

NEWS RELEASE

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University of Saint Mary to Commemorate Founders of the University with Day-Long Celebration

Founders' Day Concert, 7:30 p.m. Tues., Nov. 8, 2005
Founders' Day, Nov. 11

(Leavenworth, Kan.) — With nothing but the clothes on their back, and a few small rations of food, six Sisters of Charity set out from Nashville, Tenn. on November 11, 1858 on a small raft bound for the “wild western frontier.” They landed in Leavenworth, Kan., immediately opened a small boarding school, which eventually became the University of Saint Mary.

To commemorate the six original sister’s vision of education and charity which has spanned nearly 150 years, the University of Saint Mary will honor its founders with a day-long Founders’ Day celebration Friday, Nov. 11.

The Founders’ Day celebration includes a music concert presented by the university concert choral and community band, and a unique “Notes and Floats” presentation. The Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth’s own musical performers, “The Charity Notes” will perform a host of tunes and then will serve root-beer floats to students. The “Notes & Floats” presentation will take place at 11:50 a.m. in Saint Joseph Dining Hall. Artistic exhibits of the university’s founders will also be displayed throughout campus as well.

Leading up to Founders’ Day, the University of Saint Mary Fine Arts—Music department will present American and British music from the World War I era at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8 in the Walnut Room, Mead 201, at the University of Saint Mary. Admission is free, and the public is cordially invited to attend.

The university community band, concert chorale and faculty soloists Freda Proctor, Sister Anne Callahan and Dr. William Krusemark will feature songs like "For All the Saints" by Vaughan-Williams, “Maple Leaf Rag” by Joplin and “Alexander's Ragtime Band” by Irving Berlin. The concert is part of the year-long series of the University of Saint Mary lectures and events commemorating the original “Great War.”

The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Leavenworth, Kan. For more information about Founders’ Day, visit the University of Saint Mary website at www.stmary.edu or call 913-758-6165.

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