

## NEWS RELEASE

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## University of Saint Mary Brings the Magical Christmas Classic 'The Nutcracker' to the Stage

*7:30 p.m. Dec. 3 & 4, Xavier Theatre*

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—Rediscover a wonderful and family-friendly holiday classic with the University of Saint Mary production of “The Nutcracker” re-envisioned as a captivating play at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, and Saturday, Dec. 4, in Xavier Theatre on USM’s Leavenworth campus at 4100 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and are available at the door. Call (913) 758-6152 or go to [www.stmary.edu/tickets](http://www.stmary.edu/tickets) online for advance tickets. The USM production of “The Nutcracker” is suitable for all audiences.

“The Nutcracker” recounts the beloved legend of a little girl’s wooden soldier that magically springs to life and leads her on a quest to battle the devious Mouse King. The USM production is based on the play version adapted for the stage by June Walker Rogers from the story by E.T.A. Hoffman. Van Ibsen, head of USM’s theatre program, has further adapted the work to extend its length, add musical snippets from the ballet, and incorporate contemporary holiday tunes.

“The annual Christmas theatre production is one that we especially love, as it’s a show for the whole family,” said USM Theatre Instructor Danielle Trebus.

“Each year, we do multiple matinees for the Leavenworth area grade schools and for the Girl Scouts of the Greater Kansas City Metro Area,” Trebus added. “We also decorate our lobby for the holiday. It’s a treat for the eyes and ears.”

Matinee tickets are already sold out.

The student cast of this year’s Christmas production includes Patrick Peterson as the Nutcracker/Prince, Sadie Vetter as Clara, and Alyssa Dunning as the Mouse King.

Call (913) 758-6152 for tickets or for more information.

*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](http://www.stmary.edu) for more information.*

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