‘Fair Trade Throwdown’ brings campus together to support Fair Trade

The recent ‘Fair Trade Throwdown’ bake-off competition challenged students, staff and faculty at SMC to incorporate as many fair trade ingredients as possible into their favorite recipes. The event hosted by Catholic Relief Services at SMC in conjunction with Sodexo, Enactus, SMC Fair Trade Committee and Committee for Staff Activities.

There were over 30 entries submitted into the competition that took place in Dryden Hall. They were judged by a panel of five judges who represented Saint Mary’s College and the greater Moraga community.

Davina Valdez won first place with her green chile chocolate hot fudge pork and cheese enchiladas. She received a $50 prize donated by Enactus. Alexandra Teliha and friends won second place with their chocolate layer cake. They received a gift certificate to Home/Made Café, a new restaurant in Moraga. Victoria Davis won third place with apple stuffed crepes. She received a custom basket of fair trade goodies.

The next Catholic Relief Services at SMC event will be ‘Fair Trade Gift World’, December’s Fair Trade Friday on December 5 from 9am-12pm. Fair Trade Designs, a fair trade artisan store, will be selling products such as apparel, jewelry and accessories. There will also be holiday themed items like chocolate advent calendars and holiday cookie mixes, along with the usual coffee and olive oil that all make great gifts.
Leaders Maddi Larsen and JT Taylor offer a snapshot of community life:

The Lasallian Community delights in its diversity: from athletes to musicians, Integral majors to science majors, each one brings something unique to our community experience.

We take a quarter-credit class to study the life of De La Salle, reflect on service experiences and explore our faith through related texts and seminar style discussion. The community fulfills the teachings of De La Salle by volunteering at Saint Martin de Porres, an elementary school in Oakland. We work with the fifth graders both in the classroom and on the playground. We even got to take them to an “As” game in September.

A favorite evening is our bi-monthly Community Night. These give us an opportunity to relax, hang out, and spend time together. Whether we watch a movie, decorate pumpkins, play games, or Just Dance, we are genuine; we are supportive; and we are ourselves.

Leaders Suzanne Denson and Yadira Guerrero reflect on life in Ageno West:

The Santiago Community honors Brother James Santiago Miller, FSC, who was killed while working with young boys in Guatemala. Understanding his story and the work of the Brothers is an important part of forming our community.

Community building begins at our weekend retreat and is supported through monthly meetings, potlucks and Wacky Wednesdays. Any night you may find us baking cupcakes, cramming for exams or jamming in the courtyard.

Our commitment to serve has found us cleaning up in Oliver Hall, decorating sugar skulls for Day of the Dead, packing gift boxes for Operation Christmas Child, and Caroling at nursing homes. While some of us attend weekly Mass, we seek out different spiritual traditions: walking the labyrinth on the chapel plaza, visiting the Buddhist priory in Berkeley, and celebrating Mass as a communion service.

December 3rd will find us supporting the festivities in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a Human Rosary at 1:30pm. Come join us.

Saint Mary’s Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams, with the support of Common Interest Management, hosted a skills clinic on Sunday, November 9th for 60 Special Olympics of Northern California individuals.

Gael student-athletes led drills in shooting, passing, ball-handling, and more. Head Coach Randy Bennett called it “one of the best events we do all year”.

Welcome to the Blackfeet Nation

Montana Immersion

January 31 - February 7, 2015

Montana Immersion

Come and see yourself living social justice in an interactive, creative, culturally immersive way!

APPLICATIONS DUE: Thursday, December 11

HOW DO I APPLY? Visit the MMC or apply online!
CGST: $500. Please come talk to us if cost is a challenge.
EMAIL: Nick van Santen, nsv@stmarys-ca.edu
This special week celebrates our patroness, LA VIRGEN! We begin SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH with The Rosary at 7:30 pm (Brother’s Chapel), Mass at 8pm (Main Chapel) and Reception (MMC Lounge).

Other Special DAILY ACTIVITIES:
- Latin American influenced meals (Oliver)
- Letters to La Virgen (MMC Lounge)
- A Journey of Hope with La Virgen (IC Window Display)

This event is also thanks to the Cummins Institute and cooperative volunteers from Hermanas Unidas, La Hermandad, Ballet Folklórico, The Santiago Community, Theology and Religious Studies, and SODEXO.

### DECEMBER 1 - 5

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUES</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am Rosary</td>
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<td>10 am - 12 pm Our Lady of Guadalupe Power Point (Chapel)</td>
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<td>10 am - 12 pm Our Lady of Guadalupe Power Point (Chapel)</td>
<td>9 am - 12 pm Fair Trade Friday Gift World (MMC Lounge)</td>
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<td>5:00 pm Guatemala -Pollo en Pina (Oliver)</td>
<td>5:00 pm Honduras -Ropa Vieja (Oliver)</td>
<td>5:00 pm The Philippines -Chicken Adobo (Oliver)</td>
<td>5:00 pm El Salvador -Curtido de Repollo (Oliver)</td>
<td>5:00 pm Mexico (Oliver)</td>
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<td>5:15 pm Mass (w/Brothers) Followed by Posada -The Streets of Bethlehem (Dryden)</td>
<td>6:00 pm Speaker Panel -Our Lady of Culture (Dante 116)</td>
<td>8:30 pm Rosary (Meet in front of Chapel)</td>
<td>7:00 pm Hike to the Cross With La Virgen (Meet at Chapel)</td>
<td>6:30 pm PROCESSION 7:00 pm MASS (Chapel) 8:15 pm FIESTA (Oliver) 9:00 pm Late Night Special -Mexico (Oliver)</td>
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Contact Vince Nims at 925-631-4814 or vfn1@stmarys-ca.edu
The next Fair Trade event following the Gift World will be our Fair Trade Roses sale in February. (Pre-sales occur in January.)

Liturgy of Lights at Saint Mary’s College - Sunday, December 7th at 8:00pm in the Chapel
A Campus Tradition of the Best Kind

Sometimes we see something on TV or in a movie that captures an essential element of the traditions and the life of a community. It sneaks up on us and all of a sudden there it is! Recall, for example, the childlike spirit of Will Farrell in Elf (2003) saying (about Santa), "I KNOW HIM, I KNOW HIM!" Or picture the final moments of It's A Wonderful Life (1946) when euphoric and revived George Bailey runs through the streets of Bedford Falls screaming, “Merry Christmas everybody, Merry Christmas!” at the top of his lungs. These things tell us something about what matters.

For many years now, a very real and sacred event takes place on campus called the Liturgy of Lights. It's a Mass celebrated with beautiful music, elegant decorations, candles, luminaries, and each other! As soon as you enter the Chapel, you will know something is different; it’s not just an ordinary Sunday! Liturgy of Lights gives everyone a chance to stop time, pray and touch the holy. It is the kind of Mass people hope to experience and it happens right here in the heart of Saint Mary’s.

Another unique feature of the liturgy is what we call The Blessing of the Brains! Yes, your minds will be blessed to prepare you for a long week of studying, papers and finals. If you have never had your brain blessed, right before finals week is the best time!

On behalf of the Mission & Ministry Center and Saint Mary College, I want to extend a warm welcome to you and your friends to attend the Liturgy of Lights. Give yourself that hour to remember what is important, to ignite your Advent (as we prepare for Christmas) and to be part of a campus tradition of the best kind! It will not be a waste of time; in fact, it may be your best use of it.

I am the first person to find the remote and disappear into a movie to be reminded of good things--nothing compares, however, to being surrounded by the reality of God's light and the joy of community, especially ours. This Mass won't be the same without you and it will be better because you. Please join us.

- Vince Nims
### The Mission and Ministry Center Team

**Staff**
- Karin McClelland  x4013
- Megan Alexander-Short  x4366
- Brother Camillus Chavez, FSC  x4344
- Carrie Davis  x4982
- Julie Ford  x4801
- Ryan Lebre  x8154
- Sister Dolores Montini, CSJ  x4083
- Vince Nims  x4814
- Colleen da Silva  x4569
- Pamela Thomas  x8019
- Nick van Santen  x4075

**Santiago Community**

**Leaders**
- Suzanne Denson
- Yadira Guerrero

**Lasallian Community**

**Leaders**
- Maddi Larsen
- JT Taylor

**Lasallian Scholar**
- Chay Tanchanco

**Catholic Relief Services**

**Ambassadors**
- Marlena Maciel
- Carmen Terlaje

**Lasallian Peer Ministers**
- Gabriella Carroll
- Madison Chastain
- Jacque Martin
- Emily Redfern
- Mitchell Woodrow

**Student Assistant**
- Karen Pedraza

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### December 2014

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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td>MMC Office</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas Party</td>
<td>4:00-6:00PM</td>
<td>MMC Lounge</td>
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**Liturgy of Lights**
- Mass
- 8:00-9:00pm
- SMC Chapel

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**OLG Events**
- see pg. 3

**Lasallian Comm. Christmas Party**
- 4:00-7:00pm
- MMC Lounge

**Holiday Carnival**
- 7:00-9:00pm
- Dante Quad and DLS Lawn

**Human Rosary**
- 1:30pm
- Chapel Lawn

**Peace Out**
- 4:30pm
- Chapel Plaza

**Fair Trade Friday**
- (featuring Fair Trade Gift World)
- 9:00am-12:00pm
- MMC Lounge

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By Phone: (925) 631-4366
By Email: mmc@stmarys-ca.edu
Facebook/Instagram/Twitter: smcmmc
You Tube: stmarysmmc