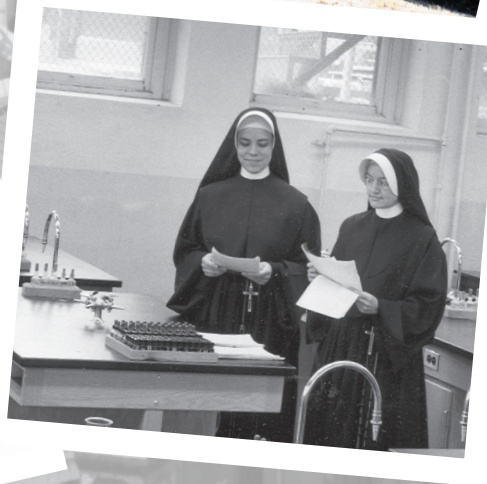


A MAGAZINE FOR ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS • SPRING/SUMMER 2015

Pirates' Treasure



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Call Home**
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ON THE COVER: St. Mary's has had several locations in its almost 130 year history.

The *Pirates' Treasure Magazine* is published twice a year. Letters, comments, and article submissions are always welcome. The SMHS Development Office may be contacted by mail at 2501 East Yampa St., Colorado Springs, CO 80909, by phone at 719-635-7540 ext. 38. Alumni notes and class notes may also be posted at the SMHS website at www.smhscs.org.

You can also find St. Mary's High School on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/St-Marys-High-School-Colorado-Springs-Colorado/58877258635 or Google "St. Mary's High School Colorado Springs+Facebook." And follow St. Mary's on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/SMHSColorado>.

From the President

Beginning Year 130

Before looking forward, let's take a quick glance at the amazing successes of our students and community during the 2014-2015 school year:

- 20,000 hours volunteered to the Colorado Springs community by the Class of 2015, including work with recovery efforts after the Waldo Canyon and Black Forest fires, Care & Share food bank, Marian House, Catholic Charities, mission trips, parishes and schools throughout the diocese, and to non-profit agencies throughout southern Colorado
- Voted Best High School in Colorado Springs
- A student named one of The Best & Brightest of Colorado Springs
- New engineering courses that were great successes, with an additional course being added this coming year
- 75 graduates in the class of 2015 were offered \$9.3 million in college merit scholarships
- Two full-ride ROTC scholarships, one to Boston University and one to Villanova University
- Duo named state champs in Public Forum Debate
- Six students qualified for the National Speech and Debate Tournament
- Two students among the 15 Colorado students qualifying for the National Chemistry Olympiad
- One senior named the Colorado Chemistry Student of the Year
- The art department's entry was named winner of the Western Heritage Art Contest among all the high schools in the area

As we begin St. Mary's 130th consecutive year, we certainly have the students, faculty, supporters, and drive to achieve even more.

To build upon the tremendous successes of the past few years, however, our school community must overcome hurdles that have been holding us back. Now is the time to leap these hurdles, which are: debt, an outdated science wing, too little endowed tuition assistance, and lack of locker rooms at the Grace Center. These are critical needs and can only be addressed together with a major campaign. During 2015-2016 we, together and through new partnerships, will address these critical needs.

Over the next several months you will be updated on the progress of our major capital goals; we expect you will be excited to join in making these a reality so St. Mary's can continue to be a leader for the next 130 years. To view the preview document regarding the upcoming campaign, visit www.smhscs.org.

Happy 130th birthday, St. Mary's High School.

By God's Graces,



John Kraus, President

On Campus

St. Mary's Claims Best High School Title in Gazette's Best of Springs Contest

Those associated with St. Mary's High School have known for years that it's one of the area's best kept secrets. But in April, the secret was out when St. Mary's won first place for Best High School in The Gazette's 2015 Best of the Springs contest.



"That St. Mary's was voted a Best Of winner is not only a recognition of the excellence of our school, it also means our reputation is spreading and this is good as we no longer wish to be the best kept secret in the Springs," said John Kraus, president of St. Mary's High School.

The St. Mary's community worked hard to earn the title, with students, parents, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of the school all voting in the online poll. The results were announced on April 16 and the print edition of the list was published April 19.

Bukowski Named to Best & Brightest List, Earns More Volunteer Recognition

Michael Bukowski Jr. '15 was named one of The Gazette's 20 Best and Brightest high school seniors in April. This recognition came a couple of months after Bukowski received two awards for his volunteer work with the local communities affected by forest fires.

"Our entire community is so proud of Michael for what he has accomplished and for the strong Christian man he has become," President Kraus said. "Best and Brightest are fitting descriptors for Michael."

Earlier this year, Bukowski earned the 2015 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Certificate of Excellence, which shows that he was among the top 10 percent in the state in this year's program; and the Prudential Spirit of Community Award, which recognizes middle and high school students across America for outstanding volunteer service.

Bukowski is also now serving as a recovery director with Black Forest Together, a community group that started in August 2013 to assist victims of the Black Forest Fire.

"The position came through word of mouth," Bukowski said. "Ed Bracken, one of the board members for Black Forest Together, asked if I would manage their volunteers. So I have the position of managing the volunteers, assisting with recovery, and helping accomplish our goals."

In the summer of 2013, Bukowski received the Waldo Canyon Fire and Restoration Outstanding Volunteer Award for his efforts.



Black Forest Together Team Lead Michael Bukowski (in yellow) and Chuck Lidderdale, operated the high-powered chipper, while the AmeriCorps team hauled slash to the machine in October 2014. (Photo: Black Forest Together)

New Engineering Classes Give Students Hands-On Experience in a Variety of Engineering Areas

Students are now getting hands-on experience with different types of engineering, thanks to the new Fundamentals of Engineering course designed by science teacher Al Hartzell and the Project Lead the Way curriculum, which were both instituted for the 2014-2015 school year.

The one-semester Fundamentals of Engineering course exposes students to six engineering areas including mechanical, electrical, biomedical, environmental, chemical, and aerospace.

During the first offering of the course in the fall of 2014, students had to design and build an ark and show that it would actually float. They also learned about polymers, adhesives, 3D printing, and lasers.

"Students who don't know if they want to be engineers can get a taste of it by doing weekly hands-on activities," Hartzell said.

Hartzell, a biomedical engineer by trade, started planning the course a year ago, developing it from scratch.

Continued on page 4

On Campus

The Project Lead the Way courses—which comprise a four-year program—are yearlong electives for the students at St. Mary's. The first class in the program, Introduction to Engineering, was offered during the 2014-2015 school year. It wrapped up with students building a school desk as their final project. The two best desk designs were manufactured as prototypes.

"We had a very successful roll out of the engineering program," said Mike Kloenne, who taught the class. "I'm totally impressed with Project Lead the Way and our students' hustle and effort."

In the fall, the second PLTW course, Principles of Engineering, will be added. Kloenne said the principles course is more physics based, dealing with buildings, robots, and machines. Tom Harder will teach the Principles of Engineering course.

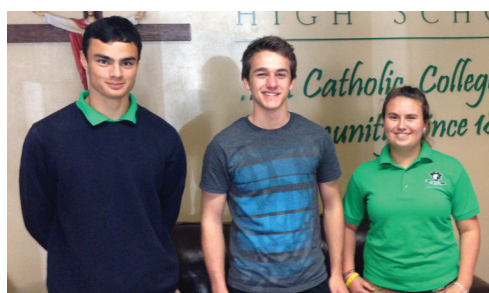
"What I love about this program is that it doesn't teach to a standardized test," Kloenne said. "Kids don't just have four choices. Students learn important critical thinking and problem solving skills even if they find engineering isn't what they want to pursue. These skills are applicable to all meaningful 21st century professions."

St. Mary's Sweeps Stock Market Experience

St. Mary's students swept the top three places at the 2015 Early Spring Colorado

Stock Market Experience for the Pikes Peak Region in the High School Division.

Robert Delfeld '15 finished first, Christine Ott '16 placed second, and Michael Tafolla '15 took third.



St. Mary's students swept the top three places in the Stock Market Experience. Robert Delfeld '15, first, Christine Ott '16, second, and Michael Tafolla '15, third.

The Stock Market Experience is a real life investment simulation that advances student academic achievement in core academic disciplines. Students work together to invest in stocks, mutual funds, bonds, and commodities on US and international exchanges over the course of a semester. The Stock Market Experience is a program of the Colorado Council for Economic Education.

Forensics Continues Its Winning Ways

The St. Mary's Forensics Team spent February and March securing spots at the Colorado State Forensic Meet and the

National Speech and Debate Tournament.

Nine team members competed at the state meet. Matt Heery '15 and Joe Wahl '15 came home with a

championship in Public Forum Debate. They were undefeated, going 7-0 to earn the first place finish.

Aman Mital '15 finished 11th in the state and was a semi-finalist in International Extemporaneous Speaking. Also competing were: Cassidy Anderson '15, Leah Hickert '17, Anna Snizek '17, Christina Haile '17, Anna Wahl '17, and Mike Klopenstein '15.

Six team members qualified for Nationals. They are: Heery, Wahl, Mital and Grant Nelson '15 all competing in Public Forum Debate; and Anderson and Hickett, both competing in Lincoln Douglas Debate. The National Tournament was held in June.

Also at the National Qualifying Tournament at Pueblo West, the St. Mary's team won the Sweepstakes Trophy in Debate.

Two Qualify for National Chem Exam

For the sixth year in a row, St. Mary's High School qualified students for the National Chemistry Olympiad. This year Ben Stockelman '16 and Megan Beaudoin '16 qualified for the National Exam, which is sponsored by the American Chemical Society. The National Exam is administered in three parts and takes 4 hours and 45 minutes to complete. One part of the National Exam includes two lab practicals.

Each state receives 15 qualifying spots, and two students is the max number of students each school can send to the National Exam.

The students who have qualified over the last six years are: Matthew Bucher '11 and Katie Raskob '11, 2010; Cameron Hickert '12 and Micaela Heery '12, 2011; Cannon Wille '13, 2012; Kelly Heiniger '14 and Miranda Schene '14, 2013; Sarah Burns '15 and Aman Mital '15, 2014; and Stockelman and Beaudoin, 2015.

Theater Club Stages 'Into the Woods'

In April, the Drama Club presented "Into the Woods." It was the directorial debut of Michelle Bowen '06, who performed in



The highest St. Mary's state finishers with their coach. Left to right are: Aman Mital, Matt Heery, Jim Hopkins, and Joe Wahl.

many productions during her time at St. Mary's.

Bowen said she chose a musical she was familiar with since it was her first production as a director. St. Mary's staged "Into the Woods" during Bowen's junior year of high school. But she also felt that it was timely with the "Into the Woods" movie having recently come out, and she was drawn to its message.

"I really love the moral of this musical," she said. "That there are consequences of our wishes, and we don't always understand at the time how that wish will affect our future or the future of others. It's really about the value of a wish."



Musical and NAHS photos: Diane Torrence

Otteson Claims Third Internship at Northop Grumman

Christopher Otteson '15 will again spend his summer working at an internship with Northop Grumman. It is his third summer to intern with the Colorado Springs company. After competing in the CyberPatriot defense competition, Otteson was offered the internship opportunity at the end of his sophomore year.

During the last two summers, Otteson has worked on programs with virus detection and an educational web site detailing web site exploit methods and how to prevent them.

NAHS Takes 1st in Western Spirit Project

In May, St. Mary's National Art Honor Society won first place in the "Western Spirit Art Project" contest, sponsored by the Pikes Peak Western Heritage Spirit Committee and the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Committee. St. Mary's cowboy and steed was displayed at various locations throughout the Springs and rode in the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Parade in July before being auctioned off after the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo. The Western Spirit Committee held the first Western Spirit Art Project in 2011. Since then, St. Mary's has placed first twice and third twice.



Abby Torrence 'xx, Danielle Selke '15, and Karen Simkiss represented the National Art Honor Society at the Western Spirit Art Project awards at the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in May.



St. Mary's LIFE Runners chapter before its first walk/run in April.

St. Mary's Establishes LIFE Runners Chapter, First for a Colorado High School

In April, St. Mary's new LIFE Runners chapter got underway with an inaugural walk/run. LIFE Runners is an international organization, with chapters in all 50 states and 22 countries, that seeks to promote pro-life views through monthly runs and other organized events.

The St. Mary's LIFE Runners will gather on the third Sunday of each month for a walk/run.

"The idea is that we say the LIFE Runners prayer, then run, walk, or crawl whatever distance you can cover in 15 minutes," Kloenne said. "At the 15-minute mark, you turn around and go back, so theoretically everyone is finishing at the same time."

The LIFE Runners chapter is part of the St. Mary's Students for Life Club, guided by parent-leader Mary Simmons.

From the Archive

Who can help us identify the people in this picture? Are you in it? Anyone? Anyone? This photo from the archives appeared in the yearbook but didn't include much identifying information. We published it in the Fall/Winter 2014 issue of the PTM, but no one emailed us with information so we're trying again.

If you can identify when it was taken or any of the people in it, please email apartain@smhscs.org.



A Place to Call

St. Mary's facilities have changed, but the school's spirit remains the same

As one of the oldest schools in Colorado, St. Mary's High School has a long history. On the cusp of celebrating 130 years of educating local youth, it seems a good time to look back on the places that St. Mary's has called home.

Humble Housing

St. Mary's humble beginnings were set against the back drop of a small home located at 425 N. Tejon. Twenty-one years earlier, the Sisters of Loretto had established St. Mary's Academy in Denver, which was now flourishing, and they were looking to expand their work.

So renting the small house on Tejon, three sisters advertised the opening of Loretto Academy in the fall of 1885. The house suited the original enrollment of nine young ladies, but just a year later, as enrollment increased, the school quickly outgrew its first facility.

After its first year in operation, the school moved to a slightly bigger house, where it would operate for the next two school years. This house was located north of the El Paso Club, which was located on the northwest corner of Kiowa and Tejon. But even as they were moving to their second location, the sisters were working on a more permanent location.

The sisters had been gifted property from Bishop Machebauf of the Diocese of Denver, but felt that the property was too far from the center of town. So they worked out a trade with the city of Colorado Springs. They would give the city the property they owned, valued at \$900, plus an addition \$1,000 for lots that bordered Bijou, Kiowa, and Sierra Madre. The trade was completed on June 22, 1886.

While the school operated at the Kiowa-Tejon location for the 1886-1887 and 1887-1888 school years, a new school building was being built on the land in the center of town. The cost of the building was between \$25,000 and \$30,000 and was designed so it could be enlarged as needed.

Ole Green

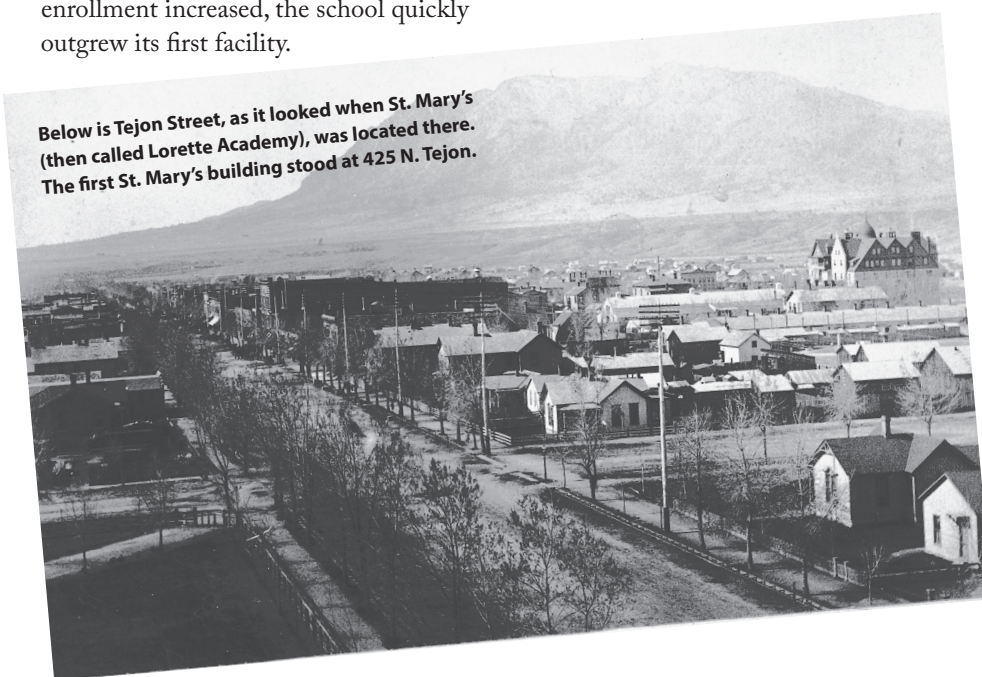
Loretto Academy started the 1888-1889 school year in its new building. At the time, the four-story, red brick building was the tallest building in Colorado Springs. This location would carry the school through the next 84 years of operation.

With the opening of the new building came another change-the addition of boy students in the elementary school. For the first three years, as was the mission of the Sisters of Loretto, enrollment had been open only to girls.

By 1901 plans were in place for Loretto Academy to become a full parochial school and two new wings were planned: one for boys and one for girls. Cost of the new wings was \$20,000. The St. Mary Parish, which had pushed for the school to teach boys of all ages, agreed to pay for the building and furnishing of the new wings, in addition to paying heating costs, insurance, and custodial service for the whole building.

Once the wings were completed and the school became a full parochial school, a change in name was needed too. In 1903 the school was renamed St. Mary's School.

Below is Tejon Street, as it looked when St. Mary's (then called Lorette Academy), was located there. The first St. Mary's building stood at 425 N. Tejon.



Home

Seventy-four years after the “new” building opened, Mike Biondini '66 started his freshman year at what was now St. Mary's High School. By this time the 1888 building was referred to as Ole Green, and classes were split between it and a newer building that had been constructed across Kiowa in 1950.

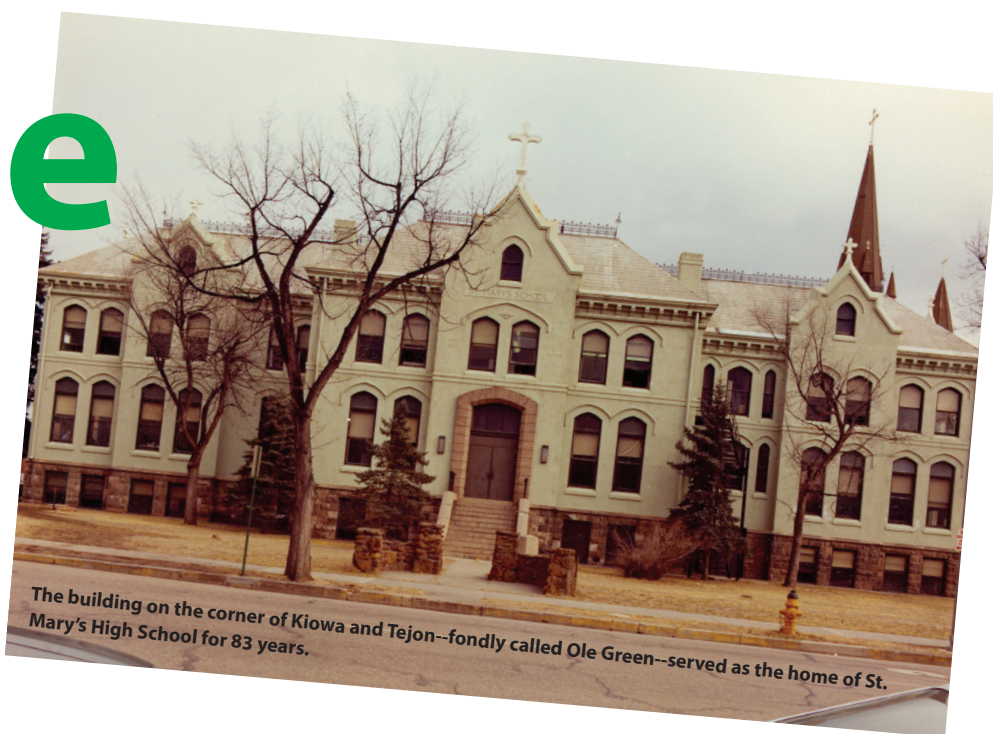
“While I was there, the majority of the academic classes for sophomores through seniors were held in Ole Green, while freshman classes, art, and music were held in the newer building,” Biondini said. “What I remember most about that building was that the plumbing was outside the walls so you could see all of the pipes.”

Between the sound of the plumbing and older single-paned windows allowing street noise in, Biondini said it always seemed loud in the building.

The school has been in two more locations since Biondini graduated from Ole Green—a 1950 building on Kiowa and the current campus on Yampa. And while the campus is different, Biondini, who is now on his second stint as a counselor at St. Mary's after finishing up three years as principal, said he feels that St. Mary's is the same because the spirit of the St. Mary's family is the same.

“Ole Green was dilapidated when I was there, but St. Mary's was still producing doctors and congressmen and bankers,” Biondini said. “The correlation I draw is that even though we've rarely had state-of-the-art facilities, the school still provides state-of-the-art service and state-of-the-art education.

“There is this St. Mary's mystique,” he continued. “There is something special about being a Pirate. It was there when I was a student in the 1960s and it was there when I walked back in the building in the fall of 2002 as a counselor.”



Moving Across the Street

As Tim Myers '71 entered his freshman year at St. Mary's, the buildings were just a passing thought.

“[Ole Green] had a somewhat old-timey blockish look to it, not un-prison-like to my 14-year-old mind, and I think that was the extent of my reaction to it,” he said. “But this was a very mild impression, and I never thought of the place as prison-like afterwards.”

“There is this St. Mary's mystique. There is something special about being a Pirate.”

- Mike Biondini '66

Over the years the stairs in Ole Green would come to be a menace to Myers.

“I remember how embarrassed I felt when I—more than once—tripped going up the stairs,” he said. “And there were a lot of stairs, and you were on them pretty regular.”

In February 1971, St. Mary's students helped move the school fully into the building on Kiowa. A month earlier construction of the Catholic Education Center on Sierra Madre (adjacent to the Kiowa building) had been completed, and the two buildings were now connected.

The move occurred more than half way through Myers' senior year. He said at

the time the move didn't seem like a big deal to him, although many others in the St. Mary's community were emotional about it.

“A lot of students felt bad about it—well, ‘sad’ would be a better word. I understand now what they were feeling,” he said. “I think I was too immature to get it at the time. Leaving, moving away, saying goodbye, the end of an era—I think we all tend to be saddened by such things, partly because they remind us, in some half-conscious way, about our own mortality.”

And he said this goodbye was, of course, more poignant for the seniors, who were on the cusp of moving into a new phase of life.

“We were right on the threshold of one of the great goodbyes of contemporary life,” he said. “So a lot of people were taking photos of the old building and talking about it, and clearly already missing it.”

A big carnival on March 14, 1971, celebrated the closing of Ole Green, and various furnishings were auctioned off or sold over the next month. On April 13, 1971, Ole Green was demolished and the space it occupied was turned into a church parking lot.

When the day came for Ole Green

to be taken down, Myers said he felt some sadness about it, although he never regretted the move to the Kiowa building.

“I figured there were good reasons [for the move], some of them probably involving safety,” he said. “But that old brick building, and the beautiful church, too, were a huge part of my life.”

Almost 20 years later, Leah (Wilkes) Ramzy '93 entered St. Mary's as a freshman. Her first impression of the Kiowa building as a student was that it was big and she feared that she would get lost. But over time she grew comfortable in her surroundings. By this time, St. Mary's had taken over the building originally built as the Catholic Education Center so the school now included two buildings, a breezeway, and courtyard.

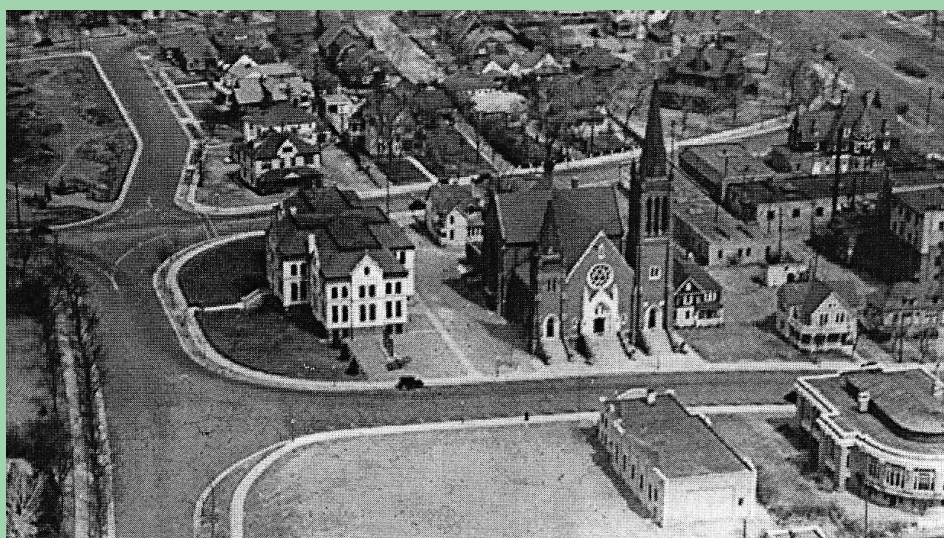
Ramzy said this southern building, which is on the corner of West Pikes Peak Avenue and North Sierra Madre Street, was unique in its layout since the school's chapel was placed in the center of the building with hallways and classrooms surrounding it.

“I miss the chapel,” she said. “The hallways around the chapel were always busy with classes and lockers, but once you entered the chapel, it was so peaceful. I always felt that the chapel was literally and metaphorically exactly where it should be—it was at the center of what we did, who we were then, and who we are now.”

Ramzy said her most fond memories at the Kiowa campus are of times in the gym, which was located behind St. Mary's Cathedral. The pep rallies and class yells, volleyball practices, games, and dances were all times for friends to be together and make memories.

A New Era

Everything would change for Ramzy's senior year. After becoming an independent Catholic school in 1987, St. Mary's had leased the Kiowa campus from the Diocese of Colorado Springs. But by the early 1990s, the diocese had decided it wanted to explore other options for the building and told St. Mary's the school would have to vacate the buildings in June 1992.



Top, this aerial shot shows St. Mary's Ole Green building on the corner of Kiowa and Sierra Madre, next to St. Mary's Church. Across the street is the empty lot that would eventually house the high school full-time beginning in 1971. Below, the St. Mary's sign in front of the Kiowa building in the 1970s.

“We didn't go into the move with open minds,” Ramzy said of herself and her fellow seniors. “We'd already been through a lot as a class, and it seemed like now we were being displaced.”

Initially the Yampa campus felt smaller, she said. The move had been quick and in some cases the school had to make due with what was there. She said The Cove and chapel were housed in classrooms and all-school mass was held in the courtyard. But the move also brought some new traditions to St. Mary's, which the seniors hadn't been expecting.

“Since the school was laid out with class hallways, each class got to decorate their hallway for Homecoming,” she said. “That was something that really brought us together as we worked on the decorations. We called our hall the ‘Green Machine’ and it really drew us together.”

Another new experience for Homecoming was the school's

first bonfire. Ramzy said the first bonfire was held in the open field on the east side of the campus, part of which is now the gym and art room.

“It was so cool,” she said. “The bonfire was a great memory; something that was really important to high schoolers. As seniors, we started to feel that it was going to be a special year.”

St. Mary’s move to the Yampa campus brought back memories for Myers. As the school said goodbye to its second location, where Myers had spent his formative years, he reflected on those buildings and the place they hold in his memory.

“Those buildings still exist in their earlier forms down in my roots, and, of course, I have many a memory attached to them,” he said. “I love this quality of human beings—that we often have relationships with inanimate objects. It’s almost as if something of who we are, our selfhood, ‘seeps into’ the physical objects around us. I feel as if a part of me is still there, in those places as they existed all those years ago. It feels a bit as if I’m partly a ghost there, invisible but present.”

And now, as Ramzy reflects on the Yampa campus, a move she resented when it happened, she said she’s realized that St. Mary’s was never really about the building.

“We changed buildings, but it was still St. Mary’s,” she said. “It’s the spirit of the school that goes with you no matter where the school is located. It’s the spirit of friends, mentors, teachers, caring about each other, and being a family—that spirit never changes.”

Since moving to the Yampa campus in 1992, the school has undergone changes. South of the main building, a new building opened in 1999 that houses the chapel, The Cove, and classrooms. Then in 2004 the Julie Penrose Wing was added, providing the art room, journalism room, and gym. In 2006, The Grace Center for Athletics and Community Service opened on Union Boulevard, after the school was gifted 25 acres of land by LeRoy Landhuis. The state-of-

the-art sports facility allows St. Mary’s to host football, baseball, softball, and soccer games.

It is likely that St. Mary’s will see more changes in the years to come. But the St. Mary’s spirit will remain the same. ✱



Above, The Grace Center provides a home for the sports teams that play outdoors. The facility opened in 2006. Left, St. Mary’s added to the Yampa campus in 1999 with a building south of the main building. This building added classroom space, a chapel, and The Cove. Below, the entrance to the St. Mary’s Yampa campus as it looks today.





Senior class photo/Graduation photos: Diane Torrence

St. Mary's Class of 2015

Small but mighty would be a good phrase to describe the Class of 2015. Its 75 members have earned more than \$9.3 million in college merit scholarship offers. The Class of 2015 was a competitive one too, with 15 percent of this year's seniors going on to play sports in college. This fall the graduates will begin the next phase of their lives at colleges all over the United States. But no matter where they go, they'll always be a Pirate. Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!

Mital Presents at Science Conference

Co-valedictorian **Aman Mital '15** was a presenting author at the 2014 American Geophysical Union's international conference held in San Francisco in December. Mital presented on "Using Mobile App Development Tools to Build a GIS Application," talking about his summer experience in building a mobile application that uses satellite data to track active fires.

Mital's journey to the conference began in the summer of 2014 when he worked as an intern at Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies (SGT). At the request of NASA, Mital, his brother **Kuran Mital '13**, and another intern, worked to create an app that would use satellite data to map every active fire burning on Earth. Once the app was built, it was placed in the iTunes Stores.

The conference gave Mital an opportunity to talk about his experience, as well as see what other high school and college students were working on.

"There were thousands of poster boards and I had to explain what the project had been," Mital said. "It was interesting because everyone in the building had done important research, but I was the only one who had built something."



Aman Mital had the unique experience of being a presenting author at a major science conference in December.

The AGU's fall meeting is the largest earth and space science meeting in the world with close to 24,000 attendees. The meeting brings together the entire Earth and space sciences community for discussions of emerging trends and the latest research.

Gohl Encourages Grads to Think They Can Win

It has been nine years since [Will Gohl '06](#) wore a kelly green cap and gown and received his high school diploma from St. Mary's. A lot has happened in those nine years, which is why the Class of 2015 choose Gohl to give their commencement address.

In the years since Gohl's commencement where he was co-valedictorian, he has graduated from Regis University on a Boettcher Scholarship, was named a Rhodes Scholar in 2010, received his bachelor of arts in jurisprudence with first class honors from the University of Oxford in 2012, and is now attending law school. He was excited about the privilege to speak to the graduates.

"I'm not sure I'm worthy, but I do treasure this opportunity to welcome you to the St. Mary's alumni family," he said. "You have learned the value of a St. Mary's education. It's so much more than a collection of memories. It's an education with values."

Gohl has not only seen the effect of a St. Mary's foundation in his own life, but in the lives of his brother, [Peter '12](#), and his sister, [Rebekah '14](#).

"During your years at St. Mary's, they've endeavored to teach you to make choices with intelligence, faith, hope, and love," Gohl said. "St. Mary's has helped you realize that your greatest gifts may be the answer to the world's most pressing needs."

Gohl said since leaving St. Mary's he's reflected often on a poem by

Walter Wintle titled, "Thinking," which then St. Mary's football coach Matt Walter required the team to memorize. Gohl played football during his senior year. The last line of the poem, "But sooner or later the man who wins is the man WHO THINKS HE CAN!," has guided Gohl as he has striven for success.

"At my Rhodes scholar interview I wasn't the smartest one there, but with the grace of God, I knew I could do it," he said. "When you are faced with battles in your life, I dare you to think that you can."



Will Gohl '06, 2015 commencement speaker, with St. Mary's President John Kraus

Gohl said mentors are important to that way of thinking. He said mentors model these values and without that modeling, the values may not translate into the student's life. For him, former St. Mary's English teacher Lois Chance was one of those mentors.

"Without Mrs. Chance challenging me, I would not have had many of the experiences I've had," he said. "As you move forward you may have to work harder to find those Mrs. Chances. But when you face life's battles, it is much easier to think you can, if someone else does too." ❁

Class of 2015 Student Leaders



Salutarian Robert Delfeld with co-valedictorians Aman Mital and Sarah Burns.



Senior class officers were, from left: Hayden Smith, vice president; Emily Hemann, secretary; Jakob Bucher, treasurer, and Robert Delfeld, president.



Senior Senate officers were, from left: Isabella Menichello, vice president; Patrick Calhoun, president; Amy Telk, secretary; and Joe Wahl, treasurer.



Prom King and Queen were Jeffrey Broske and Shelby Hogan.

Cassidy Anderson
University of Denver

Bailey Bai
St. John's University-Manhattan Campus

Emily Barnes
Creighton University

Kaylyn Barta
Gonzaga University

Hugh Francis Bell
University of Colorado-Boulder

Michael Boldt
Regis University

Adam Brames
Butler University

Benjamin Bailey Breier
Baylor University

Jeffrey Broske
Kansas State University

Jakob Bucher
California State University-Chico

Michael Bukowski
University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

Adam Bull
Colorado State University

Sarah Burns
University of Colorado-Boulder

Patrick Calhoun
Grand Canyon University

Kylie Cleary
St. Cloud State University

Rachel Craft
Barton County Community College

Aiden Dammann
US Army

Robert Delfeld
Williams College

Ryan Detert
Chadron State College

Emma Dolce
University of Oklahoma

Quillan Edwards
Colorado State University

Anna Font
University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

Mikala Ann Gasnik
Colorado State University

Caitlin Gibson
Benedictine College

Alexander Greenly
Nebraska Wesleyan University

Matthew Heery
Villanova University

Emily Hemann
Colorado State University

Darena Herschler
Pikes Peak Community College

Taryn Hilsman
New York University

Shelby Hogan
Fort Lewis College

Mingcong Hu
Michigan State University

Fei Huang
Undecided

Camille Lanelle Kessler
Regis University

Ian Kirk
University of Tampa

Michael Klopfenstein
University of Notre Dame

Cameron Lamack
Loyola Marymount University

Maleia Lark
Hastings College

Charles Lavezzi
University of North Colorado

Simone MacPhee
Pikes Peak Community College

Meagan Mazany
Saint Mary's College of California

Nolan McCurley
Pikes Peak Community College

Allison Melnick
University of Alabama

Isabella Menichiello
DePaul University

Allison Miller
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota

Aman Mital
University of Notre Dame

Michelle Lynn Moure
Colorado State University-Pueblo

Grant Nelson
University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

Taylor Nelson
Hastings College

Bailey Neppel
University of Colorado-Boulder

Mikayla Noack
Marquette University

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Joshua Robinson
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University of Texas-San Antonio

Jennifer Sanchez
University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

Jack Sanzo
University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

Danielle Selke
Pikes Peak Community College

Alexander Shigio
University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

Samantha Skaggs
Oklahoma State University

Hayden Smith
California Lutheran University

Kalie Sosdian
Colorado School of Mines

Antonio Soto
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Michael Tafolla
Colorado State University

Amy Telck
Carroll College-Montana

Patrick Telck
Saint John's University

Matthew Telli
Bradley University

Jacqueline Ulfers
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Joseph Van Sant
Colorado School of Mines

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Victoria Venzor
University of Colorado-Colorado Springs

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Boston University

Zepeng Wang
Stony Brook University

Katherine Whitelaw
Grand Canyon University

Jimmy Wright
US Air Force

Kun Zhang
Michigan State University

Judy Davis Says Goodbye to St. Mary's After 30 years

One day in the 1970s the phone rang at the home of Judy Davis. It was Father Milton Adamson from St. Mary's High School, asking if Davis would come interview to teach French at the school. The rest, as they say, is history. The 2014-2015 school year was Davis's last at St. Mary's--she's retiring after more than 30 years teaching at the school.

"I never knew how St. Mary's even knew who I was," Davis said. "Now I will surely miss the students and my fellow faculty and staff the most. I have made lifelong friends at St. Mary's."

Davis's impact on students remained even after the students had left the halls of St. Mary's. **Veronica R. Hrovat '12** said her college literature professor was impressed with her work ethic, knowledge, and use of English, all of which she attributes to Davis.

"Mrs. Davis is an amazing teacher and a phenomenal mentor," Hrovat said. "So many of the lessons I learned in her class I use in everyday life. She ignited a passion in me with the books and plays we read in class and always pushed me to do my best work."

Ty Smith '13 said Davis's teaching impacted two generations of his family. She taught his father, aunt, and uncle, as well as Smith.

"Mrs. Davis's longtime involvement in the St. Mary's community is so large it has touched my family for two generations," he said. "I truly credit my ability to think logically and thoroughly to her."

Davis holds a bachelor's degree in French with a double minor in Spanish and English from the University of Oklahoma and a master's degree in Secondary English education from the University of Colorado Boulder. Through her years of teaching, she has taught all three languages.

Davis said one of her favorite memories is of a homecoming parade that the school had, complete with floats. She was the junior class sponsor that year and the parent of one of the class officers offered to build the float.

"It was a pirate ship, which was on the playground at Corpus Christi for many years," Davis said. "The ship was fantastic!"



Judy Davis was recognized for her years of service to St. Mary's during the 2015 graduation ceremony.



Other faculty and staff who said goodbye to St. Mary's at the end of the 2014-2015 school year are:

- Dennis Murphy, 14 years
- Angie Gerber, 13 years
- Consuelo Mockerman, 3 years
- Janny Jarvis, 2 years
- Dan Hicks, 1 year
- Michelle Bowen, 1 year

Girls Basketball Wins League

The Lady Pirates basketball team finished the season with a 21-3 record and won the Tri Peaks league championship. They finished second at the District Championship to qualify for the state tournament, but lost to Liberty Commons in the regional championships.

Four players earned All Conference honors. Making First Team All Conference were: **Olivia Florek '17**, **Maggie Hartman '16**, and **Sarah Burns '15**, with **Kaylyn (KK) Barta '15** receiving an Honorable mention. Hartman was also named the Player of the Year for the Tri-Peaks league.

This year the Lady Pirates graduate three seniors who were instrumental in the team's success: Barta, **Katie Whitelaw '15**, and Burns, but return 12 of the top 15 varsity letter winners.



Boys Basketball Pull Off Big Wins

The Pirates 2015 season saw some big milestones, including regular season wins over both teams who squared off for the state championship (CSCS and Colorado Academy). The team finished the season with a record of 16-8 and a league record of 11-1. All Conference players for basketball were **Alex Greenly '15**, **Jimmy Velten '16**, **Ben Padrnos '16**, with **Robert Delfeld '15** and **Ryan Englert '16** receiving honorable mentions. And Coach Mark Beranek was named Tri-Peaks Coach of the Year!



Lacrosse

The lacrosse team struggled in 2015, finishing with an overall record of 6-8 and a league record of 2-5, playing in one of the hardest 4A leagues in the state. "We won our last three games so the boys finished the season on a high note," said Coach Ike Anderson. Three members of the lacrosse team made All Conference: Drew Chesre, 1st team; **Dylan Tait '16**, 2nd team; and **Ben Stockelman '16**, honorable mention.

Wrestling

Eric Allen '16 advanced to the state tournament.

State Qualifiers in Swim, Diving

The Girl's Swimming/Diving Team developed into a very competitive squad by the end of the season. With only one year-round swimmer, **Carter Terry '18**, the team had a large learning

curve as they relied on technique training to develop speed. For the first time, Carter qualified for the State meet in the 100 Backstroke and led the team in points scored.

In diving, **Retta Smith '18** emerged as a threat. She qualified for state at the last meet and broke the school record for 11 dives.



All sports photos: Diane Torrence

Baseball

The 2015 season was a rewarding and successful for one for Coach Bill Percy's young club. The team finished with a 13-8 record. They placed second in the Tri-Peaks League, losing in the District Championship game to Brush. "This gives reason for a bright future for the Pirate baseball program," Percy said. Individual honors went to: **Hayden Smith '15**, **Ben Padrnos '16**, **TJ English '17**, and Benjamin Brummel, Tri-Peaks All-Conference First Team; Jacob Brummel and **Ryan Detert '15**, Honorable Mention; Hayden Smith, 1st Team, Infielder, Colorado 3A All-State Team; and Jacob Brummel, Honorable Mention, Utility.



Girls Golf

This year saw the St. Mary's Girl's Golf team expand to the highest number of competitors in the last four years with six girls going out for the team. Coach John Krause said the team often finished in the middle of the pack against 3A, 4A, and 5A teams from around town and around the state.

Sarah Hwang '17 finish first in the Tri-Peaks League while teammate **Sydney Ballweber '17** finished seventh in the league. Hwang finished second in the Southern Colorado 4A Regionals, which qualified her for the 4A State Championship in Carbondale. She finish 11th out of 84 competitors.

Girls Soccer Team Heads to State Playoffs

The Lady Pirate soccer team completed the 2015 regular season with a record of 12-3-0, and received the No. 9 seed in the 3A state playoffs. The team won its fifth consecutive Region 1 championship with a perfect 6-0-0 record in league competition. **Kylie Cleary '15** was named Region 1 Player of the Year with 21 goals and 19 assists during the regular season. She is joined on the Region 1 first team by teammates **Maleia Lark '15**, **Michelle Moure '15**, **Rachel Craft '15**, **Claire Ross '18**, and **Sydney Silver '18**.

Class Notes

The 14th Annual St. Mary's High School Alumni Basketball Tournament was held on April 4. Six teams participated with 50 players from the classes of 1991 to 2010. The 2010 team, led by Marcell Walton '10, took the title, winning six games in a row after a day of fun and competition. Congratulations to all of the participants on a successful tournament!

..... 1970-1979.....

John Suthers '70 was sworn in as mayor of Colorado Springs on June 2. Suthers won the mayoral election in a runoff election in May, winning 68 percent of the vote over former mayor Mary Lou Makepeace. He has also served as Colorado's attorney general, district attorney for Colorado Springs, and led the Colorado Department of Corrections.



..... 2000-2013

Liz (Villalon) Himel '07 is a candidate for Doctor of Dental Surgery at Howard University College of Dentistry. Liz received a National Science Foundation Fellowship for graduate school and worked on research in bioenergy alternatives. In 2013, she presented research at the American Society of Microbiology National conference. That same year, Liz married Tyler Himel and the couple currently reside in Washington, D.C.

Steve VanGampleare '08 won the Omaha Marathon in September 2014, with a time of 2:36:50. That's a sub six minute per mile pace. The Creighton University graduate placed second in the Omaha Marathon the year before.

Matthew Hartle '08 had a paper he wrote featured on the cover of *Inorganic Chemistry*, a science journal published by the American Chemical Society in August 2014. He and his wife, Diana, welcomed their first child in May. The baby girl was the first girl to be born in Hartle's family in 70 years.



Greg O'Donnell '11 kicked two field goals and an extra point to help Colorado State University-Pueblo defeat Minnesota State-Mankato by a score of 13-0 in the NCAA Division II Football National Championship game in Kansas City on Dec. 20, 2014. Greg has been the starting placekicker for the Thunderwolves since 2012 and holds the team record for the most points scored by a single player. Nate Germano '12 also plays for the CSU-Pueblo Thunderwolves as a defensive back. That same day Laura Broerman '13 and her Penn State University teammates won the Division 1 Volleyball Championship.

Jordan Burns '11 graduated in May from the University of Colorado-Boulder with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and minor in business. She was selected as CU Boulder's

Silver Medal award winner. The Silver Medal award is presented by the Colorado Engineering Council. Burns also received the award for Outstanding Graduate for International Engagement. This award is given in recognition of outstanding academic achievements and equally outstanding achievements in international engagement as an undergraduate student at CU Boulder out of nearly 700 graduates.

Cameron Hickert '12 has been named a 2015 Truman Scholar. Truman Scholarships, which provides up to \$30,000 for graduate study, were awarded to 58 US college students. Hickert is majoring in physics and international studies at the University of Denver.

Emily Loof '14 received All-Conference Honorable Mention honors in her first collegiate soccer season at St. Mary's University in the fall of 2014.

..... In Memorium.....

Jean Iris Gray '46 died on Jan. 3, 2015. She was 86. She is survived by two daughters, two grandchildren, four and great-grandchildren.

William "Willie" di Stasio '58 died Aug. 18, 2013. He is survived by wife, Carolyn, and their three daughters.

Janet Lois Makarevich '71 died Feb. 8, 2015, in Titusville, Fla., after suffering a head injury caused by a fall. She is survived by her sister, nephews, and a grandniece.

Elizabeth (Liz) Grzecka Johnson '96 died May 24, 2015, after a battle with cancer. She is survived by her five children and many other family members and friends.

Former art teacher Truman Fox Jr. died April 3, 2015. Truman taught at St. Mary's from the late 1980s until 2000. He is survived by his wife; a son; daughter, Rachel '00; two grandsons; and three great-grandchildren.



Alumni, parents, staff, and friends of St. Mary's enjoyed the 2015 Gala.

photo: Amy G. Partain

Stakes Were High at St. Mary's 2015 Casino Royale-Themed Gala

St. Mary's 2015 Gala brought out the high rollers with its Casino Royale theme. The school cashed in at the annual April event, bringing in \$212,000 in support of St. Mary's mission.

This year money raised at the Gala will go to support academic and student life, tuition assistance, and marketing efforts.

"The real difference in St. Mary's is our mission," said John Kraus, president. "We work with you parents to get your children to heaven. And that's the mission that you're participating in tonight."

Attendees at the event, held at the Antlers Hilton in downtown Colorado, heard about the successes of current students and alumni. As always, the Gala included a meal, program, music, the Dessert Dash, and a silent auction. Local artist Devin Montagne was on hand to

create a painting of the Holy Family, which was then auctioned off at the end of the night.

Before this year's Gift from the Heart challenge, the attendees heard from **Matt Heery '15** and **Joe Wahl '15**, who are the current state champions in public forum debate.

Heery and Wahl gave their St. Mary's High School Top 10 List, using wit and humor to name the best things about St. Mary's. Those included the court yard, student body, staff, and the Catholic faith. Both boys said attending St. Mary's has brought them closer to Christ.

One highlight of the evening was a rap performed by Father Joe Dygert. More than 100 people bid \$25 on the opportunity to hear Dygert. You can watch the rap on YouTube (www.youtube.com/watch?v=ML8LCD3JJyg). Dygert will join

ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND

The Annual Fund at St. Mary's High School is the endorsement of the School's mission by people who value the importance of affordable Catholic, college preparatory education for Southern Colorado.

The Annual Fund supports all facets of student life at St. Mary's, from academics to athletics to the arts.

Your Annual Fund gift will make a difference in the lives of current students and it will honor our rich tradition, helping secure the future for generations of Pirates .

Make your gift to St. Mary's today by using the remittance envelope in this magazine or by giving online at www.smhscs.org.

A Catholic College-Prep Family since 1885

For more information about the Annual Fund, visit www.smhscs.org or contact the Development Office at development@smhscs.org or 719-635-7540, ext. 38.

the staff of St. Mary's next year teaching theology.

"We joke that even after 130 years St. Mary's is the best kept secret in Colorado Springs," Kraus said, "but we need to get serious about letting others know about us. Because there is a St. Mary's difference."

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Save the Date

September 1..... First home football game
September 25 Golf Classic
October 9 Homecoming
October 16 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction and Game
October 21 Marian Award All School Mass
December 8 Grandparents Mass
February 5, 2016 Catholic Schools Week All School Mass
February 10 Ash Wednesday
March 27..... Easter
April 16 Annual Gala-Celebrating 130 years of St. Mary's
May 16 Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation

The St. Mary's Legacy

August 2015 begins St. Mary's High School's 130th school year! The Sisters of Loretto started the legacy, and today St. Mary's Catholic Education Foundation continues legacy support by managing endowed funds and seeking new legacy gifts that support the school.

The St. Mary's Catholic Education Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization separate from the school with its own 501c3 status. Though separate, the purpose of the Foundation is perpetual support of the school, primarily through providing tuition assistance realized from earnings on endowed funds. Donors who make a leadership-level gift to St. Mary's Catholic Education Foundation or who remember SMHS or the Foundation in estate planning become members of the 1885 Society. These gifts give confidence to the next generation that St. Mary's will remain a bright light for a culture that more than ever needs faithful, compassionate, and qualified leaders.

Consider joining a growing list of those looking out for the long-term future of St. Mary's High School. To learn more about how you can join the 1885 Society through a contribution to a current fund, an estate or life insurance commitment, or how to create your own family fund, please contact the school's development office at 719.635.7540, ext 38.



ST. MARY'S
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Address Corrections

Your address is important to us! Please send your address and e-mail changes to Debbie Erenberger in the St. Mary's High School Office of the President by e-mail to derenberger@smhscs.org, so we can send publications to you in a timely manner. Thanks for your help!