

NEWS RELEASE

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University of Saint Mary Presents 2010 Theology Lecture Featuring Dr. Kristin Heyer on Catholicism and the Immigration Crisis

7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, USM's Xavier Theatre

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—The University of Saint Mary theology department presents “Welcoming the Stranger: Catholicism and the Immigration Crisis” with Dr. Kristin Heyer—a look at the religious and moral implications of immigration policy—for USM’s annual theology lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, in Xavier Theatre on the university’s Leavenworth campus, 4100 South 4th Street.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Seating is limited, so early arrival is recommended.

Dr. Heyer—a Kansas City, Mo., native and a former parishioner of Visitation Catholic Church—is an associate professor of religious studies at Santa Clara University and a noted Catholic social ethicist. Her book, “*Prophetic and Public: The Social Witness of U.S. Catholicism*,” won the Best Book Award from the College Theology Society in 2007.



Dr. Kristin Heyer

Heyer’s lecture will explore how failures in the U.S. immigration system have dire consequences. She will examine how Christian commitments to welcoming the vulnerable, safeguarding the family, and fostering solidarity contrast with the reality of immigration in the United States.

“We are honored to have Dr. Heyer share her well-informed views on immigration,” said Dr. Brian W. Hughes, chair of USM’s theology department. “Besides offering a critique of the system, Dr. Heyer will present avenues for change and improvement.”

Call Dr. Brian Hughes at (913) 758-6317 or send email to HughesB@stmary.edu for more information about this event. Visit www.stmary.edu and click on “Calendar of Events” for a complete listing of USM events.

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 and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu for more information.