

## NEWS RELEASE

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## University of Saint Mary Men's Basketball Program Hosts Hoops Clinic for Area Boys and Girls

*9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12; Registration Now Open*

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—Local boys and girls ages 5 to 14 can hone their basketball skills at the University of Saint Mary Basketball Clinic from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Ryan Sports Center. The clinic is hosted by the Spires Men's Basketball program and head men's coach Jon Bishop.

Registration is \$25 for an individual child or \$40 for two children.

The three-hour clinic emphasizes the fundamentals of the game, and offers young basketball players hands-on individual instruction from USM coaching staff and Spires players. Participants will also receive free tickets to USM's men's and women's basketball games against Sterling College Saturday evening Dec. 12. The camp will also feature three-on-three and five-on-five games supervised by Saint Mary coaches.

The camp will be held in Ryan Sports Center on the university's Leavenworth campus, 4100 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

USM's men's basketball program has experienced dramatic improvement under the leadership of Coach Bishop. The team went from a 3-26 record in 2008 to a 19-11 mark in spring 2009. Prior to the start of the 2009-2010 basketball season, the Spires were voted to a number one ranking in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference's pre-season coaches' poll.

"Clinic participants will benefit from our staff's deep knowledge of coaching and teaching, and our extensive experience," Coach Bishop said.

Participants may pay and register the morning of the clinic. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12.

Call (913) 758-6311 to register in advance or for more information.

Go to [www.gospires.com/inside\\_athletics/camps-clinics.asp](http://www.gospires.com/inside_athletics/camps-clinics.asp) for more details.

*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, Shawnee, and Kansas City, Kan. Visit [www.stmary.edu](http://www.stmary.edu) on the web for more information.*

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