#### COLLEGE SPECIAL SECTION OUR SUNDAY VISITOR

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++++++ Along with educating students in their chosen career fields, Catholic colleges and universities across the country carry out the Church's mission to catechize and evangelize.

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# TOTHENERI OGENERATION

Even at non-Catholic campuses, students feel a strong devotion to the Blessed Mother. > PAGE 4B

Students learn how Scripture reveals the story that shapes their daily lives. > PAGE 8B Daily access to the sacred liturgy is essential on Catholic campuses around the country.

> PAGE 12B

Art courses at Catholic colleges allow students opportunities to express their faith. 444444

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#### **EVANGELIZATION**

# Teaching a new generation to embrace the Faith

Catholic colleges give students with little religious experience or knowledge an opportunity to learn and grow

#### By Joseph R. LaPlante

Teaching students about their faith on the campuses of Catholic colleges and universities is now an all-hands-on-deck mission, educators around the country told Our Sunday Visitor.

Gone is the robust energy of Catholic culture in America. Gone is the assurance that just as grandpa and grandma before them filled the pews on Sundays and holy days, so would succeeding generations. By the end of the 20th century, congregations that once provided parochial school classrooms and marched thousands of public school kids to CCD every week fell off.

At one time, college educators could count on baseline catechetics for most entering Catholic freshmen. American Catholics once observed a common core of beliefs, practices, habits and traditions to build on.

"There was a drop-off of religious practice in the 1990s; now, the children of those Catholics are arriving, so we have recalibrated what students know," said Bede Benjamin Bidlack, professor and chair of the theology department at St. Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire. "It is a constant balancing act."

At St. Anselm, courses of study were consolidated to introduce more modern languages into the curriculum to prepare students to live, work and practice their faith in a global society. Religion study now focuses on familiarity with the Bible to produce biblical literacy and Catholic interpretation of the Bible applicable in the world; it also focuses on Catholic theological reasoning to learn how to interpret faith through



Graduates of Regis University in Denver are seen during their commencement on April 30. CNS photo/courtesy Regis University

reading the Scriptures.

Freshmen at the liberal arts college embark on an education rooted in the teachings of St. Benedict. The Benedictine Christian and monastic tradition emerges in wisdom curated over 1,500 years with the goal of seeking peace through a well-ordered life envisioned by St. Benedict.

Bidlack said that all students, which include Jewish, Muslim, Wiccan, unchurched and atheists, are required to master the Catholic courses about the articles of faith, evangelical elements of faith and the mythological to earn a degree.

"We encourage students with the absence of Catholic culture to instead embrace their faith for all the right reasons," Bidlack said. "We want them to find their answers within the Church. We hopefully end up with a robust generation of believers."

#### **Building a foundation**

An all-hands-on-deck approach to teaching Catholicism to students at St. Leo University in Florida comes from "a desire to educate the whole student — mind and soul — and a desire to support a student on his or her walk with the Lord in addition to success in their major and career," said Randall Woodard, chair of the theology department at St. Leo. "A focus is on the vocation and the type of human being the student will be, in addition to the major and job."

Woodard told Our Sunday Visitor that a reality faced by theology departments at Catholic schools is that Catholic students don't know what the Faith means to their lives in the 21st century.

"One thing that is unique about many students today is their lack of affiliation and a growing religious illiteracy," Woodard said. "People are less connected to faith communities and less familiar with the language and grammar of faith. This means much more foundational instruction and also providing a basic language or vocabulary of spirituality and providing a space or invitation for people to put down a smartphone and to consider their purpose and connection to the world and Church."

He added, "Campus ministry

departments provide outstanding support for students to investigate their faith, to encounter God, to connect deeply with others and to serve the world and the Church."

The expression, "It takes a village to raise a child," may be trite to some, but it carries a measure of truth at St. Leo University and other Catholic schools.

"Catholic theology departments, as well as colleagues from various other academic disciplines, campus ministers and student life professionals, among others, all play an important role in passing on of the Faith at Catholic universities," Woodward said.

"Students can find that an idea about prayer that came up in a class may also be a topic of conversation later on with their coach, or a dining services or university safety staff member," he said.

"A variety of topics are central to theology departments, whose members do take on a unique role in the intellectual and spiritual formation of students. A hunger for encounter with God and holiness seeps into a variety of subject areas in theology, such as introductory courses and, of course, biblical studies, spirituality, sacraments and history."

#### 'A real openness'

Catholic schools are finding many students willing to learn

their faith because of its absence in their lives, said Timothy Gabrielli, Gudorf Chair in Catholic Intellectual Traditions at the University of Dayton in Ohio.

"I think we are all well aware that the percentage of those who declare their religious commitment to be 'none' has risen sharply over the past 15 years or so," he told Our Sunday Visitor.

However, theology departments are finding dry kindling in their students that is welcoming to a spark.

"It's become obvious, also, to note the wide polarization in our culture and even in our Church," Gabrielli said. "Setting aside the debates about the causes of those sociological shifts for the moment, I think we have noticed a real openness among students to discovering something in our tradition that isn't deeply politicized or reduced to Instagramable parameters, but offers them insight about living a fruitful life in the world today." The University of Dayton's

The University of Dayton's theology professors have found "approaching theological topics with a 'hook' that isn't merely window-dressing but actually takes a fresh angle into ancient wisdom really attracts students," he said.

"Catholic universities play such a key role in passing on the Faith, one that is distinct though not entirely divorced from the catechetical work done in parishes, elementary and high schools," Gabrielli said. "One key difference is that university theologians have the opportunity to dive deeper into the riches of the tradition, examine various approaches to difficult questions in the life of faith and expose students to, say, the variety of artistic, musical, liturgical strains in the tradition."

Gabrielli concluded: "Young adults are finding their place in the world and discovering more fully who they are. Especially during that moment, the breadth of the Catholic faith seeking understanding offers a greater opportunity — and in some cases a second chance — for young people to discover their place among the Communion of Saints."

> Joseph R. LaPlante writes from Rhode Island.



Students at Northern Arizona University and members of Holy Trinity Newman Center in Flagstaff, Ariz., reenact the Stations of the Cross in 2019. CNS photo/Kirsten Bublitz, Catholic Sun



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## Colleges see an increase in devotion to Mary on campus

Educators explain students' attraction to the Blessed Mother

#### By Joseph R. LaPlante

While it might have been a catchy title for a 1998 romantic comedy, Catholic colleges and universities are showing today's younger generation that there really is something about Mary — Our Blessed Mother, the Mother of God, the very immaculate heart of the Catholic faith.

Mary is the eternal Queen of Heaven and Earth, the devil's greatest conqueror and the one closest to Jesus.

While many Catholic devotions come and go out of popular use, Mary is ever present, even on Catholic college campuses where the waves of secularism threaten inundation, educators and religious told Our Sunday Visitor.

"Mary has been receiving renewed attention from our students," said Jana Bennett, chair of the religious studies department at the University of Dayton in Ohio, a school founded with a Marianist mission and identity.

"For undergraduates, we offer an introductory course, Why Mary?; we also offer an advanced Theology of Mary course. We also now offer graduate certificates in Marian theology for both master's- and doctoratelevel students. The number of graduate students wanting to study Mary has been growing gradually, from none five years ago to 5-10 now."

Mary is a presence on non-Catholic campuses, too, according to Father Bob J. O'Donnell, a Paulist chaplain at the Newman Center at the University of Tennessee.

"Many students pray the Rosary on their own every day. Some do so in small groups after Mass or meetings. They see Mary as a powerful intercessor," Father O'Donnell said.

Mary is always contemporary and relevant to personal lives and the current world situation, Catholic educators told Our Sunday Visitor.

"Students' study of Mary is related to this contemporary moment and their own concerns – from thinking through how Mary might help Christians rethink the East/West divide in the Church, to using Marian theology in bioethics, to doing historical studies around the globe on Mary's importance," Bennett said. "Our undergrads also participate in an annual Marian forum, which discusses contemporary questions and concerns — like Mary and the pandemic and Mary and immigration."

#### Consolation

Mary serves the same needs for college students in 2022 as she has for the faithful over two millennia: help, comfort and strength in times of peril.

With Russia brutalizing Ukraine in unprovoked warfare, Israel and Palestine stoking the

Belmont Abbe



Middle-East powder keg, China increasing its threat to Taiwan and abortion roiling America, Mary's story is compelling and prescient.

At Fátima in 1917, Mary told the three shepherd children that without prayer and penance, "The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated. In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world." "I think part of the reason for students' renewed interest is that she offers hope and reassurance in a time of great turbulence, as she has often done over the centuries," Bennett told Our Sunday Visitor.

Robert Fastiggi, who holds the Bishop Kevin M. Britt Chair of Dogmatic Theology and Christology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, said Marian apparitions over time have an impact appreciated by today's college students.

"I think there is significant interest among Catholic college and university students on the Blessed Virgin Mary," Fastiggi said. "This interest is often stimulated by various Marian devotions and apparitions — Guadalupe, Lourdes, Fátima and also Medjugorje, even though it has not been approved by the Church as supernatural."

Fastiggi added: "Unfortunately, not all Catholic theology departments offer regular courses in Mariology, but there are signs that the situation is changing. There are many signs of hope about the teaching of Mariology in Catholic colleges, universities and seminaries, but more can be done."

Mariology needs to be understood as an essential aspect of Catholic dogmatic theology, Fastiggi contended.

He noted the homily of Pope St. Paul VI on April 24, 1970, at the Marian shrine of Our Lady of Bonaria in Cagliari, Sardinia: "If we want to be Christian," the pope said, "we must also be Marian — that is, we must recognize the essential, vital, providential bond, which unites Our Lady with Jesus and which opens to us the way that leads us to him."

At the University of Day-



A statue of Jesus faces the Golden Dome with its statue of Mary atop the administration building of the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Ind. CNS photo/Chaz Muth

ton, Mary is present to students from Day 1 until they attend the baccalaureate Mass and graduation, four years later, said Father James Fitz, the school's vice president for mission and rector.

"We aim to make family spirit the distinctive mark of our communities and institutions; growing in the characteristics of Mary, particularly her faith, humility, simplicity and hospitality," he told Our Sunday Visitor. "We believe living, praying and supporting one another in community enriches our faith and strengthens our ability to meet the challenges of the world. Students understand they are called to use their education and faith to transform the world. ... Traditionally, Marianists have understood education in schools to be a profound opportunity for building communities of faith."

> Joseph R. LaPlante writes from Rhode Island.

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# God's gift to humanity

Music is an integral part of liturgy and worship and a way to speak with the divine

#### By Paul Senz

The history of Western music would not be what it is today without the influence of the Catholic Church. In music programs at Catholic colleges and universities around the country, the Catholic faith plays a crucial role in the course of study.

"Music is an integral part of culture," said Kurt Poterack, assistant professor of music at Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia, where he has taught for 22 years. "Music shapes the soul of a nation, so those who can critically reflect on it can also reform or improve it."

Christendom's liturgical music courses look not only at the practical "how to" of liturgical music, but they also explore a theology of worship. "I believe it is important to incorporate the Faith into music courses, because music has such an integral role in worship and liturgy," said Therese Ohotnicky, a senior majoring in classical and early Christian studies and philosophy with a minor in liturgical music. "This ever-presence of music should be well-informed by the truths and traditions of the Faith to ensure the proper and most beautiful worship of God."

Music education at Christendom College is grounded in the Church's understanding of music as an integral part of wor- to us, to help us express our hu-

While, ship. of course, not "Music is God's gift all music is ex- to us, to help us explicitly directed toward God, **press our humanity. It** Faith in music is music does play a crucial role helps God communiin the Church's cate with us." life and liturgy. Christendom's

- John F. Paul music students strive to find in music a path to worship and a path for faith to seek understanding.

#### 'God's gift to us'

The mission of Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, is to educate "men and women within a community of faith and scholarship." The primary



Timothy S. McDonnell, director of music ministries at the Institute of Sacred Music, Benjamin T. Rome School of Music at The Catholic University of America in Washington, conducts a Gregorian chant rehearsal at the school's St. Vincent Chapel in 2018. CNS photo/Chaz Muth

faith instruction is in theology courses, but "other disciplines provide the opportunity to discover truth," said John F. Paul, professor of music and the department chair. "The purpose of a Catholic liberal arts education is to develop faith and reason."

It is not a purely theoretical approach. Vocational training in music is part of the course of study at Benedictine. Recently, the music department developed a liturgical music program to help prepare students to serve in a parish setting.

"My teaching is grounded in the belief that we are created in the image of a creator God, therefore, we are all creative," Paul said. "Music is God's gift manity. It helps

God communicate with us." The role of the

on full display in music history courses, Paul said. "In my music history classes, I show how

music has been seen through the centuries, how it has been vital to the liturgy, and how the Church's traditions have been integral to the development of Western music," Paul said. "My purpose is to develop an awareness and appreciation of different approaches to beauty."

Timothy Tharaldson is an as-

sistant professor and the director of choral activities at Benedictine. "Almost all of the music in the courses I teach is based on sacred text," Tharaldson said. "This allows me to incorporate many different aspects of the Faith as we, as an ensemble, explore the gifts that the text is presenting to us." Tharaldson teaches courses in liturgical music, emphasizing how music is a part of the liturgy and not a performance that happens at the same time. He also teaches composition and tries to "help students find those answers of how they incorporate the Faith in their own voice and own music."

#### Elevating what is good

One reason for the teaching of music in a theological context (and theology in a musical context) can be found in the Second Vatican Council's document Sacrosanctum Concilium: "The musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art. The main reason for this pre-eminence is that, as sacred song united to the words, it forms a necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy" (No. 112).

The foundation of Benedictine's music department is the claim that Jesus Christ is the Logos and the origin of all truth and beauty, said Celeste Lirette, a senior double-majoring in theology and music. "Because we believe in the intelligibility of the universe, we are taught that music is intrinsically ordered and can reveal truth about God and his creation," she said. "Specifically, we incorporate the Faith by connecting the material we learn and the skills we practice to their application in the Church and in the history of salvation."

Music history courses, for example, help students appreciate and internalize the treasures of chant, the development of polyphony during the renaissance, the Baroque masters like Bach and Vivaldi, and the classical giants like Haydn and Mozart.

Most of the music students apply what they learn in class on campus, especially as liturgical musicians at campus liturgies. This emphasis on applying their musical studies in a practical way, and in particular in the context of the liturgy, is an important facet of their education.

"Keeping the Faith at the center of our musical studies is absolutely crucial to understanding the truth about music in our secularized and relativized culture today," Lirette said. "The Christ-centered formation we receive enables us with the tools to encounter modern culture and elevate what is good, especially in the musical realm, and also correct what is against the good and the beautiful."

Paul Senz writes from Oklahoma.



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# The divine story that shapes our lives

Most people encounter the Bible out of context, making them believe it doesn't relate to their lives — but it does

By Maryann Gogniat Eidemiller The search for meaning and truth is timeless.

Michael Dauphinais sought it decades ago when he was a student at Duke University in North Carolina, and so, too, are the students in his classes at Ave Maria University in Ave Maria, Florida.

In other words, students are still asking the same questions, and they are finding many answers in studying Scripture. Words that were written thousands of years ago still ring true.

"I find great continuity," Dauphinais said about emerging generations. "Many students are aware that the promises of the surrounding culture are empty or incomplete at best. They turn to study the Faith as a means of educating the head and healing the heart."

That was his experience when, in his own brokenness in a world that he perceived as broken, he rediscovered his Christian faith and returned to the Catholic Church. "My eagerness to study and learn more about the Faith dominated my free time and any classes on theology I could find," he said.

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His own journey led him to a doctorate in systematic theology from the University of Notre Dame and a career as a theologian, educator, writer and speaker. He joined the faculty at Ave Maria 22 years ago and holds several positions and teaches several classes. One is on sacred doctrine.

"The Bible tells us the true story about God and ourselves," he said. "We recognize that we are all children of God who have had our identity stolen — who have sold our birthright as did Esau in the Old Testament or as did the prodigal son."

Dauphinais co-authored with Matthew Levering the book "Wisdom of the Word: Biblical Answers to Ten Pressing Questions About Catholicism<sup>7</sup> (Word on Fire, \$29.95). "I wrote the book out of the experience of teaching theology and trying to show its biblical roots," he said. "Our students have those questions or have friends and family members who do, as we do ourselves. Many students have come to see how much the Bible is trying to correct our false images of God and reveal his true identity to us as a loving father."

He noted that many people, young and old, struggle to make sense of the larger biblical story.

"It's just not reinforced in our culture or often in our parishes," he said. "Nevertheless, I am always surprised by how many continue to read the Bible and seek wisdom among its pages. What I want my students to take away from my classes most of all is that there is a higher purpose and plan for their lives, that they can find truth and meaning in Jesus Christ as the way, the truth and the life, and that they may

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Christiana Marie Briggs, a senior from Purcellville, Virginia, is majoring in literature with a double minor in communications and medieval studies. She took two of Dauphinais' classes, she said, to increase her love and appreciation for her faith, the sacraments and the Church.

About the sacred doctrine course, she said: "The most striking and beautiful aspects that I remember from Dr. Dauphinais' class is that all the encyclicals, the works of the Early Fathers, commentaries, excerpts from the catechism, expositions, etc., that we read found their source in Scripture. During his lectures, he always consciously offered and expected us to remember the biblical sources of the teachings. It is Scripture that tells us that Christ gave his authority to the Twelve, and in a special way to St. Peter and thus to the Church. The Church's teachings, both moral and social, too, have their basis in dialogue between God and mankind as written in the Holy Bible."

"Once we are able to gain understanding of Scripture in the context of the biblical story, it opens the path to an encounter of the love of God, whether through reading Scripture or participating in Catholic traditions with greater understanding."

#### — Laura Krueger

#### The Bible as a story

Stephan Davis of the theology department at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, reduces complex ideas to simple principles in his course "Bible As Story."

He does that, he said, in an effort to be more clear and understandable by creating more explanatory principles.

"For example, I teach the 613 Torah commandments for Israel as the Sinai covenant applied to each aspect of human life, like economy, hygiene and agriculture," he said. "I have also added concepts from the social sciences."

The class is required for theology majors and theological certificate students pursuing different careers.

A former student who now teaches theology at a Catholic high school told him that there was "so much more to the Bible than a simple read."

Emily Richett of Michigan, host of the "Amplify Show Podcasts," just completed the summer web course for a certificate in theology. She is a convert.

"I was inspired to understand the Bible and the Catholic faith both for myself, as well as for my children and other family members who have either fallen away or have never quite connected with the Faith," she said. "As I studied more of the Bible on my own, I realized we are called to evangelize and to share the Good News with others, and I felt ill-equipped to do so."

The course gave her the structure, accountability and renewed excitement that she needed, Richett said. She found the knowledge and confidence to defend the Faith and to infuse a Christian and Catholic perspective in her podcasts. "Our goal in the theology department is to root students in Scripture, the soul of theology," Davis said.

"It is to transmit the Catholic tradition and to promote students' action in the world that springs from the truth of the Gospel, placing themselves at the service of life and love. We believe as a department that Scripture is necessary for understanding the Faith. One cannot forget that Scripture is divine revelation."

#### An encounter with love

Laura Krueger of Traverse City, Michigan, took Davis's "Bible As Story" class because of her interest in reading the Bible as a developed literary work.

"I think the biblical story is one of the primary ways students are introduced to the Catholic faith and to theology in general," she said. "A story is something that almost every person can relate to, and it's the story of salvation history presented through the literature of the Bible that provides an essential building block in understanding Catholicism."

Krueger is a third-year student majoring in theology and philosophy with a goal of teaching theology in higher education. Studying Scripture through the lens of ancient traditions and language, she said, elevated her understanding.

"Before, it seemed to me the Bible was only a presentation of basic theological arguments and anecdotes," she said. "After this course, I began to read Scripture as a great work of literary tradition compiled by generations of inspired writers."

Krueger believes that today's generation is passive about Scripture because it's often taken out of biblical and traditional context.

"That can cause great misunderstanding and lead to further misinformation on what our faith is," she said. "This lack of understanding is what causes today's generation to leave the Church and prevents a passing on of the Faith. Once we are able to gain understanding of Scripture in the context of the biblical story, it opens the path to an encounter of the love of God, whether through reading Scripture or participating in Catholic traditions with greater understanding."

Maryann Gogniat Eidemiller writes from Pennsylvania.

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#### **APOLOGETICS**

# Equipping students to learn and defend the Faith

Colleges prioritize giving students the skills to live out the teachings of the Church in the real world

#### By Patti Maguire Armstrong

Did attending a Catholic col-lege prepare you to know and defend your faith? That question was posed on social media. Responses varied. Here is a sampling in the negative with names and schools withheld.

"Uh ... sorry, I went to the University of \_\_\_\_\_ ... 'nuff said."

"Graduated from \_\_\_\_\_ in 1981. I'm still recovering ... and repenting."

"As much as I appreciate my education, the school did not provide that for me."

"No, I was not prepared, unfortunately! I got a good education but that was it. Sad."

Other graduates told very different stories. Our Sunday Visitor contacted Catholic colleges and universities across the country to find out what they were doing right. One thing they all had in common was a goal to educate students, regardless of major, with a deep understanding and appreciation for the Catholic faith.

Kyle Washut, academic dean at Wyoming Catholic College, a small liberal arts school in Land-

role in forming our

eight semesters of theology and philosophy classes provide a fundamental ground- students to become work for students. cover pillars of Catholic Classes proofs of the existence of God, salvation history, the communities." Bible, moral social teaching - which - Donald Bungumincludes studying

Pope St. John Paul II's encyclical Veritatis Splendor — the sacraments and moral theology.

"Students engage in some set of objections to the mysteries of the Faith each semester," Washut said. "For instance, in junior year, students read Martin Luther and how the Council of Trent responded, reaffirming Church authority and centrality of the Church."

Another assignment, he said, is responding to Stephen Hawking, the famous physicist and ardent atheist who died in 2018.

"Students read his arguments

and contrast it with the Catholic view of redemption," Washut said. The educational experience as a whole, he explained, comes through classes that instill principles and is cultivated through small-group involvement and discussions, learning habits of faith that continue outside of the classroom.

"The people who I met changed the way I see the world and motivated me to become a better person," said Jessica Mattson, a 2013 graduate of Wyoming Catholic College. "I learned so much about who I am in the body, mind and spirit. I am still regularly reminded and inspired by my peers and the faculty and staff, who I had the greatest joy of getting to know through my WCC years."

#### 'Joyful Catholicism'

Stephen Hildebrand, chair of the theology department at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, explained that even nonreligion majors choose from theology and philosophy classes that focus on four pillars: foundations of Catholicism in the Creed, Christian moral principle, the er, Wyoming, explained that word of God in Scripture, and

prayer. "Apologetics plays a "At Franciscan University, there is a kind of integrity to both the philosophy and theology core that culture in their future our students will need as they get out and face a hostile culture," Hildebrand said. "The truth of the Faith is relevant to the culture, so it comes up in

class all the time." In theology, for instance, Hildebrand noted that studying creation helps students to understand that the human person has a certain dignity, and that God made us male and female, which is under attack in our culture. "Christian moral principles are studied such as proportionalism, the moral theory that undergirds Pope John Paul II's Veritatis Splendor and dominates Catholic moral discourse."

Shannon Marie Federoff told



Donald Bungum with students at University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. Courtesy photo

Our Sunday Visitor that her time at Franciscan University still impacts her today, 30 years after graduation. "What it gave me was a basic education in doctrine, but many, many examples of joyful Catholicism lived out in the lives of students and professors — and the friars! I met people there who knew Jesus. And after a while, I realized I wanted that, too."

#### **Building friendships**

At the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, Donald Bungum, chair of the philosophy program and an assistant professor of philosophy and Catholic studies, explained that the school's theology program includes sacramental, biblical, moral and historical theology.

All these theology courses integrate with the philosophy and Catholic Studies programs so that many students double- or triple-major in these areas.

'We train our theology students like the first missionaries to America, who needed to have the whole of faith, learning and culture packed into their souls," Bungum said. All students take at least two philosophy courses and two theology courses, regardless of major.

"Apologetics plays a role in forming our students to become pillars of Catholic culture in their future communities," Bungum explained. He noted that UMary is unique for how it applies St. John Henry Newman's principle of "personal influence" to apologetics. "UMary students are taught to win both arguments and persons by attending to the appeal of secular worldviews and the larger imaginative vision of people who hold them," he said. "Our approach makes students into fishers of men: They hook with friendship and land with the truth. Friendship is a key word at UMary — friendship with Christ, friendship with the truth, friendship with faculty and friendship with each other.

"Everything from our 24-hour dining to our Thursday dinners at Catholic Studies House, to our Saturday afternoon disputatios, to our Rome and ASU [Arizona State University] programs are designed to addict students to friendship in the truth. It has

been said that people go to heaven and hell in groups. We work to get students into the right ones."

Teresa McKeown, a 2017 graduate of the University of Mary, pointed to how life outside the classroom impacted her faith. "They did a great job of making the Catholic faith a big deal and something you wanted to grow deeper in. The homilies, even at a daily Mass, were filled with understandings of our faith in relation to the culture. There were many weekly events that encouraged students to gather and listen to speakers talk about important aspects of the faith, amazing stories, or even just how our Catholic faith and servant leadership is our calling no matter what field we go into."

#### 'A vision of the whole'

At Ave Maria University near Naples, Florida, Michael A. Dauphinais, the chair of the theology department, said that all students receive Catholic theology through courses in Scripture, doctrine and moral theology. "These courses take seriously objections to Catholic teaching," he said, "and show that there are good responses when one understands what the Church actually teaches and why she teaches it."

Dauphinais explained that students are offered a vision of the whole that leads to discovery of how the Faith offers meaning and purpose in this life and the hope of glory in the next. "Most objections to the Catholic faith or questions about it are rooted in a failure to see that bigger picture of God's creative and saving love," Dauphinais said. "When seen in this light, the specific teachings of the Church in faith and morals do not constrict human freedom but offer us the genuine freedom to live the 'abundant life' promised by Jesus Christ."

Caitlin Desume, a 2018 graduate of Ave Maria University, said her education helped prepare her to defend her faith in the world. "Zeal for the faith grew. I never felt force-fed; my professors taught me how to ask questions and seek the truth, which naturally sets a person on the right path. I truly believe Catholic liberal arts schools will save our world."

> Patti Maguire Armstrong writes from North Dakota.

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Students learn that the liturgy reveals God's love for us and how we can worship him in return

#### **By Paul Senz**

The liturgy plays a central role I in the life of the Church. The Second Vatican Council famously called the Eucharist the "source and summit" of the

Church's life (cf. Lumen Gentium, No. 11). This is no different at Catholic colleges *liturgical prayer* and universities er in theology courses or in other disciplines, nothing else can. the study of the portant aspect of any fundamentally education. At Francis-

can University in Steubenville, faith is incordiscipline. erv Whether biolpolitical **person**." ogy, science, psychology or any other – James Pauley course of study,

everything is seen through the lens of the Catholic faith. The liturgy is approached as more than just a theological discipline or a matter of theoretical interest.

"It is presented as the gift of God whereby he makes the sav-

ing events of Christ present to us, enabling us to participate in them," said Stephen Hildebrand, chair of the department of theology. "Christ comes to us in the liturgy and takes us with him to the Father."

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"Joining ourselves The way of beauty helps reintentionally into veal "the liturgy as God's ultimate expression today. Wheth- prepares us for our of love for us and our worship heavenly life like of thanksgiving back to him,' said liturgy is an im- And such an experi-Duo, senior theology major at ence also prepares Franciscan Uni-Catholic **us to live our lives on** versity of Steubenville. earth with deep mis-Students Franciscan learn sionary joy. Such a about the Eucha-Ohio, the life of life, both now and in rist through the prayers and orporated into ev- eternity, is the vocader of the Mass, but always in

tion of every human

#### cred art, vestments, architecture and music. "By understanding the liturgy

in this way, we not only learn about the liturgy itself, but we also learn to see how the liturgy reveals God's love for us, what he



13**B** 

sacrifices for our love," Duo said.

Students at Franciscan begin by learning to really engage with the liturgy. "Before we can get into the practicalities of how the liturgy is celebrated, we must first enter into the mystery of what the sacred liturgy is," said James Pauley, professor of theology and catechetics at Franciscan. Students learn that "the liturgy is celebrated by Jesus himself, head and members, as the very best way to offer glory to the Father and to intercede for the sanctification of the world."

The liturgy is the place of maximum encounter with God, Pauley said, "and is, therefore, the source of the life of the disciple." It is meant to change us, to form us more and more to better love the Father and to better love our neighbor with the love of Jesus himself, he said. "The more that we pray in Christ, through the liturgy, the more a fruitful living of the Christian life becomes possible."

The study of the liturgy at Franciscan is deeply rooted in the liturgical experience. Students study the actual texts of the Roman Missal, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Second Vatican Council and esteemed

liturgical theologians like Romano Guardini, among others.

"Joining ourselves intentionally into liturgical prayer prepares us for our heavenly life like nothing else can," Pauley said. "And such an experience also prepares us to live our lives on earth with deep missionary joy. Such a life, both now and in eternity, is the vocation of every human person."

Daily access to liturgy Wyoming Catholic College sits in the vast expanse of the northwest Wyoming wilderness. Here, as at Franciscan and so many other Catholic colleges and universities, the Faith is incorporated into all courses of study and the very fabric of campus life. "Not only do we go over the practicality of our faith, but our faith is sewn into our daily experiences and throughout our other courses," said Braden Licciardi, a junior liberal arts major. "Theology is not meant to remain intellectual."

'The liturgy has always been present in class discussions," said Andrea Callaway, a senior liberal arts major at Wyoming Catholic College. "It is impossible to address the New Testament, the

Students and campus staff gather for an Ash Wednesday Mass on March 2 at Stony Brook Uni-

versity in Stony Brook, N.Y. CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz

unchangeability of God, or anything else in theology without it bearing some relevance to the liturgy. It flows naturally in and out of our discussions."

More than simply a theoretical exploration, students have access to daily Mass and adoration, vespers, compline and confession, allowing them to live the liturgy, rather than merely learn-

ing it. "The way that liturgy and faith are discussed in theology excites you to go to Mass and more fully embrace Christ," Callaway said.

"One of our main goals is to show the unity of all knowledge," said Jeremy Holmes, associate professor of theology. "The real world does not come in discrete bins of biological things, ethical

things, theological things, and so on; one and the same real thing can be biological and ethical and theological."

"In an integrated curriculum, the truths of faith do not have to be incorporated into various disciplines as though they were a foreign element," Holmes

Continued on Page 14B

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#### Continued from Page 13B

added. "They enter naturally because they already permeate the world."

The liturgy is directly addressed in theology classes, primarily in the fall of senior year in the course on the Church. But due to the integrated curriculum, the liturgy is addressed in many other courses, as well. For example, Latin students read and study classic hymns, and music students read magisterial texts on sacred music and explore the great liturgical music down through the centuries.

#### The work of redemption

Theology courses at Aquinas College in Nashville, Tennessee, incorporate instruction on the liturgy in ways that are both practical and appealing, according to Dominican Sister Agnes Rose MacKellar, a junior secondary education and history major. In Scripture courses, professors highlight the Biblical roots of the Mass, she said; in a class on the Church Fathers, students learned about how the liturgy developed in the first centuries of the Church.

"The courses have not only helped to deepen my own par-



A student takes a note after the homily during Mass at Holy Trinity Newman Center on the campus of Northern Arizona State University in 2019. CNS photo/Nancy Wiechec

ticipation in the liturgy but have provided means of teaching others about the Mass and the sacraments, particularly the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist," Sister MacKellar said. Classes in other disciplines, such as philosophy, English and history, similarly seek to "foster a love for the liturgy in students," she said. Father Mark Chrismer, lecturer in theology and chaplain at Aquinas College, said that theology is paramount at Aquinas and unites all disciplines. "The harmonious union of faith and reason underscores all subjects," he said. And "the liturgy is a principal source of theological and spiritual formation." In class, the goal is not only to gain a deeper understanding of the liturgy but also to gain wisdom from the prayers that are offered.

"Ultimately, education should give us light and the greatest light we can receive is God's revelation of himself to us," Father Chrismer said. "And knowledge of the sacred liturgy is indispensable for this education because it is where the work of our redemption in Christ is brought to fruition."

Aquinas College is specifically geared towards the formation of teachers, with an emphasis on preparing graduates for teaching in Catholic schools. "Sharing, thereby, in the evangelizing mission of the Church, students are engaged in a curriculum that is rich in liberal arts and is always presented in the light of the Gospel," said Dominican Sister Elizabeth Anne Allen, director of the Center for Catholic Education at Aquinas College.

The theology of liturgy is taught in theology, catechetics and education classes, but it is also a component of the life of the school. Most of the students at Aquinas are consecrated religious, but all receive an education steeped in faith, including the sacramental life, Liturgy of the Hours and Mass, Sister Elizabeth said. "The object of knowing faith is for the knowing to lead to love of faith and to the living it out in our daily lives so that, through God's grace, we attain our ultimate goal of heaven."

Paul Senz writes from Oklahoma.





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#### **CHURCH HISTORY**

# Making the past relevant to students today

Professors at Catholic colleges show why learning the Church's history is so important

By Maryann Gogniat Eidemiller Studying Church history is more than learning a timeline of saints, leaders and incidents through the centuries. It goes beyond recognizing the Church's many contributions to science, the arts and the causes of justice, peace and health care — even the development of higher education itself.

The history of the Church is the foundation of how we live today.

"We can't talk about what the Church believes and teaches without some reference to how the Church has shaped its teachings," said Susan Timoney, an instructor for 15 years at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. "Reminding students that the big questions we are asking today have been asked before, and so it makes sense to look backward as well as forward."

Timoney is associate professor of practice (Pastoral Studies Area) and associate dean for un-



dergraduate studies in the School of Theology and Religious Studies. She noted that making a compelling case for studying any history can be a challenge in a culture that thinks ancient history is the period of time before the internet was invented.

That challenge is being met on Catholic campuses through a variety of courses that delve into the story of the Church. "Many students who choose Catholic University do so because they have an interest in learning more about their faith," Timoney said. "So we have a good mix of majors and nonmajors in our Church history courses. I think young Catholics recognize the unique place the Church has in society as an institution with a 2,000-year history, and so making sense of that story is of interest. The secularization of society has raised a number of serious and complicated questions related to what it means to be human, the nature of truth and what is the place of religion in society."

Other students, she added, are attracted to taking a deeper dive into the idea of truth and how it has been expressed in Judeo-Christian tradition.

"It's important to help students see the Church's history as a living story, the continuing unfolding of God's plan of salvation," Timoney said. "It's particularly important today to see the pattern of growth, reform and renewal that makes up that history. We hope that our students can see themselves in the unfolding story, and so the Church's story is our story."

### The perfect gift for new Catholics!

After author Shaun McAffee became Catholic, he found himself wondering, "Now what?"

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**I'm Catholic. Now What?** is the perfect book for new Catholics post-RCIA. In ten meaty sections readers will find help in getting started as a new Catholic; customs, courtesies, rules, and traditions; prayer, devotion, and spirituality; how to get the most from the Sacraments; Catholic life day-to-day; and much more!

It's also a great book to recommend to people who are considering converting, or even "cradle Catholics" who are interested in learning more about our Catholic faith.



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Simon des Rosiers of Salmouch, Maine, a junior at The Catholic University of America, is majoring in religious studies with a minor in Church history.

"If I become a Church history professor, I could hand this information on to the next generation," he said. "I'm discerning vocation, and if I become a priest, I'll know what the Church has gone through in its time on earth, and I will be able to teach that."

Des Rosiers said studying theology and history offers tremendous insight into how we interact with the divine and how the divine interacts with us.

'There are things to know about the Catholic Church, and the pilgrim Church had its black marks and has gone through trials," he said. "There's hope in that, and in passing on to the next Washington, is a graduate stu-

generation of future Catholics that "We talk a lot there will be suffering on this pil- **about providence**, grimage on earth. how it's no accident Through Church history, we learn that they were born how our ancesstruggled into this place and tors and had sufferings. But through the truth of Jesus that they have an Christ, they were able to receive tri- **important role**." als and to find hope. That's why - Ann Brodeur these courses are

important. If we don't know our history, how can we really know ourselves in the present day?"

#### Looking back, looking forward

Ann Brodeur noted that most students who major in Catholic studies at the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, want to serve the Church in some way. But what they learn can serve them in being a virtuous leader in any career path.

"We talk to a lot of our students about the great task of raising all sectors of work and society to Christ," Brodeur said. "That conversation begins in the Great Catholic Adventures course."

Brodeur, an associate professor in the Department of History of Catholic Studies, has been teaching the course for six years. She describes it as being anchored around the Six Ages of the Church — the work of the late Christopher Dawson, whom many consider the greatest English-speaking Catholic historian of the 20th century.

"Dawson argues that the

Church in every age since the very beginning has been beset by challenges, which it has creatively engaged and overcome, leading to a flowering of thought, art and life," Brodeur said. "When a student has obtained a glimpse of the 'long view' that Dawson offers, it enables a kind of prudence, wisdom and hope, especially in a world that seems so topsy-turvy and in a Church that is suffering. We talk a lot about providence, how it's no accident that they were born into this place and this time — this age of change — and that they have an important role to play. Students come away with a sense of hope and a renewed commitment to making Christ known and to serving the Church in the world."

Maggie Vincent of Hoquiam,

dent in Catholic Studies at the University of Mary. She credits The Great Catholic Adventure course with revealing the perennial truths of the Catholic faith being tailored to the human person in every respect and in every age. "Dr. Brodeur

connected what

this time ... and

we found in the pre-Christian stories and asked us to explore how those same desires and questions continue through the ages of the Church in the lives of Christians — from St. Augustine to St. Thérèse of Lisieux," she said. "It became clear to me that the need for the Incarnation was being anticipated as early as Ancient Greek philosophers. When Christ became man, it fulfilled a mystery that humans had been pondering years before. I came to understand more deeply the power of the Incarnation and its ability to transform and elevate man's perennial questions to answers that satisfy completely." The class taught her to see the

Catholic Church as the Body of Christ operating within time and intentionally bringing the people of each age back to Christ.

The topics covered in the course are imperative for my generation," Vincent said, "as they provide context to our story as Catholics in this world and should propel us to action."

Maryann Gogniat Eidemiller writes from Pennsylvania.





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### ART Art is an invitation to wholeness

A liberal arts education allows students to understand they are more than their jobs or successes

#### By Paul Senz

The impact of the Catholic Church on Western civilization and culture is undeniable. At many Catholic colleges and universities, students learn about the role of the Church in the history of art — and the role the Catholic faith can continue to play in an artist's creations.

The "Loyola Core" at Loyola University New Orleans includes a category called Creative Arts & Cultures. This is more than a general education requirement; the traditional priorities of Jesuit education are emphasized in this curriculum framework: critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, information literacy, effective communication and ethical reasoning. These priorities mean that students "not take courses and have experiences that are directly related to and engage the Catholic faith, but also many others that touch on values consistent with and even inspired by Catholic teaching but not explicitly about Catholicism or Christianity or religion," said Jesuit Father Greg Waldrop, assistant professor of art history.

There are certainly times when classroom instruction is explicitly covering Catholic teaching. A student at another school once commented to Father Waldrop, "I've learned more about Catholicism in your course than I have in any of my required theology classes." Sometimes coursework covers altarpieces, which necessitates instruction on altars and what happens on Catholic altars, liturgy, the Eucharist, prayer. Much of the history of western art is ensconced in the Catholic faith. But even peripherally, when dis-



Professor Angelo Ray Martínez instructs art students at Holy Cross College in Notre Dame, Ind. Courtesy photo

cussing more recent art history when the Church was no longer such a prominent patron, there are ethical and moral issues to discuss — such as repatriation of looted antiquities — which is another way the Catholic faith is incorporated into coursework.

"So one way or another I'm teaching the Faith, I'm talking to young people about Jesus, I'm getting them to read Bible passages, and I'm encouraging them to analyze correctly in hopes that acting justly flows naturally from that and becomes a lasting legacy of their Jesuit education," Father Waldrop said.

But why teach art in college, anyway?

"If college doesn't prepare students for meaningful work in the world, then it fails," Father

"The Church is still the greatest defender of the notion that we are more than our jobs, careers or professional successes. We have hearts and feelings, not to mention brains that ponder bigger things than spreadsheets or bond rates."

- Father Greg Waldrop

Waldrop said. "But the Church is still the greatest defender of the notion that we are more than our jobs, careers or professional successes. We have hearts and feelings, not to mention brains that ponder bigger things than spreadsheets or bond rates."

Art, in particular, is one way that the university can accomplish this point of education. Art engages our hearts and minds, and beauty draws us into deeper contemplation. "We are more authentically human in such moments, and that's why our colleges and universities mustn't become solely professional train-ing centers," Father Waldrop said. "They have a spiritual mission as well."

This was the experience of Bennett Plessala, who graduated in 2020 from Loyola New Orleans with a philosophy major and an art history minor. Much of art history is "a visual theology, comprised of complex Christian devotional art of many media all for the common goal of worshipping the Christian God," he said. "To study this art without a deep guidance of faith is almost a waste of time and accomplishes very little."

#### **Guiding students toward** wholeness

Angelo Ray Martínez is assistant professor and director of the visual arts program at Holy Cross College in Notre Dame, Indiana, where he has taught since 2017. The Catholic identity of Holy Cross guides all academic disciplines, and instructors are called to integrate aspects of the Faith into every class. While this

"In the studio art

classes that I have

students are not

– Cecilia Simerman

only allowed to

may be easier in some courses than others, every professor is expected to present his dis- taken so far, we as cipline through a Catholic lens.

"Our mission is to 'educate and form global express our faith citizens with the competence to see through our art, but and the courage to act," Martínez said. "This is at-aged to do so." tained by applying the teachings of Christ to each course and exploring all subjects through the transcendentals of

truth, beauty and goodness." In art classes, students are given many prompts for creative

projects to explore features of

our Catholic faith, including a painted portrait of love, a drawn response to a Scripture passage, or an artwork that addresses the goodness of creation. Students are encouraged to make their art a form of spiritual devotion.

Teaching the Faith is the most important thing that we can do because it guides the individual toward wholeness," Martínez said. Beyond simply pre-

paring students for the workforce, there is an opportunity to show students how their faith can intersect with their chosen career paths, helping them better serve their communities in that way. "At Holy Cross College, we are dedicated to cultivating both the heart and the mind, to foster the next generation of great scholars, citizens, leaders and disciples!"

"In the studio art classes that I have taken so far, we as students are not only allowed to express our faith through our art, but are



Marek Dojs, an associate professor at the University of Mary, teaches students how to begin decorating an Easter egg in the Slavic tradition to tie the ancient folk art and its spiritual aspects with the university's Catholic values. CNS photo/Grace Ballalatak, courtesy University of Mary

is most meaningful to her.

faith to be incorporated into art

courses," Simerman said. "The

influence that the Catholic faith

has had on the development of

art over the centuries is unde-

niable, and a knowledge of that

influence is necessary to fully ap-

preciate the value of some of his-

actively encouraged to do so," said Cecilia Simerman, a junior graphic design major at Holy Cross. "The art we create means more to us than just a grade." Simerman has a particular interest in religious art, and the support she has received from professors has motivated her to continue creating the kind of artwork that

tory's greatest artworks." "I believe it is important for

PER YEAR

"I believe that faith can be communicated through art in such a beautiful way," Simerman said. "It would be a shame if any aspiring artist were not given a chance to learn how to partake in that experience."

Paul Senz writes from Oklahoma.

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# Living what we believe

The world is complex, but the sacraments can help to prepare students for their future

By Maryann Gogniat Eidemiller Mercyhurst College in Erie, Pennsylvania, founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1926, offers a four-year bachelor of arts major in religious studies, as well as minors in ethics, Catholic studies, and religion and society.

Father James Piszker is the university chaplain, interim director of Campus Ministry and has been an adjunct faculty member in religious studies and Catholic studies for 24 years. One of his classes focuses on the sacraments of the Catholic Church. He spoke to Our Sunday Visitor about his experience.

**Our Sunday Visitor:** Are the students taking the class to pursue Catholic professions such as parish or diocesan positions or teaching, or for personal enrichment of their faith?

**Father James Piszker:** Over the years, I would suspect that it is both. I think, too, that there is a curiosity about the sacraments from an adult perspective.

**Our Sunday Visitor:** How are symbols and sacraments incorporated into the studies? For instance, do you talk about the tradition/origin of water for baptism, holy oils for anointing of the sick, etc.?

Father Piszker: I have used an integrated approach utilizing the work of (the late) Joseph Martos (theologian, professor and Catholic sacramental scholar). We look at the sacraments from psychological, sociological, ritual studies, moral and spiritual perspectives. We also look at the history and evolution of each sacrament from its inception up to the current day. For symbols we utilize an examination of what would be referred to as sacramentals and also open students up to the understanding of "sacramentality" from Vatican II and contemporary theology.

**Our Sunday Visitor:** Can you give an example?

**Father Piszker:** From the perspective of the Eucharist,

psychologically it is the entrance into limited space, sociologically the building of community and a source of identification particularly when in a new and different place.

Ritually, the Eucharist provides stability, equity, healing and repletion, which can have a profound cumulative effect on the individual. Morally, the Eucharist challenges the idea of feeding and who is fed as well as other social justice issues. Spiritually, the Eucharist challenges us in our identity as Christians, especially as to the question: Are we living what we say we believe?

**Our Sunday Visitor:** How do these ancient traditions of sacraments and symbols fit into contemporary faith? Why is it important for students to know about the sacraments for their own faith journeys, and to pass on the Faith?

**Father Piszker:** I think that students as young adults hunger for explanations that fit an adult perspective. The question of "why?" comes to the surface and getting them to appreciate the theology of sacramentality helps.

**Our Sunday Visitor:** Have you seen any changes in how the sacraments are being taught to young people? Do today's students, compared to when you were studying, have different questions and different expectations in what they want to learn about the sacraments and their faith in general? Or is their search for understanding their faith timeless?

Father Piszker: There is no question that the teaching of the sacraments has evolved over time, from a Tridentine understanding that was very strict, succinct and mechanized, as attested to in the Baltimore Catechism, to a much more expansive appreciation coming from the teachings of Vatican II, which emphasized the communal nature of the sacraments.

**Our Sunday Visitor:** What do you hope that students will take away from your class?



**Father James Piszker** 

"Ritually, the Eucharist provides stability, equity, healing and repletion, which can have a profound cumulative effect on the individual. ... Spiritually, the Eucharist challenges us in our identity as Christians, especially as to the question: Are we living what we say we believe?"

- Father James Piszker

**Father Piszker:** My hope is that they begin to appreciate the sacraments from an adult perspective and begin to see the possibilities connected to an understanding of sacramentality, which complements their spiritual lives.

**Our Sunday Visitor:** How does the course fit in with the mission statement at Mercy-hurst?

**Father Piszker:** We are a Catholic, Mercy institution of higher learning, preparing young adults for the large, complex world of today, and the sacraments are an integral part of our self-understanding with ramifications that are interdisciplinary and preparatory for their futures.

Maryann Gogniat Eidemiller writes from Pennsylvania.



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Mountains beckoning just outside your classroom windows? A historic gold-rush town that's also rich with arts and entertainment? The surrounding community "perfectly encapsulates the spirit of the west, serving as the ultimate backdrop for adventure." HELENAMT.COM

\* Mass for Young People, Homily, Czech Republic, April 26, 1997

<sup>2</sup> Faith

**CONTINUE YOUR FAITH JOURNEY** Scan to watch Fr. Marc share more about Carroll College and Campus Ministry.



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of our generous financial aid package.

Grant, providing eligible graduates of Catholic high schools with a special scholarship on top

"Carroll College is meant to be a beacon to the Church in the Northwest."

SAINT JOHN PAUL II

# <sup>3</sup>Academics

#### **CARROLL NAMED #1... 11 YEARS IN A ROW**

**#1 IN REGIONAL COLLEGES WEST** by U.S. News & World Report

**BEST COLLEGES 2022** Nursing BSN Programs

**BEST COLLEGES 2022 Best Value Schools** 

**BEST COLLEGES 2022** For Veterans





**SINCE 1909** 1,100+ Students 55% Out-of State Including 14 COUNTRIES

11:1 Student to faculty ratio and an average class size of 12

**75 MILES** of hiking and biking trails within minutes of campus

**USNews** 

REGIONAL COLLEGES

**1 OF 10 CATHOLIC** Diocesan US Colleges and Universities

STRONG MINDS: Seeking understanding through intellectual pursuit

**GREAT HEARTS:** Embracing friendship, community, and shared experience

TRUE FAITH: Joyfully pursuing spiritual formation and the Common Good

**READY HANDS:** Taking every opportunity to lead and serve in school and life



### DIRECTORY OF CATHOLIC COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Listings of Catholic Colleges and Universities of interest to people planning to further their education.

#### **CALIFORNIA**

#### Franciscan School of Theology 5998 Alcalá Park

San Diego, CA 92110 **Phone:** (619)374-7727 **Email:** admissions@fst.edu **Website:** fst.edu

FST, a graduate school of theology and ministry in the tradition of Francis and Clare of Assisi, where head and heart are both engaged in learning. With this mission, the Franciscan School of Theology works to foster within each student a deepened intellectual and spiritual life oriented toward humble service. We prepare our students for professional ministry in the Roman Catholic Church, careers in theological education, and leadership in the Christian faith and ministry practice.

#### John Paul the Great

Catholic University 220 W Grand Ave. Escondido, CA 92025 Phone: (858)653-6740 Fax: (858)653-3791 Website: www.jpcatholic.edu E-mail:

admissions@jpcatholic.edu JPCatholic is the Catholic university for Creative Arts and Business Innovation. We combine hands-on instruction in media and business with an enriching Catholic liberal arts education. Experience small class sizes, mentorship from industry professionals, and a community of creative Catholics who believe in the power of beauty to transform culture.

#### Thomas Aquinas College

Santa Paula, California Phone: (805)525-4417 Northfield, Massachusetts Phone: (413)846-1200 Website: thomasaquinas.edu Contact: Jonathan Dalv. Director of Admissions A genuinely Catholic college, with campuses in California and Massachusetts: Great Books replace textbooks, and seminar discussions replace lectures. Students examine the greatest works from science & math to literature, philosophy & theology — in one fully integrated program. Juniors: Apply for the two-week Summer Great Books Program, held on both campuses in 2023!

#### FLORIDA

Ave Maria University 5050 Ave Maria Blvd. Ave Maria, FL 34142 Phone: (239)280-2500 **Website:** www.avemaria.edu Ave Maria (Latin for Hail Mary) recalls the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary of her future vocation – becoming the Mother of God. Using this model, we are devoted to helping all students find their vocational call, whatever that might be. We offer 31 majors, 29 minors, in sunny southwest Florida.

#### INDIANA

Holy Cross College 54515 State Road 933 North PO Box 308 Notre Dame, IN 46556-0308 Phone: (574)239-8377 Fax: (574)239-8323 Website: www.hcc-nd.edu E-mail: admissions@hcc-nd.edu Holy Cross College is a Catholic liberal arts college with a mission to educate and form global citizens with the competence to see and the courage to act. Students receive personalized classes and mentorship, classes taught by prestigious faculty with extensive experience, a guaranteed internship and career coaching, tri-campus access, and graduate school pathways.

#### **University of Saint Francis**

2701 Spring Street Fort Wayne, IN 46808 **Phone:** (260)399-7700 **Website:** www.sf.edu **E-mail:** admis@sf.edu Rooted in the Catholic and Franciscan traditions, the University of Saint Francis serves dynamic and diverse students. USF offers over 60 academic programs, 40 student organizations and 18 intercollegiate sports. With a career success rate of 99%, top companies routinely seek out USF graduates.

#### **KANSAS**

#### **Benedictine College**

1020 North 2nd Street Atchison, KS 66002 Phone: (800)467-5340 Website: www.benedictine.edu E-mail:

bcadmiss@benedictine.edu With scholarships and 50+ majors, including Graphic Design, Nursing, Architecture and Engineering, Benedictine College can help you achieve your goals. Come visit, and see why we are a U.S. News & World Report Top 15 College in the Midwest and one of the best Catholic Colleges according to The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College.

#### University of Saint Mary 4100 South 4th Street

Leavenworth, KS 66048 Phone: (913)682-5151 Website: stmary.edu Email: admiss@stmary.edu Founded in 1923 by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, the University of Saint Mary has a long tradition of academic excellence. USM is a tight-knit community where 1-on-1 attention is valued and growth is measured by more than a percentage in a gradebook. Students are inspired to pursue their God-given potential - choosing from dozens of undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees.

#### KENTUCKY

#### **Spalding University** 901 S Fourth Street Louisville, KY 40206 Phone: (502)585-9911 Website: www.spalding.edu E-Mail: admissions@spalding.edu A top 5 College in Kentucky (College Choice 2022) Spalding University is for students who want to earn a quality education, with individualized attention, at an affordable rate. We're a small, private university that is mission centered: our focus is on quality degrees that have an impact in our community.

#### LOUISIANA

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University 5414 Brittany Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70808 Phone: (225)526-1631 Fax: (225)768-1726 Website: www.franu.edu E-Mail: Admissions@FranU.edu Contact: Christy Sevier, Director of Admissions Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University (FranU) is a premier Catholic institution in the heart of Baton Rouge that provides students a faith-filled and formative education in preparation to serve our communities. FranU has a variety of degree programs including online with a special emphasis on healthcare education.

#### MARYLAND

Mount St. Mary's University 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727 Phone: (301)447-5214 Website: msmary.edu E-mail: admissions@msmary.edu Mount St. Mary's University is the country's second oldest Catholic university. Located in Emmitsburg, Maryland, one of OSV's top 10 Catholic cities in the U.S., the Mount offers more than 80 majors, minors, concentrations and special programs for traditional undergraduate students and 25 adult undergraduate and graduate level programs.

#### The Collegium

36 S. Potomac St.

Suite 203 Hagerstown, MD 21740 Phone: (240)591-0013 Website: the-collegium.org E-mail:

admissions@the-collegium.org The Collegium is an undergraduate college offering a classical, liberal arts degree. Our program is faithful to the unchanging magisterium of the church, the most integrated and cohesive program of its kind, and fully dedicated to the spiritual, moral, intellectual, and liturgical traditions of the Church.

#### **MICHIGAN**

Madonna University

36600 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 Phone: (734)432-5339 Website: www.madonna.edu E-mail:

admissions@madonna.edu Liberal arts, career preparation and service learning are the hallmarks of a Madonna University education. Catholic, faith-based, affordable and student-focused, we offer undergraduate and graduate degree programs in business, nursing, education, social work, science, broadcast and cinema arts, forensic science, criminal justice, sign language and more.

#### MONTANA

Carroll College 1601 N Benton Ave. Helena, MT 59625 Phone: (406)447-4384 or (800)992-3648 Website: www.carroll.edu Email: admission@carroll.edu You are made for Adventure; pursue it at Carroll College! One of 10 US Diocesan Colleges, our campus is steps from miles of hiking and biking trails. We engage in a joint venture for the search for the Ultimate Truth and the Ultimate Good, which is the final goal of all education.

#### **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

#### Thomas More College

of Liberal Arts Six Manchester Street Merrimack, NH 03054 Phone: (603)880-8308 Fax: (603)880-9280 Website:

www.thomasmorecollege.edu Thomas More College of Liberal Arts was founded to provide a solid education in the liberal arts, a Catholic education for students of all faiths, united in the quest for what is true, good, and beautiful. It pursues this mission by seeking wisdom and sharing it joyfully with the world.

#### NORTH CAROLINA

Belmont Abbey College 100 Belmont-Mt. Holly Rd.

Belmont, NC 28012 Phone: (888)222-0110 Website:

www.belmontabbeycollege.edu Email: admissions@bac.edu Contact: Martin Aucoin, Vice Provost and Dean of Admissions Since 1876, Belmont Abbey College has educated students in the liberal arts and sciences, guided by the Benedictine spirit of prayer and learning. We are a private, Catholic institute that prepares our students to live with integrity, to succeed professionally, to become responsible citizens, and to glorify God always.

#### NORTH DAKOTA

**University of Mary** 7500 University Drive Bismarck, ND 58504 Phone: (701)355-8030 or (800)288-MARY (6279) Fax: (701)255-7687 Website: www.umary.edu E-mail: enroll@umary.edu Providing an affordable, serious Catholic education, University of Mary offers nearly 60 undergraduate, 19 master's, and four doctoral programs, a Year-Round Campus option, Catholic Studies, campus in Rome, and free room and board for eligible graduates of Catholic high schools. We are faithfully Christian, joyfully Catholic, and gratefully Benedictine.

#### OHIO

Walsh University 2020 East Maple Street North Canton, OH 44720 Phone: (330)490-7090 Website: www.walsh.edu



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E-mail: admissions@walsh.edu As a nationally recognized Catholic university, Walsh University's ultimate mission is to develop leaders in service to others. With nearly 100 undergraduate majors and minors, as well as graduate and online degree completion programs, Walsh aims to be your education partner for life.

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

#### Saint Vincent College 300 Fraser Purchase Rd.

Latrobe, PA 15650-2690 Phone: (800)782-5549, ext. 2500 Fax: (724)532-5069 Website: www.stvincent.edu **Contact:** 

admission@stvincent.edu Saint Vincent is a nationallyranked Catholic, liberal arts college offering more than 50 majors and merit- and need-based aid. With a focus on academic rigor and supported by a monastic community, students are prepared for successful careers and meaningful lives, with 98% of recent graduates employed or furthering their education within one year.

#### **TEXAS**

#### St. Mary's University

One Camino Santa Maria San Antonio, TX 78228 Phone: (210)436-3126 Website: www.stmarytx.edu Email: uadm@stmarytx.edu St. Mary's University is committed to academic excellence, exceeding expectations and equipping tomorrow's leaders with the professional and interpersonal skills to succeed. Undergraduates study within humanities, science and business schools, with options to pursue graduate, doctoral and law degrees. Students benefit from a balance of rigorous curriculum with community service.

#### **University of Dallas**

1875 E Northgate Dr. Irving, TX 75062-4736 Phone: (800)628-6999 Fax: (972)721-5017 Website: udallas.edu/admissions Email: admissions@udallas.edu The University of Dallas is a leading Catholic institution with campuses in Irving, Texas, and Rome, Italy. Known for the academic rigor of its undergraduate liberal arts curriculum, rooted in Western and Catholic tradition, UD's exceptional faculty are committed to the pursuit of wisdom, truth and virtue.

#### University of St.

**Thomas Houston** 3800 Montrose Blvd., Houston, TX 77006 Phone: (713) 525-3500 Email: admissions@stthom.edu Website: stthom.edu University of St. Thomas Houston prepares students for both life and career in a rapidly changing world. Through a Catholic, liberal arts education that is accessible and affordable, students earn their degree while acquiring the skills employers' desire. UST offers 39 majors. Opportunities for research, internships and jobs with Fortune 500 companies and world-renowned hospitals.

#### VERMONT

#### Saint Michael's College

One Winooski Park, Box 7, Colchester, Vermont, USA 05439 Phone: (800)762-8000 Website: www.smcvt.edu E-mail: admission@smcvt.edu St. Mike's is a residential, liberal arts Edmundite Catholic college in the Burlington area of Vermont. Whatever your field of study, expert faculty will mentor you, illuminate your career and life paths, nurture your talents and challenge you to explore your values. Take our virtual tour and learn more.

#### **WISCONSIN**

#### Viterbo University

900 Viterbo Dr. La Crosse, WI 54601 Phone: (608)796-3010 Website: www.viterbo.edu E-mail: admission@viterbo.edu Viterbo University has a proud Catholic, Franciscan heritage and stands apart because of its commitment to a values-based education. Small class sizes

give students space to thrive and find their path to success, as evidenced by Viterbo's 100% post-graduation placement rate. Students can choose from over 40 career-focused traditional or online graduate and undergraduate programs.

#### LAW SCHOOLS

Ave Maria School of Law 1025 Commons Circle Naples, FL 34119 Phone: (239)687-5420 Website: www.avemarialaw.edu E-mail: info@avemarialaw.edu Unabashedly Catholic and consistently ranked as The Princeton Review's "Most Conservative Law School," one of Princeton Review's "Best Law Schools," and preLaw's "Most Devout Law School." We provide a traditional legal education while placing an emphasis on how the law intersects with the Catholic intellectual tradition and natural law philosophy. That's the Ave Law difference!

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We are dedicated to forming students into joyful, courageous, virtuous leaders through a vibrant campus culture with 18 NCAA D-II teams, 40+ student organizations, and abundant service opportunities.

#### We are grateful.

We are an innovator in higher education with our Year-Round Campus option, which offers tremendous economic benefits of earning a bachelor's degree in 2.6 years and a master's in 4. Because of generous donors who believe in the value of a Catholic education, *eligible graduates from Catholic high schools receive free room and board.* 

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