

NEWS RELEASE

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• MEDIA ADVISORY •

USM Freshmen Head “Into the Streets” of Leavenworth and Lansing to Do Service

(Leavenworth, Kan.) University of Saint Mary freshmen are beginning their first week at the main campus in Leavenworth, Kan., by performing service in the local community. USM Campus Ministry and the Service-Learning Center are coordinating the fifth annual service project called “*Into the Streets*.”

From 9 to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 14, groups of USM freshmen led by USM faculty and staff will work at The Alliance Against Family Violence, Ancilla Center for Children, Catholic Community Services, Ross Hall, Saint John Hospital, and West Middle School in Leavenworth.

Students will be working with children and the elderly, doing inside and outside work, tearing down sheds, and helping with 6th grader orientation at West Middle School, assisting new students open their lockers, etc.

“*Into the Streets* is a very beneficial program for incoming freshmen. As an orientation program, it teaches our new freshmen that USM is not only about learning in the classroom, but also learning how to be a citizen who gives back to society. This program builds community between the students who just arrived on campus, while introducing them to the greater Leavenworth/Lansing community. It shows them a way that they can get involved,” said Heather Coates, USM campus minister and one of the organizers of *Into the Streets*.

Service-learning is an important part of the educational experience at USM.

“We like to get our students acclimated to the importance of service from the moment they arrive at Saint Mary,” said Sister Diane Steele, president of the university. “Students have many opportunities to continue their commitment to service throughout their time at Saint Mary through alternative break service trips to places like Guatemala, Appalachia, Kentucky, New Orleans, and Denver, just to name a few. Students also take part in service-learning projects in the local community. We believe a lifetime commitment to service will result in our graduates leading lives that are more fulfilled.”

Call (913) 758-6146 or visit www.stmary.edu to learn more about Service-Learning at the University of Saint Mary.

The University of Saint Mary is a private, co-educational applied liberal arts university founded by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with three additional locations in Overland Park (11413 Pflumm), in Kansas City, Kan. (inside Providence Medical Center at 8929 Parallel Parkway), and in Shawnee, Kan. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish (501 Monticello Rd.).

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