with our first speaker **Dr. Amanda Blackwell '09** and continuing throughout 2021 and 2022, SMC Talks have highlighted and connected alumnae from around the world. In choosing speakers, the AABOD has committed to finding diverse and unique alumnae who exemplify all that the Saint Mary's community has to offer.

In the coming months, this exciting and inspiring program will continue with your help and support. To nominate a speaker or watch previous SMC Talks, go to [alumnae.saintmarys.edu](http://alumnae.saintmarys.edu).



## CLUB NEWS

### Chicago East

The SMC Chicago East Alumnae Club is busy planning exciting events for 2023! After a successful presidential visit in 2021 and our first in-person Summer Spirits in 2022, our club activity and fundraiser calendar is back in full-swing. Email [smcchicagopresident@gmail.com](mailto:smcchicagopresident@gmail.com) if you would like to join our mailing list and be sure to follow us on Facebook [facebook.com/SMCchicagoeast](https://facebook.com/SMCchicagoeast) and Instagram ([@smcchicagoeast](https://instagram.com/smcchicagoeast)) to stay up-to-date with upcoming club events and volunteer efforts.

### Cincinnati

The Cincinnati Alumnae Club had a productive and fun 2022. In August, **Erin Heck Shambaugh '08** opened her home for our Annual Freshman Send-Off/New Alumnae Party. The event was hosted in conjunction with the Dayton Alumnae Club. In attendance were incoming students Aliciana Illias (Centerville High School), Sarah



Menker (Chaminade Julianne High School), Isa Lambert (Alter High School), and Annie Sableski (Archbishop Carroll High School).

The Cincinnati Alumnae Club has chosen to team up for several years with Cincinnati Union Bethel's Off The Streets (OTS) program to raise funds for the women there who are working diligently to find a life outside of sex trafficking. In collaboration with OTS, we planned several events and fundraising activities to support this mission throughout the year.

In October, local Cincy alumnae and friends were invited to run the Queen Bee Half Marathon and 4-Miler to generate awareness and to fundraise for OTS. Following the race in November, the club hosted a shared meal and check presentation with the women in the program. Additionally, we were excited to partner with **Gina Daly '93** and **Tina DiSanto '99**, who launched a cooking class series for OTS residents and as a way for local alumnae to further build community and kinship with these resilient women.

If you live in the Cincinnati area, we would love to connect with you. **Kathryn Marshall '17** and **Heather Pine '19** continue to spearhead our club's networking group "Cincy Connects." To learn more, or to get added to our Facebook group, contact Kathryn and Heather at [kathrynmarshall6595@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynmarshall6595@gmail.com) or [jhpine20@gmail.com](mailto:jhpine20@gmail.com).

Visit [smccincinnatialumnae.weebly.com](http://smccincinnatialumnae.weebly.com) for all current information on club news and activities.

### Cleveland/Akron

It was wonderful to see so many faces at the annual send-off held on July 28. We had representation from the graduating class of 1971 and on to share experiences with the current and incoming local Belles. Also taking place over the summer was the appointment of a new board of directors — **Michelle Harbinak Shapiro '00**, **Emily Blaha '03**, **Kathleen Policy '98**, **Carolyn Lateulere Kane '99**, and **Kristen Ciofani Trolio '99**. Thank you to the outgoing club leaders for over 20 years of combined service — **Miranda Oltmanns Hoy '16**, **Colleen True '16**, **Linda Holtcamp McVoy '74**, and **Katie McVoy '03**.



Follow SMC CLE Alumnae on Facebook [facebook.com/SMCClevelandAkronAlumnaeClub/](https://facebook.com/SMCClevelandAkronAlumnaeClub/) or reach out to [mharbinak@gmail.com](mailto:mharbinak@gmail.com) for more information on club membership and upcoming activities. It's never too late to update your membership or get involved!

### Dallas/Fort Worth

The Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex Club held our annual student send-off at the home of **Tia Barrett Bisignano '70** on July 31. There were six current students and 11 alumnae in attendance.



The Fall Book Club was held in September to discuss *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson, last year's Saint Mary's One Book. All alumnae and current students are invited to attend the next book club in January to discuss the 2022-23 Saint Mary's One Book, *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. October 13, we joined at the Dallas Arboretum to celebrate Founders' Day and hear Le Freak during their fall concert series. Alumnae donated needed items to Genesis Women's Shelters.

December 8, we will hold our annual Christmas Mass and dinner.

Check the [smcdfwclub](https://smcdfwclub.com) on Facebook or email [saintmarysdfwclub@gmail.com](mailto:saintmarysdfwclub@gmail.com) for updates to these events and more.

### Des Moines

We'd like to give a HUGE thank you to **Aimee Beckmann-Collier '75** for her unwavering enthusiasm and leadership of our club for the past 22 years! Here's to an amazing retirement full of exciting travels but please know our Planning Committee won't let you go that easy...Aimee is already planning to host our 2022 Founders' Day event: speaker Peggy Huppert, executive director of NAMI Iowa (National Alliance on Mental Health).

On Thursday, August 11, we hosted a Student Send-Off for our incoming first year. Good luck, Katherine!



Kim Hermann Darr '82, Kelly Cook Lewis '97, Aimee Beckmann Collier '75, Katherine Comito '26, Sarah Sullivan Bigelow '96, Susie Anania Hunter '84, Cindy Jones Helgason '81.

This spring we plan to support NAMI Iowa with a service project, as well as host a

bookclub discussing the One Book, One Saint Mary's title, *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah.

If you would like to plug into our SMC club, please don't hesitate to reach out. We'd LOVE to hear from you!

Kelly Cook Lewis '97  
[kclewis01@gmail.com](mailto:kclewis01@gmail.com)

### Grand Rapids

This summer found our club busy with a couple of events. Our book group meeting was held at the home of **Jennifer Kalczuk '92**. Jennifer has a beautiful yard, garden, and deck we all enjoyed on a perfect summer night. Drinks, appetizers, and lots of laughter, and maybe a little talk about the book, made it a fun event! Our book group meets every other month, and we welcome new members.

Our First Year Send-off was held August 10 at **Carolina Tapia's '14** very cool condo building downtown Grand Rapids. Current students, new students, their parents, and alumnae all had an enjoyable night celebrating our newest Belles. We love this tradition that takes place with all of our alumnae clubs across the country.

If you're interested in learning more about our club, contact **Tara Millar '90** at [tmillar@comcast.net](mailto:tmillar@comcast.net)

### Los Angeles/Orange County

Our club has been active with a number of engaging events and activities. We had a wonderful gathering to meet President Katie Conboy in April at the Altadena Town & Country Club. In a beautiful setting the group joined together to welcome President Conboy and hear what's happening at the College including the new graduate programs.



We held our annual Founders' Day gathering at the end of October and continued our support for the Brother André Center at St. Agnes Parish in Los Angeles, where the Sisters of the Holy Cross served for over 100 years. The club has connected with the new coordinator of the center and will support them through donations of needed items. We set up a system with Amazon to make it easy for club members to donate. This is our ongoing service project.

We continue with the two book clubs in LA and Orange County. The OC group is reading **Adriana Trigiani's '81** book, *The Good Left Undone!* We will also continue our Advent and Lenten retreats on Zoom. Look for the dates and join us!

And last, we continue the ornament project with an ornament honoring the nursing program this year; check our website for more information.

### Nashville

Our current students had a really nice time catching up and giving each other "advice" for the upcoming school year at our summer send-off. We had a wonderful time celebrating together!



Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 8, 2023, to celebrate our annual holiday gathering. Details will be shared via email.

We are looking for someone to host the February Book Club. Please email **Monica Cannon Meeker '03** if you are available to host.

### Quad Cities

The two current Saint Mary's students from the Quad Cities area attended the annual student send-off with the Notre Dame and Holy Cross students on August 6. The send-off was hosted by the Notre Dame Alumni Club of the Quad Cities.

### Vermont

Back in June, some Vermont alumnae gathered for a weekend of good company and enjoyed catching up! If you are interested in joining us next time or getting involved, please contact Rebecca at [vtwalshfam@gmail.com](mailto:vtwalshfam@gmail.com).



Kristin McAndrew '94, Patricia Wilson Fastiggi '59, Rebecca Klest Walsh '01, Christine Smith Clary '69.



**Thank you for sharing your news with us and for participating in our dynamic alumnae community. As a rule we do not censor Class News. This section is intended to be an avenue for self-reporting of life occurrences. The content or positions of these submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the College, the Office of Alumnae Relations, or the Courier staff.**

## 1948

Lila Chenal Milford  
lcmilford@yahoo.com



My beloved younger sister **Marguerite Chenal Jans** passed away earlier this year. We graduated together from Trinity High School and Saint Mary's College. Marguerite graduated high school in three years. Marguerite moved from the Chicago area to Florida and was well taken care of by her daughter and son-in-law. Our lives paralleled so much after both raising nine children, losing two adult sons. And after over 60 years of marriage, both of our husbands passed. As a widow, I traveled around the world to United Arab Emirates as well as South Africa and my favorite Antarctica. Now settling in Marion, IN and appreciate every minute with a son and daughter so close. I was recently recognized as one of the founding members of the Garden Club of Marion. I have been a member since 1982.

God Bless you all

## 1950

Mary Mudd McHale  
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**Sister Geneal Miller Kramer, OP**, has retired to the Michigan motherhouse after many pastoral ministry assignments and 22 years in Albuquerque, where she used her gifts in a variety of ministry situations. She currently serves as spiritual director/retreat director as a retired professor of practical theology.

In 2019 she received the Lumen Gentium Award from the Dominican Ecclesial Institute. She was nominated for the award by her parish St. Therese of the Infant Jesus in Albuquerque for her commitment to "spiritual care, religious education, and parochial formation."

In filling out a class update for SMC she was asked to share a personal triumph. She wrote, "Ministry at Lumko Institute in South Africa, where I designed and implemented a training program for lay ministers for the Southern

African Catholic Bishops Conference (1994-1998), based on the Documents of Vatican II."

She was also asked what advice your 2022-self would give to your college-self: She answered, "Be humble and open to new experiences. It is the best teacher."

Geneal, you have led such a beautiful life!

As for me, I continue to write a neighborhood column, "Morningside/Skyline," for two county weekly newspapers. I cover, in a folksy way, all sorts of doings in Prince George's County, MD, and even in SE Washington, which is only about five miles away.

Also, I read to the daycare children at a convent just behind me, the Daughters of St. Anne. The Sisters come from Eritrea in the Horn of Africa. Sadly, the order has suffered great losses since the country has gone Communist — their clinics and schools have been taken over by the Eritrean government. Say a prayer today for the Daughters of St. Anne and for Eritrea.

I look forward to your news for the next 1950 column.

## 1952

Marilyn Dargis Ambrose  
mambrose2@sbcglobal.net

I had a long article in the summer 2022 issue of *Courier* — plenty of news helps keep us updated. Hope you enjoy reading about all of us who respond. This time it won't be as much, but enough to keep us aware of our comings and goings.

Some great news from **Mary Berners Kishler**: "The experts at University of Michigan Cardiac Center have blessed me with a new prospect for the future. Some time ago I was diagnosed with severe aortic stenosis where the aortic valve that pumps blood from the heart to the rest of the body gets filled up with calcium deposits until finally it can no longer function. On June 20 I underwent the TAVR procedure (Trans Aortic Valve Replacement) — not open heart surgery but quite miraculously done like the heart catheterization procedure.

"My youngest son, Bill, made the 1-1/2 hour drive from Grosse Pointe Shores to take me five times for the one hour from East Lansing to Ann Arbor for preliminary conferences, exams, and tests and then for the surgery. According to plan and their usual procedure I was discharged the next day — amazing at 92. Bill stayed with me my first week home as recommended by doctors that someone do that. It was a wonderful and warm experience to have my 'baby' taking care of Mom, which gave us both a chuckle. Before surgery my

pastor had given me the blessing of the sick, which gave me a wonderful feeling of calm.

"Unable to go to Reunion, **Barb Callahan Johnson** and I celebrated with a phone call during Saturday picnic time. Barb had come from her lovely home with a view of the Idaho mountains to visit son Msgr. Tom in the Detroit area."

Mary was really hoping to make our 70th Reunion this year as was I, but this latest info is quite uplifting. I knew **Faith Kilburg McNamara** was planning on attending with **Elisabeth McNamara Reed '81**, her daughter, so I asked her to be my "reporter."

Here's her comments:

"Hi Lynn — Sorry you had to wait so long for my Reunion report. I was exhausted when I got home. **Julie Skelly Fries** and **Emma Lou Roach Majewski** had to cancel at the last minute, so **Sister Grace Shonk, CSC**, and I were the only '52 grads there.

"The format was much the same. Lots of activities that I couldn't participate in because of mobility problems. The Mass in Le Mans was lovely. The formal Mass in the big church was on Saturday afternoon, which we couldn't attend but managed to catch 11:00 there on Sunday. The dinners were very nice...lots of good food and interesting table companions. It seemed strange not to know anyone there. The entire staff has changed except **Kara O'Leary '89**, but everyone was very welcoming and told us how happy they were that we could attend. The school seems to be thriving — good enrollment and lots of new classes and degrees, mainly health related. But the President keeps us apprised of that. I met Gracie for the picnic and the champagne brunch, but we were unable to work Rosie's into our schedule. It still exists. Big disappointment — no brownies at the picnic. The bottom line is that I'm glad I went. **Elisabeth McNamara Reed '81** twisted my arm when everyone had to cancel, and I would have been mad at myself if I stayed home. The campus was so beautiful and peaceful; it was a pleasure to be there. I'm getting a new hip August 29. Maybe I'll even be able to walk to the grotto again after that. Nothing is the same anymore, but they say adaptability is the key to staying young. Sounds as though you're as active as ever. Keep up the good work!"

Sad news just came from the family of **Nancy Hutchison Newton** that she died peacefully at home in Houston, TX on July 11, 2022, at 92 years old. She was born in her family town of Algona, IA, married and settled in Houston with her husband, raising a family of three children. She had majored in sociology, just as her grandmother did many years earlier at Saint Mary's. She'll be buried in her family plot

in Algona. If anyone wants further details or wants to send condolences, contact Dignity Memorial/Earthman Bellaire Funeral Home in Houston, TX.

I (Lynn) just got back from a very eventful family wedding in Oregon. My son Chris and wife Tammy have an only daughter, Natalie, who graduated two years ago from Columbia on a four-year soccer scholarship. She met her husband-to-be, another athlete — and the families met — Turner, from Wisconsin, captain of football team at Columbia, and Natalie, from Sisters, OR, captain of soccer team. All our families enjoyed celebrating this special event. I flew up to Sisters/Bend/Sunriver, OR with my therapy dog Grace, who did okay on the plane though it was quite turbulent with local winds. Traveling isn't easy anymore, but this was the best it could be. All the Lithuanian traditions were included, and the baton has passed on the rituals to the newest generation. Natalie and Turner even made the homemade honey liqueur (krupnik) to toast them. God is good.

If anyone sends news a bit late, I'll add on to this shorter column. Never too late!

Blessings to all for the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Life, love, peace.

## 1954

Bernice Boucher Hopp  
jim-bernice@att.net

**Joan Rossi** wrote that she heard from Angie Benz, **Sister Teresa Ann Fabbri's** friend and housemate, that Sister Teresa's brother died. Also, Joan heard from **Barb DiSalle Lindskold** that her sister **Antoinette DiSalle Watkins '52** had died.

A note to **Mary Wieland Scheetz** was returned noting that she died in Missouri, July 21, 2020.

The wedding of **Mary (Midge) Myler Russo's** grandson was delayed last year due to the pandemic. Joan reports it was held in Oak Park, IL on June 11, 2022. Midge was present with her family and enjoyed the happy family gathering and celebration. Midge returned to her home in Rhinebeck, NY. On Friday, June 24, 2022, Midge died peacefully in her sleep as a result of a heart ailment. Joan called **Sister Josephine Magoffin Lucker, MM**, to share the news of Midge's passing. They enjoyed a nice visit by phone. Several years ago Joan was visiting Midge in New York and they drove to Maryknoll Convent to visit her. Sister will remember Midge in her prayers.

## 1955

Maureen A. Sullivan  
(248) 458-1999  
maureen98@msn.com

Hello to all members of the Class of 1955 — I attended the "Reunion-Reimagined" over the weekend of June 9-12, 2022. I was the only one representing our class. I attended the "More than Golden" alumnae Eucharistic Liturgy in Le Mans Hall and the Cocktail Reception and Dinner on Friday evening as well as the Alumnae Association Annual Meeting and the Presidential Address by President Katie Conboy on Saturday morning. I had my picture taken with one representative each from the Class of 1951 and 1956 and look forward to seeing the smiling trio one of these days. I also toured the Center for Integrated Healthcare Education in Regina Hall and was totally amazed. It seems like a real hospital in the lower level of Regina Hall. I was happy to be able to participate in some of the weekend activities and missed each and every one of you.

I made several calls this past week and would appreciate hearing from you if I did not connect with you. I left messages for **Jeanne Jenk Goen**, **Sarah Struett O'Keefe**, **Rose Parsley Suffoletto**, **Jeannine Berner Walsh**, **Mary White**, **Joan Birchenall**, and **Pauline Donovan**. The mailbox for **Gery Kryscio Fritz** is full and I was unable to leave a message for **Nancy Cole Hodapp**, **Marie DeMeester Meehan**, and **Carol Hanigan Coghlan**. If anyone has been in contact with any of these women or has an up-to-date phone number, I would certainly appreciate hearing from you. My phone is 248-458-1999 and my email is [maureen98@msn.com](mailto:maureen98@msn.com).

I was able to talk with **Wilma Burke Epstein** in New York. Her husband and granddaughter have had some recent health challenges yet they manage to continue all their "comings and goings." Keep up the good work, Wilma.

**Patty McNulty Bindner** lives in Carmel, IN near her two sons. One of her daughters lives in mid-Michigan and her other daughter lives in California. She is blessed to spend part of the summer at the homes of her sons at Lake Michigan and the winter months in California. A pretty nice life, I would say. One of her granddaughters was married recently. As a part of the preparation, she was introduced to a "Dry Bar!" I said, "What, no wine!" She explained it was a fancy place where ladies receive a special hairdo. All I could say to Patty was "well, what next?" I hope to visit with her before she leaves for the West Coast.

I also spoke with **Barbara Bridgman O'Connor**, who had recently attended the

funeral of her dear, longtime friend **Lora Pagliari Mraz**. Barbara and Lora were in school together long before Saint Mary's and shared many pleasant times together through the years with their husbands and families. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Barbara. She is looking forward to having all of her children home for a get-together in August. Hope it was fun!

As I imagine this may arrive in December, I wish you all many blessings for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

## 1956

Joan Mette Reddy  
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[joanreddy2000@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joanreddy2000@sbcglobal.net)

Dear Classmates,

Near the end of June, I received an e-mail from **Barbara Schettig Brennan**. She asked if I had attended Reunion. If so, she wanted me to write about it. Well, I did attend. So here goes.

First, there was only one other '56er there, **Sheila Siebert Gallagher**. We were members of the "More than Golden" classes (people whose classes had previously celebrated the Golden Anniversary). There were only five of us privileged alums. Besides Sheila and me, there were **Maureen Sullivan '55** and two others from the Class of 1950. We were invited to join the Golden Classes of Jubilee of 1970 and 1971 at special events. Our disparate age spans made no difference. We were all Saint Mary's Women.

Sheila and I were able to make the Reunion because we had daughters who were able to drive to the site and be our roommates at The Inn at Saint Mary's. Sheila's daughter **Eileen Gallagher Loranger '90** had special Reunion duties as well. She is president of the Alumnae Association Board of Directors. My daughter **Jessica Reddy Hoeck '88** was not in a special Reunion class, but she says that she was surprised at how much she enjoyed this special opportunity to revisit the campus. I would urge you 1956 alumnae, whenever you are able, to take the opportunity of Reunion.

In that email from **Barbara Schettig Brennan** asking about Reunion, she said she was unable to attend because of a calendar conflict with the high school graduation of one of their grandsons. She says, "Right now we are graduating grandsons every year!" Maybe we'll see her next year. Her husband Bill graduated from Notre Dame in 1956, so reunions are very celebratory in their family!



Older members of the SMC Alumnae get together for lunch occasionally. **Carol Lee Jasper Markley** was at the last luncheon. It was held on the day before Reunion started, so I knew that she would not be attending. Carol Lee has some mobility problems and uses a wheelchair. But she still stays active, particularly for family events.

Carol Lee mentioned in a phone conversation recently that **Joyce Dyckes Slavsky** had died. Carol Lee fondly remembered Joyce's soft Southern accent. She thought of Joyce as the epitome of "a ladylike Southern woman." Even more recently, I heard more details from **Shirley Dyckes Kelley '55**, Joyce's sister. Joyce died on July 2 of renal failure after a long illness. Shirley said that the family believes that Joyce's desire to see her two great-grandchildren, which she did just before her death, extended her life.

**Charlotte Keefe Briesch** and husband Earl continue to live in assisted living in Stuart, FL. It's on the Atlantic side of the state, a definite change from their long-time Florida residence on the gulf side in Sarasota. The real charm of their new home is that it's close to Jupiter, FL, where their son Michael lives. He makes frequent visits.

**Carolyn Greives Kelley** was not able to attend her grandson's graduation mentioned in the previous *Courier*. But grandson Nigel did graduate and has accepted a job in Denver, which he loves. Her other grandson is just beginning college at Purdue. Carolyn does miss having family close by. Family visits are very precious. However, she keeps in touch via the internet and Zoom connections with a myriad of organizations.

I'm fortunate to have one child who lives close — less than five miles away. And I just returned from a trip to celebrate my husband's 90th birthday. We met in a sort of central location in terms of car travel, the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania. All four of the children were there, and we only missed a few of the grandchildren. The star appearances were the two great-granddaughters, one of whom I had not seen.

Thanks to all of you who contributed news. The next deadline is December 1, but there are big gaps between the deadlines and the publication dates. For instance, the deadline for this news is August 1. But you probably won't be reading it until December or January — maybe later. So write any time.

## 1957

Mary Gladys (M.G.) Turner Enderle  
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rjegroup@aol.com

This column, due August 1, is the delight of every *Courier* reporter of a Reunion Class — a great chance to report who was there and what went on. For the Class of 1957, this Reunion was strikingly different. We were only there in spirit! For years we have been well known for our attendance and support of each other and the College. This time despite our love and loyalty, gathering was just not possible. Many had wonderful reasons to celebrate with family such as the weddings and graduations of grandchildren but a significant number needed to remain close to home due to their health or that of a family member. Kudos to **Rosemary Knope Trippe**, who registered for Reunion but understandably withdrew when it became clear she would be the only one! Many of you know that we definitely rose to the occasion and ranked first among Reunion classes with an astonishing 45% contributing to the Reunion Gift Campaign as well as the Highest

# Sow the Seeds of Your Legacy

If you think you're too young to consider a planned gift to Saint Mary's, we want you to know it's never too early! Anyone, regardless of age or income can be part of our Mother Pauline Society and help support future generations of Saint Mary's women.

Let us show you how:  
[saintmarys.edu/GiftPlanning](http://saintmarys.edu/GiftPlanning)

Lauren Jaworowski Henzel '91 | Director of Gift Planning  
lhenzel@saintmarys.edu | (574) 284-4600



Students celebrate St. Francis feast day at the Saint Mary's College Sustainable Farm.

Class Gift to the Saint Mary's Fund! We were acknowledged at the banquet and received a round of applause. Our participation percentage was outstanding.

Early on in the planning, **Maureen Butler O'Malley** was our cheerleader, welcoming all from her South Bend home. Her email started a wonderful litany of responses, which I'm delighted to share.

The first Reunion response after my email and Maureen's was from **Nancy Vivian Wallace** expressing her regret at not attending.



Judy Hanks Maus and M.G. Turner Enderle having lunch at the Chicago Fulton Market.

**Judy Hanks Maus** had three graduations in her family which conflicted but said she was "having a great time thinking of you all and I see you just as you looked in 1957."

**Fran Cappabianca Carideo** and Jim were moving from their Tampa home of 52 years to a retirement community in St. Petersburg, a daunting task! They are now blessed with two great-grandchildren, children of their granddaughter **Neta Linnville Franklin '14**.

**Bobbi Frederick Black** had granddaughters graduating from high school and college in Texas and California but was happy to report that she sold her Mancos, CO home and B&B of 29 years. She will be in Chandler, AZ in the winter months and visiting family and friends in the summer.

**Jan Feldpausch Cavanaugh** was anticipating a reunion of her own with her sister and their daughters and daughters-in-law at Reunion time but was "sending my love to all, so many great memories of a special group of women."

**Ruth Keefe Herman** shared her recent move to a senior retirement community in Springfield, VA from her Southwest DC home since 1984 and her sorrow at the loss of her brother Bill this past January. As she said of her time at Saint Mary's, "Those were definitely special days for me, even though they only lasted two years."

**Mary Hertel Hartman** sent her best to all and stated, "I'm sorry I am not able to attend the Reunion, too many family occasions this spring."

**Loral Baker Kirke** reminded us of Sister Sophia's famous quote, "It is good for us to be here." Indeed it was!

**Carole Nordengren Suttner** sent her greetings from Chilton, WI, where she and John appreciate being close to church and

family as they cope with the effects of John's Parkinson's disease.

The June wedding of Mary Carol Madigan, **Mary Kathryn Carroll Hartigan's** granddaughter, contributed to her decision to miss Reunion. Mary Kathryn and **Anne White Maysak** were both sorely tempted to attend but had many pleasant conversations trying to make it work. As Anne said, "We had so many great times and I'm thankful for all our classes, friends, teachers, and the camaraderie we shared." She added an invitation to "come visit me in Hagerstown, MD."

The wedding of **Jody Donohoe McGoldrick's** grandson Robert Hann in Chicago was all they hoped for, especially the attendance of so many family members. Jody knew in advance that our Reunion, so soon after, would not work out. As it turned out, a number of wedding attendees including Jody came down with COVID later, so it was a good decision.

In response to all the emails, **Jeannine Timko Lechner** said, "The four years we were at Saint Mary's were very good years — better than we realized at the time." Jeannine also shared her pleasure at becoming a great-grandmother.

**Mary Ann O'Loughlin Szydowski's** response made me chuckle! "I have a couple of SMC T-shirts so I did wear them around the house over the weekend. Made me feel a bit closer to everyone."

**Joan Gibson** was thankful to "feel good about an occasion that we could not attend, at our #1 ranking as a giving class and the 65 years that have slipped so silently away."

Just after I submitted my last column, I learned of the March 23, 2022, death of **Mary Lou Reedy Ahlering**. Mary Lou was predeceased by her husband Edward David Ahlering, DDS, but survived by their two children and families. Thanks to **Alice Quinn Kalafut** for providing this information. Alice and Mary Lou were close friends from freshman year in high school (Trinity – River Forest, IL) and remained close from their shared one and half years at Saint Mary's. My email about her death brought a wonderful response from **Nancy Mack Gallivan**. At Thanksgiving of freshman year, Mary Lou took Nancy home for Thanksgiving, since she was from California and could not join her family. "Sixty-eight years have gone by and I still remember her family's warmth and generosity to me as a homesick freshman." These traits, her pleasant personality, and wonderful smile were her continued legacy.

In April came the death of **Dee Kiley LeFevour**, five months after suffering a debilitating stroke. Dee was lovingly cared for by her six surviving children and their

families in her Oak Park home of 59 years. She was predeceased by her husband Ray LeFevour and daughter Deirdre as well as sisters **Kathleen Kiley '56** and **Maura Kiley '62**. Dee spent her sophomore year studying in Fribourg, Switzerland with Kathleen. Always a leader (i.e., our senior class president), she was an exceptional teacher in California and Chicago, a creative quilter, excellent cook and hostess, and a wonderful fun-loving friend and traveler. **Peggy Kearin Carey** and I were able to attend her wake and beautiful Mass.

Seeing Dee's death notice in the *Chicago Tribune* prompted a welcome phone call from **Mary Jo Cleary Maddux**, a good opportunity to share our sadness and memories.

Those of you on our email list learned of the May death of George Broucek, husband of our classmate **Margaret Smith Broucek**. In addition to Marge, George is survived by their four children and families, all residing in the Minneapolis area. George, a Notre Dame graduate and aeronautical engineer, started dating Marge our junior year so some of you may remember him from those good old days! Our sympathy to Marge.

In June I saw the death notice of **Veronica (Verna) Kilgallen Holtzhall**. She was survived by her husband Vern Holzhall and their five children and families including five grandchildren. Verna came to Saint Mary's from Chicago's south side and left after sophomore year, graduating from Marquette. She had a long career as a travel agent and lived and worked in northwest Indiana. **Mary O'Connor** reminded me that she and Verna were bridesmaids along with **Ellen Boyle Benish** in the wedding of the late **Sheilamae Shannon O'Hara** and Tim O'Hara.

Happily in May, **Mary O'Connor** came to Chicago to connect with her nieces and nephews and the O'Hara family. We had chance for a brief visit and to share memories, a rare opportunity!

Recently **Irene O'Leary Van Beckum** shared this: "As I said to someone recently who asked me what's the hardest thing about getting older, it's losing one's good friends."

Please keep in touch!

## 1958

Barbara Hilger Hanahan  
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Hi to all 1958 classmates,

**Sally Teppert McKendry** sends a hello to you all. She mentioned looking forward to hearing about our upcoming Reunion. So glad she brought it up. I have been thinking about it also.



A note came from **Andy Mulligan Hinderscheid**. She lost her dear husband Lee Hinderscheid (ND '58) four years ago. Fortunately, one daughter and two sons live nearby. Also grandchildren and great-grandchildren are close. Andy had a knee replacement last year but otherwise is doing great.

**Mary Ann Saxe Hickey** sends her blessings. She and Roger are still on the move, just not quite as far. They keep up to date with their 14 grandchildren, usually virtually.

So glad to hear from **Ellen Canny Werner**. She is in Fort Myers, FL. She was fortunate to have a great-nephew visit who helped her get ready for the hurricanes — everything has to be secured, of course. She mentioned she is not going to Reunion because she doesn't travel anymore. Ellen says she is Mrs. McGoo on the highway. She did just renew her Florida driver's license — good for six years. Ellen says driving in Florida is an adventure.

Wonderful news from **Teddi Reid Murray**. On June 5, Pentecost Sunday, she was at Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Redwood Valley, CA when Bishop Benedict Aleksiychuk ordained her son George Jr. a deacon in the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Teddi mentioned her health has been good and she is hoping to attend our 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion.

I got a great note from **Jody Vetter Olson**. She keeps active with a couple mile walk every morning. The highlight of her days has been visits from four grandchildren who live in the Twin Cities. Thinking ahead, she is already planning her Reunion wardrobe. Great news, I can't wait either.

**Sophie Danielou Bassouls** sent her hello. She lives in Paris and her two sons as well. She said despite all catastrophic events, chaos, and global earth situations, she remains optimistic and sends her best.

A great Christmas letter and card arrived from **Joan Renehan Thompson**. The card on the front showed pictures of the whole family holding COVID vaccination cards. Such fun. Joan's Christmas 2021 was with all her family at a beautiful home on the beach in Puerto Vallarta. She sends love and hugs.

Both **Mary Ann Saxe Hickey** and **Marlene Slavin Fogarty** sent news of the passing of **Catherine Duffy O'Leary** on April 13, 2022. Kay's son George said in the eulogy that Kay always stressed three qualities: be kind, be respectful, and be present. The priest said about Kay, "God received a good return on his investment." I am so glad Marlene shared that — an inspiration to us all.

So glad to visit with you again. I am happily still doing oil paintings. Two of my children

with their families live near me in Chicago. My other two children and their families live in LA so I get to go there a couple times a year. If you can't email me, call me at (231) 330-4379. Much love, Babs.

## 1959

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Sadly, I received an email from Daniel Juliano, son of **Fran Tetaz Juliano**, informing me of her passing on April 27, 2022, of Alzheimer's disease. He writes, "She always loved Saint Mary's and cherished her years there. Highlights of that time included performing in musical theatre and attending dances and other events at Notre Dame. Thankfully, her dementia never got so bad that she forgot these experiences." Fran lived in Mesquite, NV and is survived by her husband Fred, two sons, and six grandchildren.

Saint Mary's sent me an obituary for **Julia Henne Lehman**, who passed away on April 19, 2022. Julia attended Saint Mary's for only a short time before transferring to Ohio State, then graduating from UC Berkeley. Julia began her real estate career, eventually becoming broker/owner of JT Ward Realty in Berkeley. She is survived by two sons and three grandchildren.

Got a call yesterday from **Carol Podesta Foley** after receiving a call from **Carol Lucas Dunne** in Rockville, MD telling her that her husband Tom had passed away on July 14, 2022, after a long illness. I remember visiting Carol and Tom in their apartment in Chicago in 1962 with my seven-month-old daughter on my way to Saint Mary's. It was pretty memorable because I caused a plumbing problem disposing of a *disposable* diaper. They were not yet parents but were very kind and forgiving and I, of course, was embarrassed to death. Please keep Fran, Julia, Tom, and their families in your prayers. As listed in the most recent *Courier*, **Sally O'Brien Dorenbusch**, **Myra Hunter Libby**, and **Nancy Kleinrichert Pence** also lost their husbands in the last few months.

Received a short letter from **Mary Scuderi Loughran**. She still lives in the family home in Oak Park. Her youngest child has three children and they visit on the weekends. Her oldest child is a professor at Notre Dame and the rest of her grandchildren are in college or out. Heard from one of my Saint Mary's

roommates **Connie Roller Curtin** saying she's been diagnosed with chronic heart failure but is not ready for the obits yet! "The salt-free meals and water pills are a *bitch*, but I am slowly adjusting..."

**Betsy Finneran Kennedy**, who also informed me of Tom Dunne's passing, writes that all is well in Chicago. "Life at the Clare continues to be stimulating, interesting, and motivating. Access to Chicago theatre and music is a big plus." One of her grandsons is getting married next July in Colorado. She's hoping there will be a lot of families there, as get-togethers are few and far between except for the Chicago area people. She recently attended an event for her new parish, Old St. Pats, and ran into **Barbara Morrissey Kelly**. Barbara's granddaughter sings in the choir and her daughters are active; one runs Navy Pier and has children in sports and school with Betsy's grandchildren.

**Carol Ann Cruise** and I had a long chat earlier in the year. When I didn't receive a Christmas card from her, I called to see if she was okay. She is and busy with her pattern kits and sewing company, CarolsZoo.com. Her pattern kits are being demonstrated on YouTube and she still holds sewing classes in the San Jose, CA area. Her "Spirit Dolls" are very popular and made with designer fabric seconds. Check out her website... it's very interesting!

Received a newsy phone call from **Blanche Kramer Woolford**. She and her husband Don (ND '59) live in Mechanicsburg, PA, where they raised three children. They enjoy two granddaughters, one of who applied and was accepted as a freshman to the University of Notre Dame in the fall.

All is well with "yours truly" here in Orange County, CA. No serious traveling since the pandemic started. A couple of road trips to northern California to see one of our daughters. So far, Gerry and I have been COVID-free — not so for many of our neighbors and our family members. We continue to enjoy life in our retirement community. Gerry says it's like being on a cruise ship that never leaves port. I play weekly bridge and Mah Jongg with my former neighbors in San Clemente and lots of pickleball here at Reata. I served on several committees when I first moved here, but have retired permanently from volunteering. Two grandchildren got married this year along with our daughter Marie. We now have six great-grandchildren and will welcome numbers seven, eight, and nine before Christmas. We are truly blessed with our growing family and the good health to enjoy them.

## 1961

**Wini Tennis Kristufek**  
lakelady29297@gmail.com

**Mary Ellen Carroll Convery** sent word they had celebrated their 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary in June. They are living in a retirement community in Due West, SC called The Renaissance, where they rent a two-bedroom, two-bath house. Meals are provided in the dining hall and there are all kinds of activities and/or card games, etc. It's directly across the road from Erskine Presbyterian College, and they get to appreciate all of their games of baseball, tennis, etc. It's just a real nice, pretty country area and they love it. Their son lives not too far away in Atlanta, and their daughter flies up sometimes from Florida. Their grandson just had a destination wedding in Maui, HI, which they attended via Zoom. It was gorgeous, but their walkers would have disagreed with the beach. Mary Ellen loves reading the news from Saint Mary's and wishes everyone good health and God's blessings.

**Reggie Ryan Wyles** emailed she had moved to a retirement facility in Sarasota, FL and recently had met with **Barb Breen**

**Hickey** and **Carolyn Bozzo Monterosso** and their husbands for a fun day in Punta Gorda, FL. Just like the good old days! One of the first people she met when she moved was another SMC alum from our little sister class **Mary C. Rainey '63**. They've become very good friends with a lot of things in common. Reggie would love to hear from any classmates who live in her area.

Thought I would take this opportunity to share with you a little about me. We still live on Mousseau Bay of Pelican Lake in north central Minnesota. Breezy Point is a small town of about 2,500 and is 20 minutes from the larger towns of Brainerd and Baxter. I spend most of my day working on quilts or making "rod socks" which hold the custom fishing rods my husband Kris makes. They're protective fabric cases on which I machine embroider our logo, the recipient's name, and maybe a fish. I enjoy word games on my phone and the crossword puzzle in the Sunday newspaper. When I'm not sewing or playing with words, I enjoy reading psychological thrillers and watercolor painting. Three of my four sons live in the Twin Cities as do my three granddaughters. My oldest son lives in Tucson and my grandson lives in Colorado. My health isn't

the best, and I use a walker. But I'm able to do most everything I wish to do.

I'm thankful I was able to attend Saint Mary's and thankful for all the wonderful women of the Class of 1961. As Marjorie Holmes says in her poem, Heart Friends, "How generous is God that he has given me so many other women I can call friends. The friends with whom the heart feels joyfully at home."

## 1962

**Maureen Sullivan Sheehy**  
sheehym5@gmail.com  
**Ginny Lynch Collins**  
hrcsr@aol.com

From **Ginny Lynch Collins**:

"Despite two vaccinations and two boosters, COVID caught me just at the wrong time and caused me to miss Reunion. I heard rave reviews for it and, especially, for Saint Mary's and President Katie Conboy! Lots of you were there in spirit as attested to by our 34% of the class who contributed to the Reunion class gift. Way near the top, percentage-wise! Pretty good for the 60-year class. Hope to hear from you all for *Courier*."

# JOIN US IN JUNE

We invite you to **REDISCOVER** the beauty of campus and **EXPLORE** the exciting changes taking place as we look to the future.

**RECONNECT** with friends, **REMINISCE** about the great times, and **CREATE NEW MEMORIES**.

3s and 8s:

**JUNE 1-4, 2023**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS  
FEBRUARY 1, 2023**



Register online at [alumnae.saintmarys.edu](http://alumnae.saintmarys.edu)





From **Maureen Sullivan Sheehy**:

"We were a small but spirited group at our 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion on our beautiful campus last June. Attendees were **Babs Herbstritt Ward, Joan Roddewig Geary, Paula Walsh Henry, Mary Irene Scanlan Doran, Mary McCarthy Brooks, Cathi Keilman Quinn, Kay Moore Gibbons, Margaret Huemmer Kluszynski, Anna Rose Kearney, Sheila Higgins Botti, Ginger Shay Murphy, Maureen McCafferty**, and myself. The entire campus was joyfully celebrating being together after limited pandemic gatherings. If you were not with us, know you were thought of and missed. We shared fond memories, laughed a lot, and were admittedly proud of ourselves for being there. It was a joyous celebration of gratitude for our college lives and our lives since graduation."

**Joan Roddewig Geary** wowed us with her report of her spring adventure around the world on a private jet. Some favorite stops were Angkor Wat in Cambodia, the Taj Mahal in India, and Petra in Jordan. Joan saw **Debbie Peeney Hickey** when Joan was in Philadelphia for her grandson's wedding this summer. She and Debbie enjoyed visiting The Barnes Art Museum together.

Recently I had lunch with **Judy Nelson Burke**, who is doing well and shared the news of **Libby Knapke Salamone**, who is a top realtor in the St. Petersburg area. **Maureen McCafferty** is also a Realtor in New York City and enjoys a book group with other Saint Mary's alums.

My family is all doing well and I am thrilled to continue traveling. I loved Croatia last September and this September I am spending three weeks in Ireland! Having more time for reading and living at a slower pace are benefits of this age of wisdom!

In closing, take good care of yourselves and your loved ones. Send us your news!"

## 1963

Gail M. Donovan  
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In recent years, our *Courier* column has documented so many ways in which classmates have reframed aging as a passage of discovery and engagement, not decline and inaction. The column typically notes the joy of reuniting, whether it be at lunch, on a trip, at an ND game, or a short visit; it celebrates milestones in our families, disseminates pandemic coping strategies, deepens bonds forged long ago. At Reunions, we've often been in awe of how friends we've known since our late teens have negotiated

major life challenges and continued to grow and move on. The column in this issue is shaped by the generosity of two of our classmates who have a keen sense of how *Courier* sometimes fortifies our ongoing community. We can be proud of their strength and resilience in finding ways to transcend unbearable tragedy.

**Arline Hagan Saturdayborn's** oldest son Bill Whelan took his life last November at 55 years of age. As she writes: "He had been in the grips of mental illness that manifested in his mid-20s, prevented him from seeking any help, demonized me and one of his brothers, alienated him from family and all who loved him, and ultimately isolated and caused him so much anguish that suicide appeared to be the only way out."

Arline continues: "Being with the pain of mental illness, alone as one who has it or one who witnesses it, is almost unbearable. I am taking the love I have for Bill — that could not connect with him in his adult life — and using it to create awareness of this crisis of mental illness in our society. I imagine there are classmates who have lived with the agony of a loved one lost and suffering in mental illness or taking their own life. Open conversation heals. Connection heals. Awareness of this reality of human life is essential for improving and changing systems for mental health and suicide prevention. Ken Burns has an excellent new documentary (*Hiding in Plain Sight*) circulating now on PBS, and Thomas Insel, MD, has an inspiring book (*Healing*). The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention sponsors a national all-night *Out of the Darkness* walk and shorter community walks to raise money for education to create a culture that is smart about mental health." Arline joined her first walk in Portland, ME last September.

**Barbara (Barb/Bobbie) Hankins Douyon** lost her granddaughter Chloe to suicide two years ago last March. She writes: "I've made a conscious decision to *celebrate* her life, to no longer *mourn* her death. We had no clue. Chloe, who had recently graduated from college, lived, worked, and took classes in Los Angeles. She had visited 'home' a few months before she was found — overdosed in her car at a much-frequented park. Had she come home to say 'goodbye'? Was there something I'd missed, something I should have picked up on during her visit? Looking back, she was her usual full-of-laughter, teasing self.

"I've visited her grave site after the solemn burial only once, on the anniversary of her interment. (The visit) hit me — hard — I *knew* she was not there! It's what she'd been trying to tell me for months — 'Gramma, see me; talk to me.'" Barb describes the process of reconnection with Chloe: "And so, after a year of avoiding her — avoiding her

photographs, locking away my memories of her, conversations with her...one morning I lingered over her picture — a favorite of mine — of Chloe on the counter in the kitchen. I smiled at the memory that surfaced, of her showing me "the best way to slice a pineapple." I spoke aloud to her one afternoon when I noticed the remnants of her favorite flower. I'd planted it, but it had not survived the gophers in the yard. I laughed. I knew her spirit was there laughing, too. I started and have continued to 'see' Chloe and all her whimsical antics, to visualize behaviors as I actively skim photos of her, to talk to her about matters she'd have eagerly given her opinion. My granddaughter is the only suicide I've ever encountered. I know her physical presence has gone, that her spirit — remains."

I'm deeply grateful to these dear friends for sharing these insights. You can contact Barb at bdouyon@comcast.net; Arline at amsaturdayborn@gmail.com.

We hope folks will come for Reunion. Dates are June 1-4, 2023.

## EXCELSIOR

**MaryAnne O'Neill '63, CSC**, was one of four religious sisters in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles who received Papal Honors from Pope Francis for their outstanding service to the church and communities back in August!

## 1964

Mary Ann Curnes Fuller  
fuller.ma@gmail.com,

**Bobbye Borchers Flecker** was thrilled that the roommates who met at **Susan Shalgos Wolsfeld's** home in Arizona made the *Courier* picture!

**Joanne Cassellini Kelly** and Ed had dinner with **Angie Braunstein Maher** and Jim at Bobbye's in Pittsburgh. Angie's news was her first grandchild is being married in September. **Mary Vertin O'Neill** vacations up in the Keewenaw Peninsula in Michigan and also has a condo at Silverado Resort in Napa.

**Marianne Elliott Morin** sent a picture of her and the late **Janet Walton Gisleson** from their Regina days and when she visited the campus, she was very surprised at the changes to Regina. **Patsy Wellman Bove** has completely recovered from a knee replacement and is trying to finish working on her husband's estate. She wonders if any

of you have ever sold or would like to buy a timeshare in Cabo, Mexico. **Fran Bardello Craig** and Peter are working on their house and have signed up for a Saint Mary's trip. Fran reported that our 1964 Endowed Scholarship has distributed \$11,800 last year and \$12,800 in 2021-22.

**Bonnie Burns Elberson** and her husband Terry have moved to Bonita Springs outside of Naples, FL and were able to entertain her roommate **Elaine Kletter Richardson** and her husband Brian on their annual trip to Naples.

**Colleen Pierce** is now Mrs. James McNeely! Kent and I had dinner with them and he is charming. On my birthday, I saw **Mary Whealan Burd, Ellen Brown McBride, Sis Reynolds McBride, and Roberta Limarzi Weinsheimer. Karen Mortimer Williams** invited me to her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday lunch. She is still painting.

For those of you who haven't already had your significant birthday, enjoy and celebrate your day! Hope, Peace, Joy!

## 1965

Sheila Kelly Ames  
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"I'm off to Boston in August to visit son Tim and family and do an American Cruise trip around Cape Cod and the islands with a friend." This from **Pat Hoben Daniels** from Florida. "This will be our fourth trip on this cruise line and each one has been exceptional. Other than that, it will be a quiet summer for me. I'm in charge of the village's review and rewriting Rules and Regulations document, which should be interesting...and time consuming. It's never been done by a committee here before, which should add some interesting dimensions though, thankfully, the committee members are excellent."

"Thank you, Lil! I love your birthday message," writes **Sue Bodkin Tompkins** to **Lil Chard Beshel**. "Tomorrow I will fly with my oldest daughter Polly and my granddaughter Kelsey to Puerto Rico. My daughter Suzy will meet us there. It's my first time back since Bob and I lived there 54 years ago. This wonderful trip is a gift from my daughters. I am so blessed with them and all my family. Polly was born there."

**Theresa Smith Harron** celebrated at her granddaughter's graduation from Miami of Ohio. She said it was great fun, but said that time seems to be speeding by rapidly. I think we all certainly feel the very same.

**Cille Sorrentino Bucolo** and I drove to our SMC Reunion in early June. We were fortunate to have a beautiful day. We went to attend the picnic only, as we wanted to

make it a day trip. The only others from our class in attendance were **Rosann Gorman Conroy** and **Eileen Fitzgerald Harris**. A tiny group, but we had a wonderful time together, and attended Mass in the Church of Loretto at the end of the day. **Kara O'Leary '89**, executive director of Alumnae Relations and Advancement, was kind enough to greet us and assisted as we had our Reunion photo taken. She then provided a golf cart for four and took us all to McCandless Hall to see my senior year ceramic Art Comprehensive project that the college had graciously accepted with kind enthusiasm. Kara unlocked the doors and turned on lights, and I was immediately so moved as we entered the chapel. My comps were at the entrance and spotlighted. I consider it such an honor.



At Reunion this past June is Sheila Kelly Ames shown with her 1965 Senior Year Comprehensive Art Project, donated to Saint Mary's and now hanging in McCandless Hall Chapel.

I admit to getting a touch emotional when I saw them hanging (they had hung in my home for 34 years, before I downsized). I am most grateful to our College for allowing me to leave a bit of myself at Saint Mary's, a place I carry in my heart. My sincere thanks to Kara and **Addie Cashore '70** (recently retired) for making this possible.



June Reunion, left to right, Rosann Gorman Conroy, Sheila Kelly Ames, Eileen Fitzgerald Harris, and Cille Sorrentino Bucolo. Obviously, a wonderful Reunion, by the smiles!

Cille and I and made arrangements early-on to meet **Margo Lawrence Ludwig** at Reunion. Tragically, Margo passed away suddenly, just weeks beforehand. It was difficult to be at Reunion and not think of Margo very, very often. Margo and Cille were tremendously close friends. She will be so missed, and she was a great friend of the

College. Just previously, we received news that **Patti Podesta Crumley** had died. She was blessed to be surrounded by family at the end, as was Margo. Patti had been a very dear friend to the late **Junie Miller Smith** and was so wonderful in all her assistance for Junie. Rest in Peace, dear friends.

**Regina Parks** emailed me mentioning a great concern for **Betty Ann Rice Kaminsky**. She asks that we please pray for Betty Ann, as she had collapsed in her senior living home in Arizona and now has severe shoulder problems. Reg will keep me posted with further details; she has been an incredible gift to Betty Ann. She lives very near, and they share a great friendship.

**Carla Aderente** is traveling again! "Last October, I took a road trip southeast and then up the East Coast visiting friends, relatives, and my grandfather's murals here and there. One of the main reasons for the trip was to meet up with **Betty Ann Rice Kaminsky** in New Bern, NC at her brother's house and from there we drove north so she could visit her other brother (they are twins) in Virginia. I conspired with **Terry Miltich Murphy, Jan McCale O'Neill, and Janine Renaud Burns** to meet us for lunch in Williamsburg and surprise Betty Ann. Yep, she was surprised! We had a lovely lunch and an even lovelier visit. While in Virginia, we saw the MLK Memorial in DC, one of the murals in a church in Salisbury, MD, and visited my cousins in Rockville, MD. From there we traveled north to Westfield, NJ, where Betty Ann would spend a couple of weeks with her sister. After seeing friends in New Jersey, I went on to spend time with several friends north of NYC. In view of Betty Ann's current health issues, I will always treasure our 'back East road trip.' Safe travels everyone!"

Ladies, please remember our **1965 Saint Mary's Memorial Fund**, which aids our present students. This fund is a beautiful way to remember a deceased classmate.

## 1966

Mary Kay Duffy Gott  
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**Carla Johnson Lewis** wrote about her feelings about coming out of COVID by remembering all the hurdles that were overcome to be where we are today. In 2018, Carla and her husband booked a trip to Iceland for 2020. That trip was cancelled, as well the rescheduled trip in 2021. Finally, in the summer of 2022, they flew to Iceland and boarded a cruise ship that took them around Iceland and across the Atlantic to their destination of Copenhagen.



**Alana McGrattan** ventured to cruise the Rhine in early April. She commented that it is best to be ready for delays and travel tribulations. Alana lives with her life partner, Peter Kaserer, on a very busy farm in New Mexico. She continues to work with asylum seekers as her passion. She welcomes all visitors to Sante Fe or Corrales. Unfortunately, **Pat Hilger Zeigler** had to cancel her plans to visit Alana. Alana keeps in touch with her roommates **Christine Keenen Kealy, Margot Ostheimer Hammond, Dana Boussard Reifel,** and **Kathy Fehlig.** Both Dana and Kathy, who live in Montana, are recognized artists with quite a portfolio of work.

**Pat Hilger Zeigler** reported that she spent time in Macon, GA assisting her daughter Aileen move into an 1887 historical home. Pat and her hubby John helped empty 250 boxes. Aileen will be teaching Spanish in the fall at St. Joseph's school, where her two children will attend. Aileen's husband Hunter is stationed at Warner Robins Air Force Base in Macon, GA. Pat and John are still active in everything offered at The Villages of Florida. This planned community of 15,000 people is 45 minutes west of Orlando.

**Laura Ardini Yeakel** retired this fall after 35 years of teaching chemistry at Henry Ford College. She is following her husband who spent 35½ years at the same college. They plan to stay in Dearborn, MI to be near their son and his family. Some time will be spent in Southern California visiting their daughter's family. Her children hold a PhD in philosophy and a PhD in mathematics, respectively.

**Kathie Donovan Dur** traveled to Paris and the French Riviera with her four teenaged grandchildren (13-17 years old) and their parents. It was a celebration for her oldest grandson Quinn, who was accepted at the University of Chicago. He will study neurosciences and economics. In a short note to Kathie, I suggested that Quinn bring an extra warm coat to fight off the winter winds coming off of Lake Michigan. Quinn and his family live in Southern California. Kathie has fond memories of 1990 when she lived in Paris.

**Estelle Ford Williamson** wrote that she moderated a panel with three former Lost Boys of Sudan to highlight the changes they have gone through in more than 20 years since they were airlifted to the USA. The book is called *From Lost Boys to Accomplished Men*. They saluted one who became an Anglican bishop and one who is a CDC professional aiding health problems in East Africa. Estelle's co-editor on her book about the *Lost Boys of the Sudan*, Majok Marcer, is the head of the nonprofit "Wells for Hope" in South Sudan.

Estelle keeps in contact through Facebook with **Sharon Bode, Carrie Condran LaBriola, Carol Masterson Waner '68,**

**Allida Leslie Joyce, Camille Sullivan Yost,** and **Sandi Iaconetti.**

**Mary Lee Hamilton Spencer** shared the news of her husband's death on June 11, 2022. He died watching his favorite sport, football. They would have been married 28 years.

On October 3, 2021, **Pat Sweeney Schaefer** died leaving behind her husband Mike. Pat attended St. Paul of the Cross School in Park Ridge, IL, where she fell in love with Mike. They were married for 55 years. I attend St. Paul's with Pat as well as Marywood School for Girls in Evanston and Saint Mary's College.

**Carolyn Wisniewski Ostlie** died on September 23 in Columbia, MD. Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of our classmates who have recently died.

## 1967

Alyne Ricker, MD  
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A dozen of us "More Than Golden" women were very fortunate to visit Saint Mary's at Reunion in June. The campus was beautiful and the weather was perfect. Among a host of activities we enjoyed were guided tours of Sister Madeleva's Garden, especially the campus trees ("We know where you hid out with your ND sweetie"), a brilliant history class (What were the founders really thinking and trying to do?), an excellent book club discussion (*The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson), visits to Bertrand Hall to learn about the history of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, a tour of the brand new and impressive Center for Integrated Healthcare Education in Regina Hall, and a special Mass in Holy Spirit Chapel. We made a special visit to our memorial tree, where we were joined by President Katie Conboy, and recalled those classmates that we have lost since our last Reunion. Among the stories told was **Helen Kloswick's** memory of the late **Isabel Pereira Halford.** Helen was invited to a formal reception, but didn't have a formal gown. Isabel loaned her a beautiful sari, and her kindness has not been forgotten.

Other Reunion tidbits: **Joan Nagy Quenan** arrived on campus in her fully outfitted RV, parked it in the hotel lot and had her own private room. She has been travelling from the West Coast on a months' long trip back home to Texas. **Susan Rogers Schenkelberg** attended both SMC and ND reunions. On Saturday morning, **Sharon Wilchar** and I again walked the Sunburst 5K from South Bend to the ND stadium, while **Loreli Trippel** ran the 10K route to also finish at ND. On the walk back to campus (because 5K wasn't enough!), Sharon and I met two women

who had very interesting stories about being among the earliest women to transfer from SMC and eventually graduate from ND. Throughout the weekend, we 12 talked (!), became reacquainted, drank wine, shared photos, and sang — thank you **Cheryl Smith Hofweber** for bringing the music and **Carol Garvey O'Malley** for loaning the guitar. Sharon noted that "In four days you can learn a lot when the group is small... at least three of the 12 announced having tattoo eyebrows. Who knew?"



Sharon Wilchar (left) and Alyne Ricker (right) walked the Sunburst 5K from South Bend to the ND stadium.

While at Reunion, we heard from several classmates about their memories. For the memorial tree, **Lynn DePhilip Cullen** asked us to remember "two wonderful women, **Mimi Gratz McGuigan** and **Mary Carol Madden McCracken,**" while **Joan Evans Clippinger** wrote of "delightfully bright and witty" **Karen Lynn Keres.** **Sister Mary Kevin Rooney, ASC,** has memories of special teachers and staff including "the freshness of Sr. Charles Borromeo." **Suzanne Seidl Griffin** recalled the training we received in "navigating reception lines at formal events." Remember the receptions and dances in Le Mans Hall? She has used that training at formal events in the governor's mansion, the White House, and at foreign embassies.

More recently we heard from **Graciela Batista Nearing.** She and her husband Michael are celebrating 53 years of marriage this summer, with their four children and 10 grandchildren. She is "still grieving for **Marcia Servis Silvestro,**" a dear friend from high school as well as SMC.

**Susan Williams Quinn** reports that she is hibernating indoors to beat the heat, ruining how COVID has curtailed so many activities. Nonetheless, she has plans for a trip to France in October — fingers crossed!

**Jeannette Samper** wrote a long letter whose highlights are her continued joy in her work in couples and family therapy, and in her grandchildren, now aged between 3 and 18 years. She is excited that the oldest are looking toward futures in medicine and law. As all of us, she is thinking about aging,

illness, death, and dying. She would love it if you could share interesting resources or experiences at (jeanettesamper@hotmail.com) and contemplates a possible "Online Support Group." Finally she mentions political changes in her country and is taking steps to be an active participant in that forum and not a "passive complainer." Jeannette thinks often of SMC and all of you and is hoping to be "alive and kicking" and present at the next Reunion. We hope to get together in September when she visits her family in Massachusetts.

From **Cheryl Smith Hofweber:** "Attending our 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion was a totally rejuvenating and inspiring experience, connecting and reconnecting with an amazing group of former classmates. I returned to Smithers, BC in time to perform with my guitar at our music festival, calling my set 'Stories and Songs from a Long Life Lived.' Thanks to **Lynn Datzman Guilbault's** suggestion 10 years ago, I am finally working on recording a second CD."

**Kathy McGrath Russo** and her husband Tom have been enjoying visits with family. "We also have gone on a couple of great trips. In late April we went with our daughter and her family to the Beaver Creek area of Colorado, where we spent a beautiful snowy weekend in the picturesque mountain village. Then, in early June we spent a week in Telluride, CO. The weather was perfect and we loved the natural beauty of the mountains, the San Miguel River, and the surrounding area."

## 1969

Joyce O'Donnell Bussewitz  
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Hello, classmates! Our first news item came from **Maralissa Duda Thomas,** who wrote, "I had been planning to visit **Helena Siedlecki Daly** and husband Kevin (ND '69) in the summer of 2020, and then the pandemic wiped out those plans. Zoom and FaceTime parties replaced gatherings with friends in person. During the past two years, I journeyed virtually with Helena and Kevin as they prepared for their permanent move to Ireland. Both have dual citizenship. Lo and behold, before I had an opportunity to see them again in Chicago, they were able to make the move — now living in a beautiful temporary home in the northernmost county of Ireland, Donegal, as they make plans to build their own home nearby and really settle in to the country. It's a dream come true for them." Marilyn also sent a photo of Helena under an iron archway at the entrance to St. Mary's Church cemetery on Cruit (pronounced "Critch") Island. It is located in a beautiful setting in Donegal County, about 20 minutes from where Helena and Kevin now live.

Marilyn said, "Islanders have been buried there for centuries. It is one of a handful of Irish cemeteries where 'Turas' can be performed. Turas is and was a kind of pilgrimage within the graveyard itself. It is performed between March 25 and August 15 annually. There is a series of nine 'wells' dedicated to various saints — really just marked tablets now — forming a circle route within the grounds. The pilgrim is supposed to sleep overnight next to each 'well' and pray simple prayers (Our Fathers, Hail Marys, and the Creed) over and over, and make a request to God for the living or the dead. At the end of the ninth night, it is said his or her request shall be granted."



Helena Siedlecki Daly at St. Mary's Church cemetery on Cruit Island in Ireland.

**Mary Rodighero Hoke** emailed from Arizona. "Jim (ND '68) and I are now living in the western Arizona mountains. No... it is not hot like Phoenix! We moved from St. Louis in 2018. Jim is enjoying golf and biking. I am enjoying being on the faculty of U. of AZ in graduate psychology, walking, and yoga. This year I collaborated on and published a textbook focused on mental health disorders and addictions."

I phoned **Margaret Roberts Richards** in Columbus, OH for her birthday last week on July 26, which she shares with **Mary Alice Herod Lajoie.** We reminisced about the summer they turned 21, prior to our senior year. I was home in New Jersey that summer, but to help them celebrate, I flew down to DC on the "old shuttle" that ran regularly. They were living in a group house in Georgetown. Between my call with Margaret and some emails back and forth with Mary Alice, I believe we pieced most of it together. They shared the rental with **Gaile Burnell Koeheler, Roz Castrogiovanni Hill, Kathy Malone Beeler,** and someone named Carole ('70) from Kansas. Some of them worked for members of Congress, some took summer school courses, and some worked in stores.

Margaret's brother Bill hosted a party for her this year, which included several of her siblings, two sons, cousins, and friends. **Cathy Kearney Buser** and her husband Steve stopped by to wish her a happy birthday before she and Steve left to celebrate their 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary. Margaret also told me that **Ann Hollander Sedlacek** was recently in Florida babysitting her grandchildren, tag teaming with the other grandma while the parents vacationed. This last bit of Columbus news from Margaret was about a classmate of hers from high school and then just for freshman year of college. Margaret attended her high school reunion and said **Bebe (Mary) Miller Finn** had transferred to Ohio State after our first year at Saint Mary's, but continues to enjoy receiving *Courier* and reading about our class. Margaret thought Bebe roomed with **Sally Gildea Smith.**

In early May **Janet Krueger** and husband Bruce visited their son Keith and his wife Emily in Portland, OR for the first time since they relocated to the West Coast in 2020. Janet added, "Then it was only a hop, skip, and a jump down to San Rafael, CA to visit **Georgia Florin Gasner** for five fun days together. **Kathy O'Donnell Efler** and I got together for our yearly summer afternoon visit at Crystal Lake. We spent hours laughing and talking, as always. While we were together, I received the happy news from my daughter and son-in-law that a new baby granddaughter Milan had arrived. So now I have three granddaughters, whom I call MY COOKIES – Gingersnap, Snickerdoodle, and one who has yet to acquire her special nickname!"

That's all the news for this time, friends. Please send me updates anytime! Be well! God bless!

## 1970

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The long awaited 50<sup>th</sup> SMC Reunion for the Class of '70, held in our 52<sup>nd</sup> year, finally arrived! The campus was glorious in its late spring beauty and the tour of the grounds by the groundskeeper (still the same one from the '70s) did not disappoint. We were taken to some areas of the campus that we had never seen before, and everyone was impressed by how the new or refurbished buildings fit so beautifully with the likes of Le Mans Hall.

Just about 20 alumnae returned for the weekend, but a dozen more joined by Zoom on Saturday night, and the discussions during the weekend were terrific.



President Katie Conboy's address on Saturday was excellent. She is humble, whip-smart, articulate, interesting, knowledgeable about Saint Mary's and Notre Dame, and totally dedicated to ensuring we stay true to our mission as well as to expanding our services to include those of interest to new students.

She was available the entire weekend and spent considerable time with our class to understand our points of view.

What became clear throughout the weekend is that each of us has a story to tell — about our lives, our loves, our families, our interests, our history, our ups and downs — and all of the stories were so interesting. And everyone is so accomplished, incredibly smart, and truly interested in each other. Some of us had never "hung out" before, but would certainly do so now, and in fact, we decided that when possible we should all be visiting each other over the next several years, and that we should be dedicated to trying to attend our 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion in person in 2025.

The other amazing fact about our classmates is that we are all so attuned to the politics and the history of the day, and although we may have differing points of view, it was clear that we are all just as involved now as we were in the '60s and '70s in ensuring our rights are protected, women's leadership continues to advance, and war is averted.



Class of '70 alumnae at the Friday evening Reunion dinner.

Here are some updates I've received from our classmates:

I mentioned in the summer newsletter that **Pamela Carey Batz** was building a new home, and now after 33 years they have a new address to share. She and Bill will be right around the corner from her daughter at 418 Baron's Court, Venetia, PA 15367. Visitors most welcome!

I heard from **Ruth Fischer** earlier this year and she writes: "**Pamela Carey Batz** and I went to Magnificat High School together in Rocky River, OH. After graduation we went to Saint Mary's for college. Pam was a lovely friend, but we've been out of touch ever since SMC. I've seen through *Courier* how involved Pam has been with Saint Mary's for decades. She continues to contribute and inspire despite any health issues. I thought she might like to hear from a voice in her past and know that I admire her very much and wish her many blessings."

**Diane Wallace McKee** writes: "A gentleman named Mike McKeating came into my life in February 2019. Three years after the passing of my husband Peter McKee (ND '69, '70), I decided I'd like someone to go to dinner and shows with, so I got on eharmony. Mike had been on for a while, as his wife Rose had passed in 2005. Well, I guess you could say we hit it off because eight months later we began discussing marriage. We didn't get officially engaged until June 2020. We publicly declared our mutual love when we were married August 16, 2021. We both consider ourselves richly blessed to find love a second time. Mike is a semi-retired attorney and a deacon of 42 years for the Catholic Church. Before we could be married, Mike had to write a handwritten letter to the Pope asking to be laicized (leave the diaconate) since the Bible — 1 Timothy 3 — says "Deacons may be married only once." (Of course, the church doesn't pay attention to an earlier paragraph saying a bishop must be married only once... keeping his children under control.) His request was approved only 14 months later. We've traveled to Florida, and we've visited with my sister **Marie Wallace Straub '66** and my brother-in-law Jim (NDLS '68) in Michigan. Mike participated in Reunion 2022 with me and was greatly impressed with SMC and all my sister alumnae. COVID has delayed an actual honeymoon. Mike and I get along very well and we're very happy. We're looking forward to a full and busy happy marriage.

**Karen Preston McCarty** says, "Life has been fairly quiet but in addition to participating in our monthly class Zoom calls (which I highly recommend) I continue to get together via Zoom every several months with **Ann Toffanetti Schumacher, Edi Hill Gibney, Louanne Scanlon Mauro, Mary Minella, Molly Morell, Pat O'Hara Gable, Susan Vanek,** and **Mary Lou Wylie**. That, combined with ongoing emails about our daily lives and a wide variety of interesting topics has been a great way for us to stay connected. **Rosemarie Rinella Stocky** and I talk regularly, and we are getting together with **Patti Walters** in July for the first time since the pandemic on Patti's sailboat. Should be a fun afternoon! My daughter Megan and I have gotten back into hosting holiday get-togethers at Casa McCarty for friends. We even have resorted to creating our own holidays — e.g., St. Petronius Day! We are finally planning on getting on a plane and have two trips planned — one in early August back to Massachusetts to visit family, and a river cruise on the Rhine from Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam in November. Like most of us, I try to avoid looking at what is happening with my 401K."

**Jane Blanchard Weirich** writes, "I had the opportunity to get together with **Sally Fogarty Hasbrook, Anne Meagher**

**Northup,** and **Joanie Woodin Connelly**. The occasion was a mini-ND reunion (our husbands') this past October at Notre Dame.



Joanie Woodin Connelly, Jane Blanchard Weirich, Sally Fogarty Hasbrook, Anne Meagher Northup.

On a golf road trip through Florida, I also saw **Mary Pat Ryan Poskon**. She and Dewey have moved to Florida from Indianapolis. I live in Palm Beach Gardens, FL and frequently see **Cathy Downey White** and **Kim Sullivan Ryan**. **Patty Scully Keane** is an annual winter visitor and we have fun playing golf. The best part of reconnecting with these SMC women is they are all so accomplished, kind, interesting, and fun!"

On June 25, **Addie Stefanac Cashore** and her husband Tom (ND '70) attended the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Bill and Pam Carey Batz in Pittsburgh. Mass was celebrated at the parish where Bill serves as a permanent deacon. This was followed by a luncheon at their country club. Bill reminisced that it was pouring rain on their wedding day in 1972 due to Hurricane Agnes, which was ravaging the East Coast. "Pam was in my wedding in June 1970. We were living in Germany at the time of her wedding."

Addie also writes that **Marcia Frasor Blum** graciously hosted a luncheon at Papa Vito's in South Bend to give classmates an opportunity to get together with **Donna Halbert Bachtel**, who lost her husband in February. A private family memorial for David was held at the end of May. In addition to Marcia and Donna, other classmates in attendance included **Ellen Nesbit West, Pat O'Hara Gable, Sara Bateman Koehler, Pat Lyons Gottlieb, Addie Stefanac Cashore,** and **Susan Vanek**.

**Becky O'Connor Chandler** writes: "I was so sorry to miss the class Reunion, but it came at a bad time for us. We are about to leave the Huntington Library in Pasadena CA, where we've been for nine months. My husband was a Senior Fellow there and I was a reader. I am doing research for a family history I am writing. It turns out my mother's great-grandparents were among the first non-native settlers of what is now the Rio Grande Valley. They and 99 other Irish families were recruited by the Mexican government, who needed settlers for this wild land. It gets very complicated after that since Mexico became the Republic of Texas and then the state of Texas! All the while, struggles

over the question of slavery between 'norte americanos' from the east and the abolitionist Republic of Mexico made for a turbulent period of warfare. Anyway, we head back to Chicago beginning tomorrow. I am in regular contact with my SMC circle which includes: **Cathy Downey White, Rosemary Nugent Hanratty** and **Patricia McCusker Allgood**. In Chicago, my reading and writing time will be interrupted regularly by grandmother duties. Jack and Sam are 10 and 8 and they require a lot of chauffeuring. My daughter is VP at a start-up called Braven and my son resides in DC with his wife and there he serves as a public defender. Warmest good wishes to all my SMC classmates!"

From **Sandy Merritt Lyons**: "My mother **Barbara Merritt** passed away on July 20 at the age of 97. She was proud to have enlisted (at age 17) in the U.S. Navy WAVES during WWII where she obtained the rank of chief yeoman. In 2014, I escorted her on an 'Honor Flight' trip. She was quoted as saying, 'We're a rare breed these days. All WWII vets are, especially women.' She loved Saint Mary's College, and was so happy that I went there (me, too)."

From **Diane Daly McGarry**: I close this report with a continuing request to send me your stories about your adventures, and to mark your calendars for June 2025 for our 55<sup>th</sup>! Believe me, it will be here far sooner than any of us can imagine. And if you are anywhere near Long Beach, please come for a visit.

## 1972

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WOW doesn't even begin to describe our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion get-together. It was amazing from start to finish with well over 100 classmates returning to Saint Mary's. I know those of you who attended were as thrilled as I was. And we truly missed those of you who were not there.

Where to start? Of course, our big achievement was surpassing our Reunion goal for our Class of '72 scholarship. **Anne Pryser Leary** and I originally set a modest and reachable goal of \$150,000. Two generous classmates offered \$50,000 each if we raised that number to \$250,000. With fingers crossed and a few prayers, Anne and I agreed to go for it. Our final number was \$397,734 with 52% of you contributing — absolutely amazing. Do you realize what an incredible class we have? And for the second time, we swept the awards winning the Mother Pauline, Class Participation, and Highest Class Gift awards. Much credit goes to our wonderful Reunion Gift Committee

consisting of **Mary Lou Gorno, Teeta Biley Donlan, Maura Carroll, Mary Ellen Stoltz Bianco, Daisy Duckworth Davis, Maureen Callan Fischer, Chris Newland Ketterhagen, Janet Teichen McHugh, Marilyn Mohrman-Gillis, Ronie Rogers Madden, Marie Perunko Sheckels, Ann Marie Tracey, Kate Berney Werring, Janet Hollander Ferlic, Margaret Thompson, Peggy Perkinson, Lynn Novotny, Lydia Haggar Novakov, Carol Ann Mooney, Mary Susan Johnson, Jean Gorman, and Robyn Olson Kinkopf**. Thank you all. And a quick thank you to **Linda Dougherty**, who made a personal plea for last-minute donations at the class picnic.



The Reunion Gift Committee at our dinner.

A highlight was the selection of two classmates as award recipients. **Carol Ann Mooney** received the 2022 Distinguished Alumna Award and **Mary Anne Luzar Tattersall** the 2022 Alumnae Achievement Award. There really isn't much explanation needed as to why Carol deserved this honor. Her stellar career included 12 years as president of Saint Mary's — the first lay alumna to hold this position — and too many accomplishments to mention. Mary Anne has been chief of the Regulatory Affairs Branch, Division of AIDS for the National Institute of Health (NIH) for 20 years. The COVID pandemic required her to focus on treatment and vaccine trials. She was responsible for the overall regulatory strategy which set forth COVID trials in the world. On Friday afternoon, we were invited to "Meet the Class Celebrities." It was a favorite Reunion event for many including **Anne Pryser Leary**, who thought their reflections on how the college readied them for future success was inspiring.



Mary Anne Luzar Tattersall and Carol Ann Mooney at their casual career path discussion.

Our Reunion theme was "The Long and Winding Road." Thanks to **Terri Duggan McGinnis**, who enlisted the help of her son Marty, we had a banner as well as a Class of '72 photo frame. The banner proudly hung off the balcony at The Inn at Saint Mary's and at our special class dinner. Our road started as college freshman, continued as we graduated and made our way into the world, and brought us back 50 years later.



Melissa Underman Noyes and Anne Pryser Leary Reunion Gift co-chairs with photo frame from Terri Duggan McGinnis..

Friday night was filled with joy and some tears. President Katie Conboy hosted a reception and dinner for us, the Golden Jubilee Class. Before the dinner, we gathered for Mass at Holy Spirit Chapel in Le Mans. Several classmates planned a dedication and blessing of a statue in the chapel of St. Josephine Bakhita, a former African slave, in honor of **Ann Meuleman Jendryk**. During Mass, we lovingly remembered our deceased classmates with a rose carried to the altar by a friend.

This was President Katie Conboy's first live Reunion since COVID cancelled the previous years. She is a remarkable woman, warm and friendly, a great fit for the College. Her dinner remarks were thoughtful and insightful. **Mary Lou Gorno** and **Jean Gorman** graciously gave our invocation and benediction. Anne and I added a bit of humor to the dinner, reminding everyone of the days of wearing rolled-up jeans or pjs underneath raincoats — and then lifting our dresses to reveal rolled-up pajama bottoms!

A fun story about President Conboy and **Heather Tripucka Carr's** brother, pro basketball player Kelly Tripucka. When Kelly was playing for the Irish, Katie attended a basketball event. Apparently, they chatted awhile and Kelly gave her his boutonniere. She saved it all these years, although now it is only the pin! Remarking on Reunion, Heather said she came away in awe of the nursing facility/program in Regina and so much pride in SMC's path forward.



Another coincidence happened in a casual conversation with **Mary Kay Kronenwetter Jeselnick**, who mentioned that she and her husband had walked part of the Camino in Spain. It was very exciting to tell her about **Colleen Monahan**, who did the entire trek by herself, and connect the two.

Colleen shared some wonderful reflections. She had been back to campus several times, but never for a Reunion and she initially had second thoughts about returning. Then she realized that although Saint Mary's had not been "my herd," it had always been "my place." She also encourages everyone to attend a Reunion — not necessarily to retrieve a college experience but to continue learning and meeting kindred spirits, a place worth revisiting, and a herd worth discovering.

Reunion tidbit — Did any of you know that **Vickyann Chrobak Sadowski** had been a winning contestant on *The Price is Right* in 2006? It was Bob Barker's 35<sup>th</sup> season. Even though she wasn't the big winner, she ended up with a trip, car, and hot tub!

Thank you to several classmates with Notre Dame spouses who split their time between

Saint Mary's and ND. **Marilyn Mohrman-Gillis** and Jack must have commandeered a golf cart to get back and forth between campuses. Thoughts and prayers are with Mike and **Dianne Derfler Kadish**. Dianne has been a tireless advocate in fighting the NFL to get Mike the proper medical care he needs from injuries suffered during his NFL career.

**Lydia Haggar Novakov** was unable to attend Reunion due to a family health issue. Shortly after Reunion, her mother Isabell Salloum Haggar passed away. The Haggars played a significant role as Saint Mary's benefactors including the lovely Haggar Student Center. Love and sympathy to you and your family, Lydia. You were missed.

So much else to tell — visiting the amazing new buildings including the Athletic Center.

More importantly for me was our connecting with each other. We took over the bar in The Inn and made it our own meeting place and used it all hours!

On a final note, thank you to **Anne Pryser Leary** for my surprise gift — a lovely plaque thanking me for reporting your amazing news for close to 50 years! Hugs to all.

## 1973

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**1973 + 50 = 2023!** Our 50<sup>th</sup> College Reunion is right around the corner: June 1-4, 2023. This is a true milestone! Mark your calendars now and encourage your SMC and ND friends to plan a trip to Notre Dame, IN. As they say, the more, the merrier! As of this writing, we have a great group of classmates who have volunteered to serve on our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Committee. They are:

**Denise Donofrio** – co-chair, **Anne Rogers Roche** – co-chair, **Connie Smith Barker, Cindy Booth, Connie Byrne Bruce, Mary Ann Chory, Mary Ann Hornback Egan, Mary Ann Weis Fenimore, Sue Glockner Fitzer, Lolo Stankus Ford, Geri Duffy Glibowski, Mary Anne Madden Hoffman, Mary Sullivan Kelley, Learose Detesco Moody, Cathe Moran, Mary Nokes, Carol Lambka Reimers, Ginnie Russell, Karen Bush Schneider, Maryann Bresnahan Wolowicz, and Mary Brelowski Zicafoose.**

Denise and Anne would welcome more help. If you are willing to share a bit of your

time, please send an email to Denise at donofriodenise@gmail.com. She would be delighted to hear from you. It will take a big team to pull off a terrific celebration.

**Pamela King** (ND) shared how great it was reuniting by Zoom with SMC and ND friends including: **Julaine Brophy Brent, Jeanie Lysaught Hull, and Kris Kane Carr**. She hopes many of us will be gathering in person at our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion in 2023!

**Carol Wangberg Haines** shared some good news from Concord, MA: "In March 2022, I retired after 40 years at the Concord Museum, most recently as manager of Exhibitions and Design. It was an honor to have **Maribeth Cashman Coughlin** and her husband John attend my retirement party. My final project included work on the design and reinstallation of 16 permanent galleries for a completely new visitor experience in the museum. My husband Dave (ND '72) and I were so pleased to welcome to Concord this summer **Mary Lu Schleck Donnelly** and her husband EJ (ND '71), and on another occasion **Betsy Schum Brown** and her husband Peter (ND '73). It is always fun to give a tour of this remarkable town, so if you are ever in the area, do come visit."

**Anne Rogers Roche** reported that she, **Beth Lombardi Oliva**, and **Nancy Moran Moore** enjoyed spending a day together at a lake. Anne said, "It was so great to spend some quality time with each other."



Beth Lombardi Oliva, Anne Rogers Roche, and Nancy Moran Moore spending some quality time together at a lake.

I was happy to hear from **Regina "Gina" Ivory Lupo** who responded to my plea for news! "I am retired for three years now, after 25 years as a computer and help desk technician for Omaha Public Schools. My husband, Vic Lupo (ND '72, '75, '78) passed in 2018 after 40 years of teaching psychology at Creighton University. We raised four sons, one of whom is the well-known streamer Dr. Lupo. He has personally raised over \$10 million for St. Jude Children's Hospital. We have eight grandchildren: twins starting college this fall, the remaining all under the age of 7. I now spend my time volunteering at church and sewing when requested. Each year, I act in the church melodrama. I have played an Italian mobster's wife, an Irish maid, a racetrack "hot walker," a saloon bar maid, the wife of a bar

owner, and a spinster. It's always great fun and something my shyness had prevented me from experiencing in my youth. It's amazing what age will overcome as we get older! I also enjoy attending family gatherings on the East Coast. I hope to make it back for our 50<sup>th</sup> next year! Wishing everyone health and happiness!"

## 1974

Jill Fahey Birkettes  
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I received a lovely note and photo from **Ann O'Boyle Nash** regarding a recent get-together of a group of great friends over the years — as we know in our years, some of our classmates graduated from ND, some from SMC, we love them all! Here is her note: "Several classmates celebrated turning 70 at a memorable two-day event in Lake Forest, IL on July 12-13, hosted by Gary and **Sue Murphy Janko**. Attendees were a mix of SMC/ND friends with a few spouses from other classes and included: Dave and **Susan Andersen Casper, Barb McKiernan Davis, Steve and Annie Cisle Murray, Dan and Peg McDonough Lee, Tom and Ann O'Boyle Nash, Jack and Mary Kay Conaty Leicht, Rob and Liz Sowada Linner, Glenn and Debbie Schwarz Pierre, Tom and Shelia Hansen, Rich** (ND '77) and **Judie Moore Green, Muffet Foy Cuddy**, and Pat (ND '68) and **Jennifer Johnson Barth**. Weather was picture perfect for golf at Conway Farms, a pool party at Jankos', lunch at Annie Cisle's, a wine pairing dinner at Gary's new Forester Hotel, and ended with many stories and heartfelt toasts by a firepit."



Several classmates celebrated turning 70 at a memorable two-day event in Lake Forest, IL.

Additionally, **Julie Griffin Murphy** recently lunched with Chicago-area visitor **Chris O'Connell McAleer**. Julie says they had a great time.

By the time you read this, I should have joined several '74 classmates for a 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration and get-together: **Julie Griffin Murphy, Jan Gabler Cranfield, Dianne Gibbons, Mary Ellen Raphael, Natalie Dwyer-Haller, Bobbi Kuhn Riconosciuto, Carol Longo Kaupp, and Jackie Schimizzi Ehlert** in Natalie's hometown of Erie, PA. She's

rented a fabulous looking Airbnb on the lake and the weather should be late-summer perfect. I can't wait. Meantime, I spend two days a week with my adorable just 2-years-old grandson Cooper and we have so much fun.



Chris O'Connell McAleer (on the left) and Julie Griffin Murphy recently lunched together

Here's hoping you are celebrating special days in your life and if so, send along the story, we'd love to hear..

## 1978

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Dear Classmates, I need your input for all future *Courier* articles please. I hate for you to open *Courier* and see no report from our class. Plus, I prefer not to bore you with my quarterly news. Please contact your SMC friends and encourage them to send an update and, of course, reach out to me with retirement news, family updates including grandchildren, travel plans, you name it. Bring about your family to all your friends :). Contact me at susan.salem@gmail.com. Many of us are connected on Facebook, which is nice, especially our Rome group that has remained close all these years.

This issue will reach you this winter; may you have a beautiful Christmas with family and friends.

The summer in northeast Ohio has been beautiful, lots of sun, and not too much heat. After being locked down for so long it is nice to get out again. My parents are 91 and 94 and, God bless them, they are doing well. Our granddaughter Frankie will be 2 in August, and she lights up our life in a big way with every little thing she does.

I am looking forward to a visit from **Lisa Maglio Brown** in mid-September, and I am very excited. She is heading to South Bend for the Cal vs ND game, so the northeast Ohio area is close. We have not seen each other for four years since the last Reunion. Although we talk on the phone very often, it is not the same as an in-person visit.

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**Suzy Plavac Heidkamp** and I talk weekly, and she is as busy as anyone I know. Suzy travels a ton, still works for a hospice caregiving company in management, and cares for her dad, who will be 98 in December. She and Terry have family all over the world now. With four grandchildren from her eldest Erin in Park City, UT, they travel there very often to help with the kids and visit. The grandkids are adorable and very busy, so they love to go back to their own condo to chill after a full day in Park City. Daughter Lisa is in London, son George is in Connecticut, daughter Genna is in San Francisco. They now make their home base outside of South Bend in New Buffalo, MI. They winter in Celebration, FL outside of Disney. When in Michigan, they are in South Bend nearly daily and, of course, come football season, every game day.

**Debbie Stancik Krawczyk** reports that she has been retired from full-time teaching three years but has been tutoring a family's two boys since COVID shutdown. Loving it, keeping her fingers in the field, and loving the 1-1 with two little handsome boys! Also, she is getting remarried after two years of being together on September 10 to a wonderful man, the love of her life. His name is Charles Black. They will reside in Strongsville, OH for now. Her daughter Teri is living in Lakewood and loves that town. She is an executive recruiter for a Mayfield Height, OH woman-owned company, Staffing Solutions, and loves her job. She has an adorable kitty named Greta (yes, grandma spoils her) and a very nice gentleman friend she spends her free time with doing all sorts of stuff. Skydiving, boating, etc.! She will be Debbie's maid of honor.

Most of us are celebrating 66 this year, which is hard to imagine. It's great that we still feel like we are 39 in our hearts and minds because our bodies, well, that is another story. Our 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion is next May/June so please plan ahead, so we reconnect in person. Stay well friends, God bless you all.

## 1979

Cheri Petride Miller  
smcosu@earthlink.net

It was so nice to hear from **Jean Powley Murphy** recently. Jean met with **Maureen "Mo" Rothfuss Canter** and **Doris Mannes Derheimer** in Toledo, OH in early June for a fun weekend of shopping, dining, reminiscing, and "catching up" on each other's lives. It had been nearly 40 years since the three all got together in person. Mo lives in Painesville, OH and is an accountant at University Hospital and is also a Realtor/appraiser for Keller-Williams Realty. Mo and husband Don have two grown sons. Living in Fort Wayne, IN and

following a corporate career in supply chain management, Doris chose (20 years ago) to switch to education. Since then, she has been teaching calculus at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, IN. Doris and husband Mike have a son Luke and a daughter **Emma Derheimer Niespodziany '14**. Jean has been a reporter for *The Daily Herald* newspaper in Chicago's suburbs since 1983. She also writes for its subsidiary, Town Square Publications. Jean and husband Ed (ND '77), have three grown sons. Jean also wrote that she, Mo, and Doris each have one grandchild, with more "on the way."



Left to right: Maureen "Mo" Rothfuss Canter, Doris Mannes Derheimer, and Jean Powley Murphy.

Greetings from **Anne Giere** in Healdsburg, CA. Anne says she was disappointed to miss our 40<sup>th</sup> class Reunion in 2019. It might have been the only one she missed since graduation — but with good reason. As some of you may know, her beloved husband Tim Meinken (ND '75) died suddenly and unexpectedly just prior to Memorial Day that same year. She says that there was never a time that she needed her Saint Mary's College sisters more, but it was not meant to be. (Anne thanks **Kathy Antonello Trachy** for her kind note when it counted.) The daunting task of getting her arms around her new life, including winding down their winery business, actually gave her a focus. Anne was thankful that she knew all the logins and passwords!! Then along came COVID-19, the world locking down, and having to stay home for the next 18 months. She had a lot to think about all by herself. This is what Anne discovered: She missed Tim more than she could have imagined, but she feels his presence daily, which gives her comfort; grief has its own healing path, timeline, and purpose; everything is "figure-out-able"; she is stronger than she thought she was; her children are more wonderful than she already knew; and she is filled with gratitude daily. Once travel became a possibility again, Anne got back out in the world with a vengeance. She spent some magical time with friends in Alaska, the Greek islands, Barcelona, and

London on a couple of trans-Atlantic cruises, and touring the Rhone wine region. Next on the list for Anne is a cruise of the Norwegian fjords via Amsterdam with her daughter. More than ever, she looks forward to catching up in 2024 at our 45<sup>th</sup> class Reunion... which is right around the corner. Until then, Anne sends love to all in our class.

Sadly, we have lost one of our classmates **Lynn Susan "Sue" Solnoky Lichatowich** on March 19, 2022. Sue was a nursing major from South Bend. Her husband Mike predeceased her in 2001. Sue and I were close friends through college and after graduation. We attended the 1981 Sugar Bowl in New Orleans together when Notre Dame lost to Georgia, and it was always so nice to see her at Reunions. She will be missed.

Please continue to share your news as it is always good to hear from you. I hear from many classmates who tell me that they really enjoy reading *Courier* and learning about all the updates in our lives.

## 1982

### EXCELSIOR

**Mary Anne Mahoney Butler '82** was named Superintendent of Stonington, CT public schools in July.

## 1983

Sue Poss Harrison  
susanpharrison@gmail.com

One of the best things about writing this column is getting the emails with all of your news. The other best thing about writing this column is hearing how much all of you enjoy catching up with each other in this space. I hope that's an incentive for anyone who hasn't submitted news recently (or ever) to send something in. Three times a year I send an email asking for news. If you don't get my emails, send me your email address so I can add you to my mailing list. And to anyone who wants to send in news, please know that you don't have to wait for me to ask. You can all feel free to send me your news anytime.

To start off this issue I have some news of my own to share. My husband Brad and I had the pleasure of seeing some dear friends and classmates in Chicago at the end of July. We were at the wedding of **Mary Laue Iberle's** daughter Margot. Mary and her husband Jack

hosted a beautiful wedding in downtown Chicago. It was wonderful to get to catch up with Mary and Jack and their family, as well as with **Beth Ferstel Strotman** and her husband Bill (ND '81), and **Karin Fraboni Laue** and her husband Tom. And Mary and Jack's daughter **Jenna Iberle '13** was the maid of honor for her sister. The wedding weekend was great fun and seeing everybody was definitely a highlight of our summer.

**Melissa McLean DeBot** writes: "Excited to spend time in Italy this August with my freshman roommate **Monica Dornbach Munson** and our husbands. She is one of my favorite people!"

That's all the news for this issue. I'm looking forward to hearing from some of you for the next issue!

## 1987

Elisa Cullina O'Neill  
jandoneill@sbcglobal.net

It was wonderful to see so many classmates at Reunion! It truly was a joy to be back on campus again. As **Elizabeth Hughes Boice**, **Terri Kammerer Meyer**, and I drove down The Avenue, the years seemed to melt away as we laughed and pointed and wondered who else was already there.



Elisa Cullina O'Neill, Elizabeth Hughes Boice, and Mary Dilenschneider Condon.

Here is an excerpt from a post about Reunion that I wrote for the SMC Belles of '87 Facebook Group. "I noted several recurring themes throughout Reunion weekend. The first was how much deeper our feelings about Saint Mary's College and our classmates grow as time passes. The more we see in the world, the more we appreciate the time spent at our beloved alma mater with so many women who have remained in our lives all these years. Appreciation and gratitude reigned! The second theme was friendship. It is an incredible blessing to discover that our current friendships continue to develop and new friendships blossom during Reunion.

"And finally, the theme 'All Are Welcome' was not only said but demonstrated and experienced all weekend. Regardless of time spent together on campus back in the day, everyone welcomed fellow classmates with

open arms! For those who could not attend — you were missed! I'm sure everyone's name was uttered at some point over the weekend by a classmate eager to reconnect!"



Patti Ryan O'Meara, Nyice Prada Myers, Eileen Sullivan Taeyaerts, Terri Kammerer Meyer.

**Megan Martin Galgano** feels too young to be a grandparent but she has three grandkids aged 4 and under who, thankfully, live only 10 minutes away. After roughly 20 years as a Catholic school teacher, Megan has retired to babysit and travel. She does continue her work as a CASA (court appointed special advocate) for foster kids. She and her husband Jeff of 32 years love Colorado but head back to the Chicago area to visit family a few times a year. There is also frequent travel to the East Coast to visit their other two children. Between the family visits, they add in travel to new places as much as possible. Megan is an avid reader, thanks to her English professors at SMC, so she is excited to see the book recommendations on the SMC Belles of '87 Facebook page.

**Patricia Herr Melei** recently retired after teaching for 34 years. She taught sophomore honors, sophomore communications, and all levels of creative writing.

**Diane Cancro** shared that she has ventured back into aiding the country of her Peace Corps service, Ukraine (1992-1994). With the help of an on-the-ground coordinator and many donors, she is making weekly food distributions to vulnerable people in remote villages. She is also providing medical supplies including materials made into 3,000 tourniquets. After 22 years in real estate, Diane is again a full-time student. She has shifted her attention to the healing arts as she studies myomassology and energy healing. This incredible work makes her feel closer to God. Diane's daughter Grace has flown the nest to college and can be seen doing improv comedy.

**Kathy Knych Dapper** now has three grandchildren and two nieces who are current students at Saint Mary's, Monica Joan Ugo and Maria Kathryn Ugo. Kathy, we saw your delightful daughters **Katelyn Dapper Dressing '12** and **Sarah Dapper Cobb '15** at Reunion, where they were telling everyone with a 1987 on their name tags that you said hello.

**Anna Gaffney Conway** reports that her daughter got married in October. Anna still works at Anthropologie.

**Elizabeth Hughes Boice** has been busy doing the college search circuit with her second son Zachary, who will be a high school senior this fall. She remarked that it seems like she was just doing this with his older brother Owen, but that was already four years ago! She says, "I'm still working my tech writing job in the educational software field for 27 years now and also enjoying my 'hobby' learning about medicinal uses of herbs and making natural herbal body care products including lotions and lip balm."

**Margaret Calacci** writes, "I am so grateful to see so many friends at Reunion! As co-chair of the class gift committee, I want to thank you all for sharing your time and treasure. Our class had our largest showing yet! On a personal note, I was a bit jet lagged from an amazing trip to Egypt with my sister Maureen the two weeks before. This trip is part of my PhD coursework in global leadership and change at Pepperdine. Coming out of the pandemic and not quite ready to retire, I began this journey last fall. At the intersection of many passions (education, nursing, organization leadership, and psychology), this program has certainly challenged me to get out of my bubble. Thank goodness for the "W" at Saint Mary's because writing long papers is not a problem. Meanwhile, I continue to drive nursing education through simulation at Arizona State, where I have led the center since 2016. I also share my experience consulting for the National League for Nursing in simulation education. As the pandemic showed, the need for well-rounded nurses with imagination and critical thinking are needed now more than ever. I am excited to see how the new nursing program at SMC evolves."



Many of our nurses checking out the new set-up for current nursing students.

**Margaret (Peggy) Prosser Brown** shares, "I had a wonderful Reunion weekend catching up with everyone in June! As for our family, my husband Dave left the University of Louisville in June of 2021 after 26 years to become dean of the Ogden College of Science and Engineering at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. Our oldest daughter is a staff writer and photographer for *Leo Magazine*;



our middle daughter is taking a semester off from U of Louisville to do the Disney College Program at Walt Disney World; and our son is a senior in high school and starting the college application process. I am going into year 24 as a middle school teacher with Jefferson County Public Schools, and trying to decide my next steps when I move to Bowling Green at the end of this school year."

**Regina Lynch** sent the following information she received from fellow classmates: **Lisa Butler McCormick** is working as a nurse paralegal, living in Wilmette, IL. She will be celebrating her 28<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with her husband Mark. She is a happy mom of three almost-grown kids (ages 25, 21, and 16).

**Karen Thompson Mahnke** lives in Gurnee, IL and just celebrated her 31<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary. She is the proud mom of two adult children (ages 23 and 25). She was recently promoted to VP of operations and chief nurse executive at Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital.

**Tara Styslinger** is working as a clinical social worker and program manager at a neuro rehab program. She is living in Houston, TX and enjoying her two children Will, 22, and Claire, 20, being in college.

**Mary Ann Lynch Quinn** is the physics department manager at DePaul University. She is living in Chicago with her husband Tim and preparing to live life as an empty nester. She is the mother of Eilish, 24, Patrick, 22, and Kasim, 20.

As for Regina, she is living in Mount Prospect, IL and enjoys working as a nurse case manager. Her current interest is saving the monarch butterflies. Thanks, Regina, for reaching out to your friends and getting some updates!!

As for me, Elisa, my husband and I are celebrating our 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary this weekend. Our adult kids continue to shine bright in our eyes as they establish their careers and work to create positive change around them.

You are all invited to join the Belles of SMC '87 Facebook page. We'd love to see you there. Mark your calendars for the first weekend in June of 2027!

## 1988



EXCELSIOR

**Pamela E. Bethel-LeDuff '88** was appointed Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary at The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

## 1989

**Karen E. Crespy**  
kcrespy@yahoo.com

As I write this, the country is in the midst of a heatwave; as you read it, we are facing winter! 2022 has been filled with travels, celebrations, loss, and adventures.

Classmates are on the move! **Rose Pietrzak Carter** and her husband Stewart left State College, PA and relocated to Blacksburg, VA, where Stewart is the director of football equipment at Virginia Tech University. **Kathy Conte Prokopius** and her husband Mark (ND '90) have officially relocated from South Bend back to Virginia Beach, VA where Mark's new post-Navy retirement job is located.

Chicago was a popular travel destination! An April weekend found **Kelly Glavin Zeh** and her husband Jay (ND '89) in Chicago... and so was **Penny Falaschetti Dolan!** The roommates enjoyed lunch, drinks, shopping, and lots of talking and catching up. No doubt they compared notes as they both had weddings to plan for their daughters.



Penny Falaschetti Dolan (left) and Kelly Glavin Zeh in Chicago.

On a summer trip to Chicago to see her parents, **Michelle Matthews McBride** was able to spend time with **Jackie Benchik-Osborne**. From airport pick-up to a wonderful lunch and hours of catching up, they had a lovely day. Michelle's daughter Kelly is a 2022 graduate of The George Washington University Law School. Michelle has started publishing and regularly contributes health-related articles to *Healthgrades* in addition to her job as a psychiatric nurse practitioner.

**Theresa Kress Marks'** parents have moved to Chicago to be closer to her brothers and she looks forward to venturing from Hawaii to spend more time with them, and hopes to get back to Saint Mary's campus, too. Theresa is a life coach and enjoys connecting with teens and young adults. She has also written a book to help young parents with kids going through the terrible 2s (and 3s) that is available on Amazon (for Kindle) called *The Star Chart: Empowering Children to Develop Better Behavior Through Mindfulness and Self-Discipline*.

**Kellen Brugman** is an ayurveda lifestyle consultant, holistic wellness coach, and inspiration speaker for corporations, individuals, and communities, and lives in Petoskey, MI (kellenbrugman.com). She enjoys her amazing lifelong Belle friendships, most recently catching up with **Kelly Garvey Sheets**. And, in June, she survived her house getting skunked. Hang in there, Kellen!

Late April took **Karen Crespy** to Chicago for a charity skating event and allowed her to spend the week working remotely and to visit with **Katy Burns**. Karen and Katy then flew to Maryland for the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival weekend and they toured the Mormon Temple, which was allowing visitors for the first time in nearly 50 years.

In July, **Elizabeth Wrobel Falco's** home in Libertyville, IL was the location for a Saint Mary's "round up." The guest of honor was

**Lisa Waldvogel '88**, who was in town from Longview, WA, where she practices law with the Northwest Justice Project. Lisa continues to be the life of the party and brought tremendous energy to the gathering. **Kathleen Moran '88** was the host for Lisa's Chicago stay and they explored the Art Institute of Chicago's Cezanne exhibit. Kathleen had just returned from a family reunion trip in Vermont and was gearing up for her daughter's high school start. She is a dedicated special education teacher and was working to move to a school on Chicago's north side. **Mary Luehrs Masel '88** continues to practice occupational therapy at Condell Hospital in Libertyville. She spent spring break touring many universities with her daughter Caroline, including Notre Dame, in preparation for college decision day in 2023. After 18 years at Northwestern University/ Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago focusing on molecular mechanisms for neuromuscular and neurodegenerative disorders, animal modeling, and therapeutic development, **Christine Jean DiDonato '88** and her husband Paul moved back to Akron, OH. NIH.gov is now lucky to have her on staff as scientific review officer in the Division of

Neuroscience, Development, and Aging. The group missed seeing **Lisa Ting Yee '88** at their gathering and hope she can make the next "round up." The Falco household had a busy year with hockey and lacrosse. They are enjoying the high school years. Elizabeth remains a busy, self-employed information technology/ecommerce consultant of over 15 years. She is getting into pilates as her new fountain of youth. In June, she enjoyed a visit from **Anne Borgman '88**, who had just started a position in marketing at Marriott. They took a long walk to catch up on all the family happenings and updates on Anne's children Julia and Sebastian.

College visits were also on the agenda for **Maureen Richards Cones**. Her son Mark is a high school senior and they have had fun exploring many colleges over the past year, including Notre Dame. She hoped to return to Notre Dame in the fall with her family. In July, Maureen was excited to start her new role as EVP, chief legal and policy officer for the American Urological Association.

**Jill Tomko Caffarelli** and her husband Rich (ND '89) shared the happy news that their son John (ND '20) married Ally Rudd (ND '20, '22)

on July 15 at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame.

On June 7, **Tammy Suth Crowe** and her husband Tom were blessed with their first grandchild George Jeffrey Vens born to their eldest daughter Chelsey Crowe Vens and her husband Cameron who live in Boston. Baby George was born on Tammy's father's birthday, which made the arrival extra special as her father Michael Suth passed away unexpectedly on November 15, 2021. On October 7, Tammy and Tom celebrated the marriage of the youngest of their four daughters Madeline to Andrew McAteer in Newport, RI. The couple also resides in Boston.

As some of you are aware, we lost our classmate **Michelle Barron Drolshagen** on January 13, 2022. Michelle and her husband Todd lived in Davidson, NC, where Michelle was the director of human resources for Velocity Automotive. Please keep Michelle, her husband, family, and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

NOTE: Please update your email address, mailing address, phone number with Saint Mary's or through your class reporter. Keep in touch!



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## 1990

Colleen Mooney McGee  
cmooneymcgee@aol.com

The pandemic saw the Class of 1990 miss our 30<sup>th</sup> Reunion in 2020, but it did not stop lives from continuing to move forward — graduations, job changes, relocations, engagements, weddings, and everyday life continued on. Social media, FaceTime, and Zoom allowed many of us to keep in touch. Several classmates stopped by campus in June for Reunion weekend and were able to hear from Alumnae Association Board of Directors President and classmate **Eileen Gallagher Loranger**.

In the spirit of social media updates, I'll be borrowing some information from posts, as well as some updates shared by a few of you through email.

I returned to campus in July to take my daughters to some of the great camps run by the College. It was the first time I had been back to campus since our last Reunion, and it was good to be "home." While there, I stopped by the memorial benches of classmates **Jennifer Herzog Clark** and **Sue O'Connor** — Sue's bench was newly installed at Haggard as a gift from her family to the College.

Several classmates have, or had, daughters at Saint Mary's in recent years — **Anita Knebel Douglas**, **Deanne Isabelle Paul**, and **Linda Enright Riva**, to name a few. Deanne and daughter **Elyse Marie Paul '20** were a mother-daughter legacy feature in an article written by Elyse in the most recent issue of *Courier*.

**Debbie Weltin Katzbeck**, husband Kevin, and sons Ben and Zach are relocating to Florida with a job change for Debbie. Ben was already a student and swim team member at Lynn University, so now the entire family will be enjoying the sunshine state year-round.

**Sarah Hughes Smith** and husband Dan are empty nesters after their youngest Maddie moved to Boston to start her first job. Their son Tim lives out west enjoying the outdoors as a regional coordinator for a wilderness adventure company, and oldest daughter Kerry also lives in Boston. Sarah will be kept busy until April 2023, preparing for Kerry's wedding to fiancé Pat.

**Barbie Jeffers Prusak** and husband Steve Prusak live in Texas, but have had some exciting travel adventures this spring and summer, both nationally and internationally.

**Jen Retoske Keller** shared an update about her family: "My daughter **Anna D. Keller '22** graduated from SMC in May with a degree in English writing. In her senior year, Anna was

asked to compose and read an original poem for President Conboy's inauguration. I was able to visit with **Beth Kavanaugh Terrell '89** and her family before the graduation ceremony, as they celebrated the graduation of daughter **Veronica Brazziel Terrell '22**. In June I traveled to Chicago and spent time with **Colleen Murray McGuigan** and **Ursula Garzia Guyer**. We visited Ursula's beautiful home, and had many meals and outings filled with fun and laughter. I am returning to South Bend in August to move my son John into Holy Cross College, and will visit again in October for the Stanford game. I am returning to Sunset Middle School in Brentwood, TN as a seventh and eighth grade social studies teacher, with my youngest Megan starting high school. I appreciate and enjoy my frequent returns to campus, and if you haven't been back in a while, I strongly recommend it."

**Lynn Van Herset Hemans** also writes with an update: "My (youngest) daughter Samantha Hemans represented the US in the 2022 Youth Match Racing World Championship in France. They won! This team also won the Rose Cup last year so they have both a US gold and world gold medal in match racing (sailing). Sam is currently in Hungary training with US for the i420 Worlds starting August 5. She will skipper this event and return for her senior in high school. My oldest daughter Gray just competed her freshman year at Dartmouth and earned an all-American honorable mention as a women's skipper. She has the privilege to represent Dartmouth as the A skipper in the ICSCA Women's Dinghy National Championship."

It is great to see (albeit in social media) — and hear from — all of you! Please keep those updates coming,

## 1991

Lisa Kosty Dincolo  
smcbelles91@gmail.com

Greetings from Chicago! Not much to report from my end, but I had a visit from Shug aka **Amelia Savelle Bartilotti '93** recently. She was in town for a work conference, but stayed over a few more days to hang to visit with us, as well as **Maureen Nicknish Goldin**. Lots of laughs per usual, as we poured over dress ideas! Her daughter Shelby (ND '16) will be getting married shortly in Virginia. Congrats to the family, I can't wait to be there!

Keep us all posted on whatever is happening in your life! Reach out to me on Facebook or at smcbelles91@gmail.com.

## 1993



EXCELSIOR

**Marguerite Schropp Lucarelli '93**,  
photography editor for *Sports Illustrated*, designed the cover for the June 2022 issue celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Title IX.

From the *Courier* Office

From **Erin Ryan Savage**: I'm writing to share a fun story with you.

In February of 2022, I flew to Grand Junction, CO from my home in the suburbs of Chicago. I was visiting an elderly woman, Marj, and her son John. We had been neighbors in Davenport, IA for a few years when I was very young and we've kept in touch. While I was visiting, I attended morning Mass with Marj. One morning, we joined about 10 of her friends after morning Mass for breakfast.

While I was becoming acquainted with her friends, I mentioned that I graduated from Saint Mary's College. One woman asked me if it was the Saint Mary's College in South Bend. Turns out, she also graduated from Saint Mary's. I was floored.

This woman went on to explain that she worked at the school while attending college. She was part of a special program for students who couldn't afford the tuition. Women in her program didn't live in the dorms with the fulltime students. They lived in separate quarters and it took them longer (maybe five years) to graduate. I believe she is 90 years old.

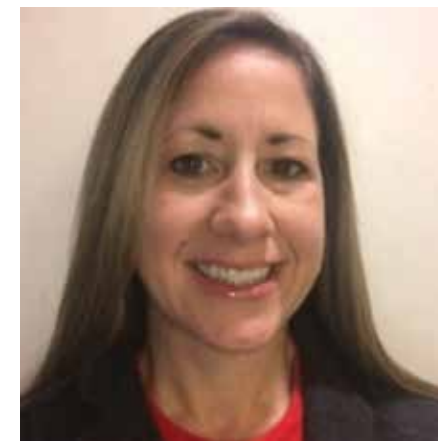
Her name is **Justine Tharp Tilger '54**, but during her college years she went by Jo Anne. I believe she is originally from the East Coast, maybe near Boston.



Surprise encounter with Justine Tharp Tilger '54 and Erin Ryan Savage '93.

I was pleasantly surprised to meet a fellow alumna in such a small group and so far from South Bend.

## 2001



EXCELSIOR

**Kimberly Hansen Petrina '01**, former head of North American Casualty Claims at a global specialty insurance company, was introduced as Cozen O'Connor's newest member of its fast-growing Global Insurance Department.

## 2003

Amanda Sula Goman  
amanda.goman@gmail.com



I look forward to seeing many of you at the 20-year Reunion!

**Laura Porto Atkins** and her family are back to civilian life after 16 years of service. She is now in Colorado near her mom's side of the family. Laura is grateful for all the Belles who have been there for her through medical mishaps, surgeries, parenting, and laughs. She is thankful for the sisterhood from this community.

## 2004

From the *Courier* Office

**Mary Campe Reyes** and her husband Jorge welcomed their second daughter Eleanor Ann on April 27, 2021, and her sister Shay has been proud to wear the big sister crown ever since. They still live in Chicago and are excited to bring Ellie to her first SMC visit this fall.

## 2005

Jackie Cuisiner Torres  
jacquelinecuisinier@gmail.com

Hi! I didn't receive any updates this quarter so I will provide my own along with those with whom I have some personal knowledge. My family and I are in Barrington, which is northwest of Chicago. I am lucky to be neighbors with **Laura Kaminsky Ocheltree '10**, who met my sister Margaret on the SMC Rome program years ago. I left my school district after the pandemic in order to spend more time with our children Julianna and Colin, to work as a remote school psychologist for a district in western Nebraska. I have a group of local Illinois school psychs here who have formalized to work on advocacy efforts within the field. We were excited to present at NASP this past February in Boston. I will additionally work one day a week for a transition program associated with Stevenson High School in Buffalo Grove.

I keep in touch mostly with **Meghan Molyneaux Hargrave**, who runs a successful international educational consulting company. I had brunch a few weeks ago with **Liz Mulherin Nedza**, who teaches at a gifted program in Indianapolis. She and I used to be roommates above Nookies in Old Town along with **Sarah Catherine White Rossmann** back in our 20s.

I was remiss to have not been able to attend a small annual SMC event this summer, which is always so nicely coordinated by **Lindsay Greene Gayle**. It's been a minute since I've been able to catch up with everyone due to the pandemic, but I know Lindsay has been busy with her boys and also running her business. Lindsay has been in private practice as a licensed mental health therapist specializing in children and families since 2014. She is currently expanding into a larger space and will begin offering groups, workshops, and consultations. She has also been working on slowly building an online presence as the "childtherapistmama" on Instagram and Facebook. She hopes to also build an email list and continue expanding online as well.

I also keep up with **Tori Spiering Hagerty**. Tori teaches several AP classes at a high school in Chicagoland area. She has also published *Because the Medicine Ran Out* (available on Amazon). This book is about the perspectives she gained regarding third world countries and their access to health care. Currently, Tori is publishing a book called *Chasing Time*. These are stories from the World War II generation. It will be published on Veterans Day 2022. Like many others, Tori somehow manages all of this while caring for her several children.

**Denae Christine Friedheim** had a baby girl Finley Isra born on April 6, 2022. Joseph Friedheim died on April 15, 2022, brother of **Jeanette Friedheim Burdell '87**, **Cindy Friedheim Fey '88**, and **Denae Christine Friedheim**. Margaret Friedheim died on August 9, 2022, mother of the three alumnae listed above.

If you have *Courier* updates, please email me at jacquelinecuisinier@gmail.com.

## 2008

Beth McKevitt Knollman  
beth.mckevitt@gmail.com



Lots of exciting news from our 2008 Belles!

Congratulations to **Nikki Modarelli Powell**, who was appointed July 2022 by the Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh as the principal of Oakland Catholic High School, the largest all-girl Catholic high school in western Pennsylvania.

**Cara Grabowski** married Jake Brown on July 23, 2022, at Holy Spirit Chapel in Le Mans Hall. In attendance were **Lauren Goodwin**, **Meghan McEvoy-Hein Lalic**, **Caitlin Stevenson Nemeth '09**, and **Anneliese Woolford '04**. Cara shared that they had



perfect weather to enjoy cocktail hour on the island, and the reception was in Reignbeaux Lounge, which is now a year-round event space.

**Megan Boyle Glancy** and her husband Collin are excited to formally announce the birth of their son Caden Patrick, who was born November 2019 and now he is a big brother! Nora Elizabeth Glancy was born on June 2, 2022. Megan shared that they are enjoying life in Lincoln Park as a family of four!

**Rebecca Rosswurm Nania** and her husband Tom moved to Long Island in October 2021 after accepting positions at D'Addario to engineer and enhance premium orchestral and guitar strings. But even more exciting news, they welcomed their firstborn, a baby boy, Leland "Lee" Theodore Nania to the world on May 28, 2022. Becca reports that life with baby is magical.

**Darcy Cronin Thomas** and her husband Steve welcomed their fourth child Genevieve Veronica on February 28, 2022. Her older siblings (John, Danny, and Adeline) are big helpers and loving their new little sister.

**Rachel Boury Baxter** and her husband James welcomed their third child James Michael Baxter on March 25, 2022. Rachel also shared that she published a book of poetry titled *Mother Scorpion* that is available on Amazon.com.



**Kelly Haggerty O'Hara** and her husband Jim welcomed a baby girl Grace Ann O'Hara into their family on August 13, 2021. Grace and her big sister Eleanor look forward to being Belles in the future!

**Erin Hartman Bean** and her husband Jonathan Bean recently built a home in Clarendon Hills, IL. Erin is taking some time off as an acute care nurse practitioner at Northwestern Memorial Hospital's Medical ICU to raise their four children — Matthew, 5, Alex, 4, Emma, 2, and Michael, who was born on December 21, 2021.

**Ann Mason Kiley** started a new job with the University of Notre Dame Law School in January 2020 working with the Student Services team. Also, Ann and her husband Robby Kiley (ND '08) welcomed their second baby boy Owen Thomas to the family on July 24, 2020. Charlie, 5, is enjoying his role as big brother!

**Jessica Brinker Foster** was selected as an Irish Echo 40 under 40 Irish American honoree and the Women's Empowerment award winner in February 2022. Congratulations, Jessica!

**Monica Mastracco Dolenc** and her husband Paul welcomed their second daughter Vera Helena on May 29, 2021. Big sister Stella was just as thrilled with the family's new addition. Monica also graduated in May 2022 from Walsh University with her Master of Business Administration (MBA) specializing in executive management. Finally, Monica was also elected as secretary of the board in January 2021 and appointed director of public relations in May 2022 for the Rhoda Wise Shrine, Inc. in Canton, OH, which oversees the cause for canonization of Servant of God Rhoda Wise.

**Honore Kathryn O'Brien Hyland** moved to Chevy Chase, MD with her husband and children from Washington, DC in fall 2021. Honore welcomed her third child John Beckett on September 5, 2020. Carys Louise, the fourth Hyland baby, was born on May 1, 2022. Beckett and Carys have two wonderful older siblings named Killian and Neve.

Congratulations to **Lesley Weaver Garavalia**, who received her doctorate in health services

research from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities last August 2021. Lesley and her husband Joe Garavalia also welcomed their first child Ethan David on December 18, 2021. He weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. and was 20.5 in. long.

**Lauren Vokata Beckmann** and her husband Zach welcomed a baby boy on April 20, 2021 named Graham Theodore Beckmann. He weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20.5 in.

**Megan Welsch Cummings** and Timothy Cummings (ND '09) welcomed their second son Edward Timothy on May 6, 2021. The Cummings hosted joint mid-pandemic baptisms for both Edward and their older son Donovan Joseph. **Beth McKeivitt Knollman** was overjoyed and honored to serve as Donovan's godmother. The Cummings were thrilled to move back to DC in summer 2022. Megan, a certified nurse anesthetist, recently launched District Beautox, a mobile-based business offering xeomin injections. Her Opus 207 roommates have already asked her to give them Botox injections Reunion weekend.

Finally, we hope to see all of you at our 15(!)-year Reunion June 1–4, 2023.

## 2009

**Katie Kohler Dalhoff**  
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**Liz Ann Harter**  
eharte01@gmail.com

The Class of 2009 has had a busy 2022, with a lot to share this holiday season!

**Lisa Anderson Herpy** and her children published a children's book. The book is titled *Brother and Sister: Summer Adventures* and can be found on Amazon. Lisa has three children Mia, Diana, and Jonathan and when she isn't co-authoring children's books, she works as an attorney in Chicago.



Lisa Anderson Herpy's children with their children's book.

**Allison Rider Dzingle** and her husband Jeremy welcomed Wyatt Blaise on June 1.

Wyatt has an older brother Maverick and they recently moved into a new house in Michigan.

**Meghan Larsen-Reidy** and her husband Tim welcomed Gabriel Joseph on July 11. He joins older siblings Ruth, Sam, and Simon. **Erin McClowry Puzella** and her husband Matthew welcomed their second child on April 27. Her name is Camila and she joins older brother Luca. **Molly Carroll** had another baby boy Liam Michael on June 27.

**Sarah Davenport Balkovek** and her husband welcomed their fifth daughter Madeline Elizabeth in February. Older sisters Cora, Agnes, Colette, and Matilda are happy to have another little sister. Sarah also recently started working at Moorhead Patterson and Company and will be sitting for her CPA exam soon. Best of luck!

**Katie Putz De Vry**, who lives in Oregon, went to Washington, DC this spring for her grandparents' burial services at Arlington National Cemetery. She ran into a 2020 Belle — so great to see Belles connect from coast to coast!

**Bianna Collins Little** joined the Home and School Association at her children's school as vice president and also sits on the board of directors for the new Mishawaka Historical Museum, opening soon.

We love hearing about all of your professional updates and growing families. Please continue to connect with us whenever you can and have a blessed Christmas season.

## 2010

**Michelle Alyse Giannola**  
SaintMarysCollege2010@gmail.com

Hi Belles! I hope the summer months were filled with sunshine and memories, and I hope the fall is bringing you pumpkin spiced lattes and cooler nights!

**Jordan Lynwood Sabourin** and husband Jason welcomed the birth of their daughter Georgiana Marie Sabourin on September 9, 2021. Big brother August was excited at the arrival of his "Gigi." The Sabourin family also recently relocated from Atlanta to DeWitt, MI to be closer to Jordan's family.

**Ellen Pfister Gries** and husband Michael welcomed James Gries on February 28, 2022. He has a big brother Matthew, 4, and sister Annie, 2. His godmother is **Laura Kaminsky Ocheltree**. Ellen and company currently reside in Orange County.

In August 2022, **Laura Elizabeth Morris** married Jamie O'Brien (ND '12).

**Lauren Kowalkowski** married Nick Podsiadlik on May 29, 2022. They have been

together since the summer after graduating from Saint Mary's in 2010. SMC alumnae in attendance for the big day included **Ashley Peterson, Jenny Hellyer Pittman, Kate McKenna Kottwitz, and Krista Jones Dettlaiff**, who celebrated with her all throughout the wedding season!

Until next time, and until then, email me your life updates!

## 2011

**Christina Kolling Carlson**  
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cmkolling@gmail.com

Hello 2011 Belles,

Congratulations to everyone below on your exciting news. As always, if you ever have any news you want to submit please feel free to contact me anytime.

**Christine Gallic Cherami** and her husband Nicholas had their third baby Eloise Mary on February 26, 2022. Eloise Mary was welcomed home by big sister Madeline and big brother Charlie. They are living in Madison, NJ.

**Beth Brown Caulfield** married Kary Yergler (ND '11) on May 7, 2022, in Dallas, TX, where they currently live. **Kristin Steel Hart** and **Rachel Roszka** were bridesmaids.

**Sara Crandall Fanger** and her husband Mike welcomed their second child Theodore "Teddy" Vincent on May 24, 2022. George is loving his new title as big brother and having an all-time friend live at the house.

**Lina Birute Jarasius** and her husband Ryan Costello welcomed the birth of their baby boy Aras Petras Costello on June 19, 2022. Aras weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz. and he was 19.5 in. long. They are living in Portland, OR.

**Hayley Bojorquez Estrada** and her husband Matthew welcomed their first baby Ivy Marilyn Estrada, who joined their family on June 26, 2022. She weighed 9 lbs. 4 oz. and was 22.5 in. long. Two weeks after giving birth, Hayley was offered a job in a new school district (Simi Valley Unified, Santa Susana High School) in college and career counseling.

## 2012

**Kate Kirbie Dubinski**  
SMCclass2012@gmail.com

I hope these announcements find you in good health and enjoying the end of another year. Our class had plenty of events to share:

# Saint Mary's DNP program ranked TOP 5 in the US!

In 2022, Nursing Schools Almanac named the Saint Mary's nursing program in the top four nursing schools in Indiana and now the DNP program is top 5 nationwide!

The DNP program has tracks in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG-ACNP) and Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP); and more in development.

The application is currently open for Fall 2023 through NursingCAS. Contact Graduate Admissions to find out more about this program and the easy application process for former and current students!

contact us today!  
(574) 284-5098  
graduateadmission@saintmarys.edu





On Saturday, May 28, **Ellen Niemiec** married Sostenes George Sanchez in their home parish Our Lady of Angels in Cleveland, OH. Fellow Belles **Kayla Valenti** and **Laura Ruiz** were bridesmaids and **Alison Beatty** and **Erin Chastain** were also in attendance.

**Alexandra Broderick Hartsell** and her husband Casey welcomed their daughter Charlotte Marianna on December 22, 2021.

**Karen Hanley Whalen** and Scott Whalen (ND '11) welcomed the birth of a baby boy Connor Bernard, on March 14, 2022. **Kate Kirbie Dubinski** and her husband Brian Dubinski welcomed the birth of their son Benjamin Thomas on April 4.

**Courtney Dahms Kopp** and her husband Matthew Kopp welcomed their second baby boy Hudson Matthew in April. **Maggie DePaola Kutch** and her husband Tom welcomed their first child Emilia (Emmy) Rose, weighing 9 lbs. 12 oz. and 22 in. long. They're looking forward to a Belle in the future class of 2044! **Lauren Flocken Ahmad** and her husband Hazim welcomed their daughter Aly Rose on April 21. They also recently moved from Chicago to New Jersey.

**Peggy Dobihal Torbert** and her husband Charlie Torbert (ND '12) were blessed with a baby girl on May 21. Her name is Emmeline May. On May 27, **Keelin McGee** and her husband Neil Ryan welcomed their daughter Clodagh Lily. The family currently lives in Silver Spring, MD.

**Lindsey Blankenberger Suriano** and her husband Zac (ND '12), along with children Madeleine and Jackson, welcomed Andrew Anthony to the family on May 29. The family recently moved to Bowling Green, KY. On July 9, **Julia Humphrey Everett**, her husband Thomas Everett (ND '12), and their three children welcomed the birth of Arthur Francis.

**Alessandra Stamper** began a new job at FireClay Tile as a residential design consultant in September 2021. We were saddened to hear of her father's passing from cancer on January 5, 2022. Additionally, **Hilary Ferguson Crist** shared the loss of her father Richard Ferguson (ND '73) on October 25, 2021. She wrote, "He will forever live on at Notre Dame, his alma mater, and I know he is supporting all of his favorite Belles from afar."

**Katie Nash Greenspon** is completing her second year of her MBA program at the University of California Irvine. **Kristin Hepburn Sharp** graduated from Family Medicine Residency (Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka, IN) in June and started as a family medicine physician at South Bend Clinic. **Fatima Farfan** moved from California to Wichita, KS in October 2021 for a med-surg nursing job in Newton, KS.

**Emily Schmitt Baroz** won the Episcopal Actors' Guild's 2022 Open Stage Grant for her musical *The Inconvenient Miracle: A Mysterious Birth Musical*. The musical was presented at EAG from August 11–27.

**Katie Fisher**, "iKatie B Funk!," moved to Las Vegas, NV in August 2022 to begin her post master of art at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. This coincides with a graduate assistantship that she will hold during the three-year program. Katie also won Best in Show at the Ohio Arts Council 2021 Biennial Juried Exhibition.

## 2013

Silvia Melissa Cuevas  
smcclassnews2013@gmail.com

Hello '13 Belles,

First, a very important health update and message from **Caroline Ryan Holenstein** and **Maria Mathew Thuruthiyil**. They were both diagnosed with breast cancer in 2021. Happy to report both Belles are now cancer free. They'd like to remind everyone to do their monthly self-breast exams!

In wedding news, **Elizabeth Majewski** married Tyler Kameh on June 18, 2022, in Northern Virginia.

**Elizabeth Villafuerte Matthews** married Ryan Matthews in Indianapolis on August 20. **Rebekah Kohn Dettmann** was a bridesmaid and **Allison Sherman Schwerdtfeger**, **Maggie Becker Figgins**, and **Kasey Coonan Kenealy** were in attendance. Liz completed her pediatrics residency in Chicago and is now an outpatient pediatrician with Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis, IN.

**Joy Viceroy Geraghty** married Kevin Geraghty on July 7, 2022, at Clonard Church of the Annunciation in Wexford, Ireland. Classmates in attendance were **Angie Schott Gocúr** (MOH) and **Ashley Stopczynski**. Also in attendance was the bride's niece **Emme Licygiewicz '22**. The couple reside in the groom's hometown of Chapelzod, Dublin, Ireland.

**Ellie Watson Ziegler** married Drew Ziegler on June 11, 2022, in Oswego, IL.

Congratulations to you all and may marriage bliss last you a lifetime! Last, but not least, babies!

**Kasey Coonan Kenealy** and her husband Thom welcomed their second son Finnegan Patrick on St. Patrick's Day.

**Bridgett Fey LaBella** and her husband welcomed their daughter Clara Ruth on May 22, 2022.

**Taylor Hans Rahnvard** and her husband welcomed their second daughter Isla Maryam on March 17, 2022.

**Caroline Keep Landry** welcomed Olivia James Landry in January 2022. Big sister Josephine (Josie) was born in September 2020. Caroline and her family reside in Milford, MI.

**Kari McClowry Kraft** and her husband welcomed their daughter Bailey Louise on June 8, 2022.

**Michelle Nowinski Grojean** and her family welcome their son Thomas Francis Grojean IV on July 11, 2022. Big sister Ivy is loving her new role!

May God continue to bless your families with these sweet angels!

If you have any life updates you would like to see in *Courier*, please email smcclassnews2013@gmail.com.

## 2014

Galicia Chantal Guerrero  
Kathleen Sullivan Kinasz  
belles2014news@gmail.com

Dear 2014 Belles,

We hope 2022 has been a wonderful and fulfilling year for you. We are happy to share the below news from our classmates.

We had a few more wedding Belles ringing for our class! **Tiffany Amo Chamness** got married on June 11, 2022. **Arianna Bonomi** also recently got married on June 25, 2022, at Saint Mary's in the Holy Spirit Chapel to Nicholas Lloyd. Congratulations, Tiffany and Arianna. Enjoy this next chapter!

As always, we are excited to share news of growing families. **Jessica Biek Christodoulides** had her first baby Juliana Mae Christodoulides on November 25, 2021. Jessica shares: "We are so grateful for our little Thanksgiving baby, and she is a future Belle through and through!" **Grace Connolly Powers** also welcomed a new daughter into her family on December 5, 2021. Her name is Bernice Elizabeth but she goes by Neece. Congratulations, Grace and Jessica; we hope that Juliana and Neece will follow in your footsteps in the Saint Mary's class of 2044 (same Reunion cycle, too!).

We are thrilled for all of our classmates who have recently moved and started new jobs as well. **Samantha Marley Favorite** recently moved to Norfolk, VA and started a career as an autism clinical care analyst with Health Net Federal Services. **Allie Zahm Ramsay** graduated with a master of arts in counseling from Adler University Chicago Campus in October 2021 and is now working as a licensed clinical mental health counselor associate at a group practice in Asheville, NC. We are so lucky to have you both in such important fields, Sam and Allie! In April 2022, **Jillian Fata** graduated from a 200-hour yoga teacher training and became a registered yoga teacher with Yoga Alliance. Next month, Jill will continue her training by completing a 25-hour yin yoga teacher training. She is based in New York and teaches in person at The Bhakti Center and also teaches virtual classes and can teach private classes, too, for anyone who is interested!

Sending love and prayers to you all as you close out 2022. May this next year be filled with many more celebrations and exciting next chapters.

## 2015

Nicole Elizabeth O'Toole  
nicoleotoole128@gmail.com

Dear Class of 2015,

I can't believe 2022 is nearly over! What an exciting year it has been.

**Andrea Swift Doherty** and her husband Matt Doherty (ND '15, NDLS '18) welcomed their daughter Lisa Rosina Doherty on April 11, 2022. Congratulations to the Dohertys!

**Alexandria Boyer Cornwell** and her husband Nathan Cornwell welcomed their son Graham Evans Cornwell into the world on July 11, 2022. Congrats to the Cornwells!

Here's to creating more wonderful memories in 2023. Don't forget to send me your personal and professional life updates to: nicoleotoole128@gmail.com. Wishing you all a happy and healthy holiday season!

## 2016

Jennifer Anne Vosters  
smc16news@gmail.com

Baby Belles! **Victoria Otteson Savidge** and Thomas Savidge welcomed their daughter Katherine Rosemarie Savidge on Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022, weighing 6 lbs. 9 oz. Congratulations on your growing family!

Wedding Belles! **Madeline Zuniga Robertson** married Sean Robertson in October 2021 in Atlanta, GA. Among the Saint Mary's women present were **Jana Zuniga Pingel**, **Samantha Grady Pietrasiuk '15**, **Jayna Stechschulte Tran '15**, **Elizabeth Kenney '15**, **Melanie Kuczek Higgins '15**, **Brooke Fowler '15**, **Andree Louvierre**, **Deirdre O'Leary**, **Adrienne Huschke**, **Kristina Miller Barga**, and **Bridget Kenney '21**. Best wishes on the start of your life together, Madeline and Sean!

Don't forget to share your news, Class of 2016! Send your news about weddings, babies, graduations, new jobs, new cities, awards/achievements, Belles reunions, etc., to Jennifer at smc16news@gmail.com.

## 2017

Kate FitzMaurice  
Kfitzm01@saintmarys.edu

Cheers to another year, Class of 2017!

And what a year it's been! I got to connect with many of you at Reunion last summer (can you believe it's been five years?!) and always love hearing all the amazing things us Belles are up to. Here are a few of our latest class updates:

**Gaby Marie Jansen** married Justin Knight on June 18 at Holy Spirit Chapel in Le Mans Hall. **Bethany Zeiner Kiefer**, **Helen Christine Kovach**, **Emily Dicks '18**, **Kaleigh Ann Mary Ellis**, and **Monica Rose Nye** were in attendance. Congratulations, Gaby!

In career news, **Gnoli Zanna Raynor** recently accepted a new position with Cirque de Soleil as a wig and makeup specialist, and **Emily Dicks '18** was welcomed back down The Avenue, as she recently accepted a new position at Saint Mary's as the assistant director of recruiting and admissions/Chicagoland representative helping to recruit the next generation of Belles!

In baby Belle news, join me in congratulating **Ellen Marie Raymond** and her husband James on the birth of their daughter Adelaide Charlotte Raymond-Jones, and proud parents **Jessica Jones DeJong** and husband Patrick on the arrival of their twins Cornelia Ann and Eleanor Rose, who were born at just 27 weeks and braved 77 days in the NICU. Congrats, both!

Please continue to share your updates with me at kfitzm01@saintmarys.edu to be included in the next edition.

## 2018

Catherine Anne Bruno  
catherine.bruno9@gmail.com



Dear Belles of 2018,

We have some exciting news from our fellow classmates! It's been lovely to stay in touch with so many of you. As mentioned in an email this summer, our Reunion is coming up June 1-4, 2023. Please continue to share your life updates and achievements with me and, as always, Go Belles!

**Samantha Rose Buchanan** married Matthew Church on June 18, 2022, at the Red Bicycle Hall in Madison, IN with **Elizabeth Glaser Castillo '19** as a bridesmaid! Currently, Sam and Matthew live in West Lafayette, IN and teach science and English at Benton Central Jr./Sr. High School in Oxford, IN.

**Katherine Mollie Frego** is shifting careers from a sales representative at Abbott Nutrition to teaching sixth/seventh grade science, religion, and health at St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic School in the greater Columbus area.

**Katherine Elizabeth Lynch** married Daniel Patrick Keough (ND '19) on May 28, 2022, in Atlanta, GA. Many family and friends from both ND and SMC were in attendance. Congratulations to the Keoughs!

**Kellsey Catherine Wiser** married William Joseph Bottema (ND '18) on July 16, 2022, at St. Patrick's Church in Binghamton, NY! Fellow Belles **Anna Theresa McCambridge**, **Maevae Catherine Sullivan**, and **Jenna Marie Buche** were bridesmaids and in attendance.

## 2020

EXCELSIOR

**Anna Marie Zappa '20** was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant for 2022 in the Rioja Region of Spain.



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**Caitlin Wirtz '22, Visually Muted**

In her senior comprehensive installation at Saint Mary's, Wirtz confronted issues relating to fast fashion and the lack of opportunity to tell one's story. In this exhibit, Wirtz created a clothing line made solely from old textiles. Through upcycling, reusing, and recycling, she created garments that work to initiate conversation while bringing playful elements for the viewer.