

NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 1, 2005

Contact: Laura Davis 913-758-6308

E-mail: DavisL@stmary.edu



University of Saint Mary Offers Tuition-Free Semester for Hurricane Victim College Students

(Leavenworth, Kan.)— Moved by the Spirit of Charity that is the university's heritage, the University of Saint Mary (USM) in Leavenworth, Kan. will offer free tuition to students who were enrolled in the colleges and universities hit by Hurricane Katrina and who are from that area. The hurricane relief project called, "Operation: Living the Mission," was created in an effort to respond to the needs of the victims of the disaster. Students must be current residents of New Orleans or the affected areas of Mississippi. Each student will have the option of living in a dorm room or with a support family in the Leavenworth/Lansing area.

University of Saint Mary is a four-year Catholic applied liberal arts university with a strong educational emphasis on the importance of service. USM is sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth—a religious community mission bound to serve those in need.

Saint Mary will take as many hurricane victim students as it can accommodate. Heartland Motor Coach out of St. Joseph, Mo. has donated the use of one of their motor coach buses to pick up interested college students in Houston within the next week. Students will be brought back to Saint Mary to get settled into their classes as soon as possible. If you know of a student in the affected areas who might be interested, have them contact Saint Mary at 1-800-752-7043 extension 6308 to make pick-up arrangements.

USM is working with the American Red Cross, Leavenworth County Chapter and the Salvation Army to help get the word out to shelters in the hurricane-stricken region.

Call 1-800-752-7043 if you would like to volunteer to be a support family and sponsor a student by hosting one of these students in your home, or donate financially. Saint Mary has established an account at MidAmerican Bank & Trust Company for those who want to support "Operation: Living the Mission."

Please send financial contributions to:

University of Saint Mary "Operation: Living the Mission"

Mid-American Bank & Trust Company

401 Delaware

Leavenworth, KS 66048

Call 913-758-6308 or 816-896-8854, or visit www.stmary.edu for more details about the University of Saint Mary "Operation: Living the Mission" relief effort.

###