



THE Mother Pauline SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER | FALL 2024

A Legacy of Opportunity for Saint Mary's Students.

As a high school student visiting potential colleges, **Gretchen Flicker '93** found herself sitting in an English literature class at Saint Mary's College. Her interests were in math and business, so a literature class was the last place she expected to have an epiphany about her future.

Visiting Saint Mary's, Gretchen watched as the classroom came alive, with the students and professor engaged in a lively discussion about a piece of literature. "Something just clicked," she recalled. "I don't even remember the name of the book they were discussing, but I remember that feeling of engagement and wanting to be a part of it, in a way that I didn't feel at any of

the other schools I visited. I realized that this is not the college I thought I wanted, but this is where I'm going."

Over the course of four years, Gretchen studied hard as a dual math and business major, attended campus and Notre Dame events, grew as a young woman, and cemented friendships that have lasted 30-plus years since graduation.

"Saint Mary's made such a transformational impact for me that I wanted early on to make sure I was doing my part to ensure that future generations women would have the same opportunity I had," she said.

The short list of Gretchen's involvement includes serving on the Madeleva Society Steering Committee, serving on the Campaign Executive Committee, being a member of the Mother Pauline Society, and in 2022 completing an 11-year term on Saint Mary's College Board of Trustees, three of which were as chair.

Though she is now retired, Gretchen's deep belief in the value of a Saint Mary's College education for young women has not wavered. Wanting to help ensure that the College continues to educate and inspire women for many years to come, Gretchen and her husband, Douglas Twisselmann, established a bequest in their estate plan for Saint Mary's.

A bequest is a clause in a will or trust that allows an alumna or friend of the College to leave a portion or all of their estate to Saint Mary's. Through a bequest, a donor can create a lasting

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Gretchen Flicker '93 and her husband Douglas Twisselmann



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Your planned gift to Saint Mary's College will have a powerful and enduring impact in influencing and supporting the future growth of the College. Your thoughtful generosity will establish your legacy at the College and inspire other Saint Mary's alumnae and friends to consider creating a planned gift, too.

The *Mother Pauline Society* recognizes and honors those individuals who have included Saint Mary's College in their estate plans or established a life income gift with the College. The society is named after Mother Pauline who was affectionately called "The Builder" for the growth and direction of the College during her Presidential tenure, including her visionary leadership over the construction of the iconic Le Mans Hall. Similarly, planned gifts afford the College to build and plan for the future. Alumnae and friends of the society are vital to the continued success and stability of Saint Mary's.

If you have established an estate or life income gift to advance the mission of Saint Mary's College, we would be honored to welcome you to the Mother Pauline Society. To properly thank you and confirm that we understand how you would like Saint Mary's to designate your gift, please let us know of your intentions. If you prefer to remain anonymous, we will gladly honor your request.

PLEASE CONTACT

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impact to an area of personal meaning or provide an unrestricted gift to support the greatest needs of the College. Bequests offer donors flexibility as they may be adjusted at any time and may be a tax advantageous way to give.

Gretchen's inspiration for creating her bequest and her vision for Saint Mary's is to ensure that one day, every academically qualified young woman will have the resources necessary to pursue a Saint Mary's education. "It's a challenging dream, and I know my bequest won't quite get us there, but that's a great motivator for me," she said.

To read more about Gretchen, visit SaintMarys.edu/whyIgive.

If you'd like to consider adding a bequest to your estate plan like Gretchen and Douglas, contact **Lauren Jaworowski Henzel '91**, director of Gift Planning, at 574-284-4600 or lhenzel@saintmarys.edu.



Gretchen Flicker '93

You Can Make a Difference

Membership in the Mother Pauline Society is extended to those who have provided for Saint Mary's College in their wills or living trusts, designated Saint Mary's College as a beneficiary of their life insurance or retirement accounts, or completed life income gifts, such as a charitable gift annuities or charitable remainder trusts, for the benefit of the College.

We welcome the following alumnae and friends who have recently joined the Society:

**Maura Nugent Bardsley '77 and
Michael Bardsley**

Cynthia Jaskiewicz Birk '82

Mary Bridget and Thomas Black

Tricia Burke '81

M. Margaret Calacci '87

**Kathleen O'Boyle Kearney '62
and Patrick Kearney**

Michele Nawotka '92

**Elizabeth Sinnott Pash '83
and Jeffrey Pash**

Virginia M. Russell '73

Charitable Bequests: Establish Your Legacy and Maintain Flexibility and Control over Your Assets

A revocable gift that supports Saint Mary's College and does not reduce assets during your lifetime!

A charitable bequest is a gift created through a provision in your will or trust. A beneficiary designation on a retirement account, insurance policy or investment account is a similar type of gift. Charitable bequests are one of the simplest types of planned gifts for you to create. They are also the most popular types of planned gifts in support of Saint Mary's College.



Benefits of a Charitable Bequest

- **Create a legacy:** You can create a lasting legacy at Saint Mary's College through your gift in support of a program or initiative which is important to you.
- **Maintain flexibility:** You can create a bequest for a percentage of your estate, a specific dollar amount, a specific asset or the residue of your estate. If your circumstances change, bequests are revocable.
- **Retain ownership and control:** You retain full ownership and control over your assets during your lifetime.
- **May save taxes:** If your estate is subject to estate taxes, a charitable bequest will reduce the amount of tax due as the gift generates a charitable estate tax deduction.
- **Impact at Saint Mary's College:** Bequests provide a reliable source of income that allows Saint Mary's to plan confidently for the future and enables the College to launch new programs, invest in current operations, and expand outreach for future students.
- **Inspire others:** Alumnae and friends of the College who create bequests inspire others and create a ripple effect of generosity to Saint Mary's.

Every bequest, regardless of the amount, is a special gift as it reflects the impact of your Saint Mary's experience!

Sample Bequest Language:

"I give, devise, and bequest to the Corporation of Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, EIN # 35-0868158, a not-for-profit organization, ____ % of my estate [or the sum of \$____] [or the remainder of my estate] to be used in accordance with the terms of the most recent fund agreement or other written directive I have signed and delivered to Saint Mary's College during my lifetime that provides instructions for the use of this gift, and, if none exists, for the general purposes of Saint Mary's College."

If you are interested in learning more about how you can create a legacy through a charitable bequest in support the mission of Saint Mary's College, please contact

Lauren Jaworowski Henzel '91, JD

Director of Gift Planning at lhenzel@saintmarys.edu or **(574) 284-4600**.

This information is for illustrative purposes only and is not intended as legal or tax advice. Please consult these giving options in relation to your specific giving circumstances with your attorney or tax advisor.





End the Year on a High Note!

As you prepare your year-end charitable contributions, consider the following planned giving options that enable you to support the mission of Saint Mary's College and create a meaningful legacy in an area that matters to you!

- **Bequests:** Include Saint Mary's as a beneficiary in your estate plan.
- **Beneficiary Designations:** Name Saint Mary's as the beneficiary of your retirement account, insurance policy, or investment account.
- **Donor Advised Funds:** Contribute to your donor advised fund (DAF) and recommend a grant to Saint Mary's.
- **Qualified Charitable Distributions:** For individuals over the age of 70 $\frac{1}{2}$, donate up to \$105,000 directly to Saint Mary's from a taxable individual retirement account (IRA).
- **Appreciated Securities:** Donate stock or other appreciated assets.

Learn how these types of planned gifts may be a tax advantageous way to support Saint Mary's.

CONTACT:

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