

## NEWS RELEASE

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### University of Saint Mary Celebrates Poetry, Life with *“From the Tower”*

*7 p.m. Thursday, April 7, 2005*

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—Two University of Saint Mary published poets come together to celebrate poetic wit, word and wisdom at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7. Sister Susan Rieke, SCL, and Michael Paul Novak will read from their extensive personal poetry collections in the Saint Mary Social Room, located on the second floor of Saint Mary Hall, University of Saint Mary, 4100 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The tandem will also read poems written by the late Mary Janet McGilley, SCL. Admission is free and open to the public.



Michael Paul Novak and Sister Susan Rieke pose for a photo with a portrait of the late Sister Mary Janet McGilley in between.

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This isn't the first time Rieke and Novak have teamed up for a poetry reading. The scholars have performed countless times, including last April. In fact, all three poets — Rieke, Novak and McGilley — published a book of poetry, *“From the Tower,”* available in the University of Saint Mary bookstore.

The readings are also in celebration of life—particularly that of Sister Mary Janet McGilley. McGilley was president of then Saint Mary College for 25 years. She passed away in September 2004. McGilley wrote more than 400 poems now stored in the Saint Mary archives, and even more can be found in De Paul Library. In the summer of 2004, the University of Saint Mary honored McGilley naming the university's new field house in her honor.

Sister Rieke, Ph.D., is chair of the USM language and literature department and a professor of English. Novak is professor emeritus in English and creative writing.

The readings are made possible by the University of Saint Mary chapter of Delta Epsilon Sigma, a national organization recognizing academic achievement, leadership and service at Catholic colleges and universities in the United States. Call 913-758-6214 for more information about the April 7 poetry reading.

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