

NEWS RELEASE

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USM's Campus Growth Leads to Closing of Ancilla Daycare Center

Longtime Childcare Facility Closing Doors on Dec. 21

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—The University of Saint Mary is growing and preparing for its first doctorate program, the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT), which will occupy Berchmans Hall currently under renovation.

Berchmans has previously been home to student gathering spaces. In order to provide space for students, the university needs to return the Ancilla Daycare Center space in Maria Hall, to student life space. The Ancilla Center will close on Dec. 21, 2011 after more than 30 years of serving families in the area.

The Ancilla Center is currently located on the lower level of USM's Maria Hall dormitory.

“USM is growing. This very positive news for the university and its students unfortunately brings sad news for the Ancilla Center,” said USM President Sister Diane Steele. “We are grateful for the dedicated staff members at Ancilla who have provided such excellent childcare over the years. This was a difficult decision.”

Ancilla Center parents have been notified of the imminent closing in order to provide ample time to find alternative childcare.

The Ancilla Center opened its doors on Sept. 2, 1980. It was intended to meet the childcare needs of young women who were pursuing their college degrees, and was named for the late Mother Mary Ancilla Spoor of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth.

The center is a state-licensed day care facility, and has cared for thousands of children over its lifespan. It currently serves children between 2 ½ and 12 years of age.

The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu for more information.

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