The only California college and the only Catholic college Included in Colleges that Change Lives
What's So Special about Saint Mary’s?

The students of Saint Mary’s College of California stand up, speak out and have an attitude of confidence that comes from combining big hearts and broad minds with idealism and determination. One of America’s most beautiful campuses, Saint Mary’s is a residential college of 2,800 undergraduates and 1,300 graduate students located in San Francisco’s East Bay.

Students come here to be challenged by one of the nation’s best academic programs. In fact, the students of Saint Mary’s are among the nation’s best and most accomplished students. But they also enjoy the full American college experience — cheering on our Division I athletic teams, engaging in meaningful service projects and taking advantage of one of the world’s greatest locations. Saint Mary’s College rests on a foundation of more than 300 years of Lasallian education (feel free to search it) and is part of a network of 80 Lasallian colleges and universities around the world.

Unbeatable Athletic Opportunities

At college from more than 420 sports, Saint Mary’s is a serious threat. Our competitors can thank our Mercy Sisters and Saint Mary’s College of California’s strong in athletics. The Saint Mary’s College of California Gaels have become a serious contender in the West Coast Conference and are part of the Mountain West Conference.

The Great Books Tradition

The students of Saint Mary’s College of California are not limited to the world of the classroom. At Saint Mary’s, the Great Books are a part of the curriculum. Students read the Great Books—civilization’s big ideas through the Great Books. Students read the Great Books—civilization’s big ideas through the ages. Over the centuries, the Great Books have provided a foundation for the understanding of the world we live in today. The Great Books are the foundation of the curriculum at Saint Mary’s College of California.

Personal attention and small classes are a top priority. That’s our attitude.