Someone asks, “What’s a Gael anyway?”

You have two ways you can answer. You could say that Gael refers to an ethno-linguistic group that spread from Ireland to Scotland and the Isle of Man. But what you’re probably thinking is this.

Gaels dream big. They’re smart, strong, tenacious and consistently outperform others’ expectations.

Gaels know that to make a difference in the world you have to understand it. So they study. They ask questions. They travel. They pray. They probe deeply. They serve.

Gaels use their intellect and their might to rise up in the face of giants. They’re strong in adversity, and they look out for the neediest among us. Gaels are compassionate and understanding. They’re ethical global citizens.

Gaels have hope, determination, guts and a drive to make the world a better place. They’re alumni and non-alumni. Brothers and students. Professors, mothers, fathers, friends and family. Neighbors, public servants and business professionals.

And Gaels are worthy of celebration.

We’ve highlighted just a few in the pages of this annual report. Meet more Gaels and nominate more for recognition at yearofthegael.com.
Dear Saint Mary’s Community,

This year we honor the sesquicentennial of Saint Mary’s College of California — the Year of the Gael. In celebrating our 150th anniversary, we chose to focus on our diverse community of scholars, staff, students and alumni because we believe the energy of our community, and the individuals within it, are what make us most distinctive.

When we look back at the College in its early years, when nine Brothers arrived in 1868 to take over a school with fewer than 40 students, we see that a remarkable transformation has taken place. Today, we have the largest enrollment and most highly qualified students in our history. A new recreation center is taking shape and a new library is on the drawing board. We attract nationwide accolades for our unique academic programs, such as January Term and Collegiate Seminar, and for our successful model of engaged student learning in both our undergraduate and graduate curricula. Our student-athletes are second to none.

We also have remained true to the values that were present at our beginning. The College continues its mission of expanding opportunities for all students. Thirty-one percent of our undergraduates are eligible for the Pell grant. We are providing expansive support for first generation college students, and our graduate programs meet the needs of working professionals. Our students and faculty are an active presence in our local community and in communities around the globe.

Go Gaels!

In Saint La Salle,

[Signature]

Brother Ronald Gallagher, FSC
President
More SMC News

**High Satisfaction:** Results of the 2011 Cooperative Institutional Research Program Senior Survey show satisfaction levels at five-year highs in many areas, including overall college experience.

**High in Academic Engagement:** SMC students rate their college experience high for academic engagement on the National Survey of Student Engagement. Saint Mary’s scored above other colleges in the poll on most measures, especially “level of academic challenge.”

**1863 Society:** Nearly 150 donors attended the inaugural event of the 1863 Society. The 1863 Society, named for the year when Saint Mary’s was founded, recognizes Saint Mary’s generous donors.

**$250,000 for Digital Studies:** The College received a $250,000 grant from the W. M. Keck Foundation to fund the Digital Studies Across the Curriculum project. The goal is to develop technological capacity, improve media lab infrastructure and foster digital interdisciplinary learning opportunities.

**Tops for MBA:** Hanover Research listed SMC’s Trans-Global Executive MBA program as one of the top 13 International Executive MBA Programs in the U.S. in 2011. The Hybrid Executive MBA program is ranked among the Top 25 Online MBA Programs of 2012 by Online MBA.

**Big Debut:** English Professor Lysley Tenorio’s debut collection of short stories, *Monstress*, garnered national praise from a multitude of news outlets, including The New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Boston Globe and NPR.

**Best Men’s Sports Program in WCC**
The SMC athletics program was awarded the West Coast Conference’s Men’s All-Sports Trophy for the first time in 2012, recognizing it as the best men’s sports program in the league. The award came after Saint Mary’s teams won three WCC championships — men’s soccer, men’s basketball, and men’s golf.

**Listed Among “Green Colleges”**
Saint Mary’s was included in the Princeton Review’s Guide to 322 Green Colleges: 2012 Edition, which profiles 322 institutions of higher education in the U.S. and Canada that demonstrate notable commitments to sustainability in their academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities and career preparation.

**Included in Book of 40 Transformative Institutions**
Saint Mary’s was chosen as one of only 40 U.S. institutions in the 2013 edition of * Colleges That Change Lives: 40 Schools That Will Change the Way You Think About Colleges*. Saint Mary’s is the only Catholic college — and the only California college — in the history of the 40-school compilation.

**President’s Community Service Honor Roll**
Saint Mary’s was listed on the 2012 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction. Saint Mary’s students provided 40,000 hours of service to communities in the U.S. and abroad.

**In the Media Spotlight**
News coverage of Saint Mary’s increased substantially during the 2011–12 academic year, with media mentions of SMC faculty up by 104 percent. Academic and mission efforts such as TGEMBA, Jan Term and Mission & Ministry, garnered the attention of broadcast and print reporters, as did SMC athletics.

**Snapshot 2011–2012**

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Museum of Art Opens
The Saint Mary’s College Museum of art opened Oct. 2, boasting two new galleries and 50 percent more exhibition space. At the grand opening, Kevin Starr, noted historian and State Librarian Emeritus, delivered the keynote on the painter William Keith, whose centennial exhibition opened on the same day.

New Seminar Model
The Academic Senate approved a new Seminar model. The model includes a “strategies and questions” freshman course and a “global conversation” senior course as well as two Western tradition courses that follow the familiar chronological pattern.

New Environmental Literacy Center
Saint Mary’s launched a new Center for Environmental Literacy in the Kalmanovitz School of Education. The center focuses on helping educators integrate nature and the arts into curricula and will be the new home of River of Words, an acclaimed K-12 environmental poetry and visual arts program.

Fulbright Fellowships Abound
Napala Pratini ’12 was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to work in Madrid with the Melanoma Group at the Spanish National Cancer Center, trying to identify genes that may suppress melanoma. Education Professor Kathleen Taylor, an internationally quoted expert and researcher on adult learners, won a 2013 Fulbright award to study adult education in Greece.

More SMC News

Olympians Among Us: Gaels were out full force for London Summer Olympics. Matthew Deliavedova ’13 and alumnus Patty Mills played for Australia’s basketball team, while Women’s Volleyball Head Coach Rob Browning managed USA men’s volleyball.

World Class: The SMC Chamber Singers and Glee Club, competing against 362 choirs from 64 countries, both won silver medals at the 2012 World Choir Games in Cincinnati.

Baseball Opener: Major League star Tom Candotti ’78 threw out the first pitch as Saint Mary’s inaugurated its new baseball field.

More Diversity Scholarships: The School of Economics and Business Administration expanded its commitment to diversity with an additional $100,000 in endowed diversity scholarships from the new Ramsell Endowed Scholarship and the Lighthouse Endowed Scholarship for Diversity.

New Leadership Concentration: The new M.A. in Leadership for Social Justice launched on June 2 with its first cohort that included 11 students ranging in age from 22 to 56. The new concentration is designed to enhance the leadership skills of nonprofit managers, community organizers, direct service providers and others committed to social change.

Alumnus Nominated to Federal Bench: SMC alumnus and Sacramento County Superior Court Judge Troy L. Nunley ’86 has been nominated by the White House as a U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District of California.
Students who come to Saint Mary’s are here to be challenged.
The National Survey of Student Engagement reports both freshman upon entering and seniors before exiting consistently rate the level of academic challenge at Saint Mary’s higher than a variety of peer groups at other institutions.

Students come to the College because they know they will reap the rewards of the kind of education only Saint Mary’s provides. Undergraduates learn to articulate ideas in Collegiate Seminar, and step out of their comfort zone in January Term. The Lasallian tradition emboldens their faith and instills a desire to change the world for the better.

Others have taken notice. In 2012 Saint Mary’s was profiled in the book “40 Colleges That Change Lives,” in which the academic and spiritual mission of Saint Mary’s is described as fundamental to its success with students. In 2010, Forbes magazine ranked us fifth nationwide for “raising your earnings potential,” noting that 10 to 19 years after graduation, SMC alumni earn an average salary of $97,415, while the average salary for graduates across all 611 schools on the Forbes’ list of America’s Best Colleges was just $74,709.
Hannah Kovach ’13 was raised in a traditional Catholic family, where she started reading the Bible at age eight. She found herself drawn to Saint Mary’s because of her strong Catholic faith and the school’s rigorous academic standards. She even turned down Stanford University for the opportunity to attend Saint Mary’s, where she was given a Presidential Scholarship.

But Kovach’s story is not typical. She was diagnosed with hyperlexia at the age of five. The neurological disorder is associated with social difficulties and auditory learning problems, as well as strong analytical and reading skills. But that diagnosis hasn’t slowed her down.

Kovach is a senior at Saint Mary’s, double majoring in math and music, and is on track to graduate Summa Cum Laude this spring. Despite her daily challenges, Kovach doesn’t want to be defined by her disability.

“I want to be the awesome person who just happens to have hyperlexia,” she said.

In addition to her academic achievements, Kovach sings at Mass every week, and is active in her dorm and in the College community. She is also the president of the pro-life student group, the Respect Life Club.

She said that her hyperlexia can make it difficult to empathize with other people, but her enduring religious beliefs have helped her better understand other people’s points of view.

“My faith gives me a high set of standards,” she said.

While Saint Mary’s curriculum presents rewarding challenges for her every day, she also feels a sense of comfort and belonging as she walks across the campus.

“I feel very much at home here,” she said. “I don’t think that I would have felt that way at a school without a Catholic tradition.”

Kovach plans to pursue a career as an opera singer or a mathematician, and wants to develop both her interests.

“I want to show that people with disabilities can achieve great things.”
Elevating Interfaith Dialogue

Barbara McGraw, Professor of Social Ethics, Law, and Public Life

When Saint Mary’s Professor Barbara McGraw returned from a yearlong sabbatical last fall, she had one goal in mind: To take up President Obama’s Higher Education Interfaith Community Service Challenge.

“Religious pluralism is my passion,” said McGraw, a professor in the School of Economics and Business Administration and founder of Saint Mary’s Center for Engaged Religious Pluralism.

Throughout the year, McGraw and a team of student liaisons have partnered with other campus organizations for a series of interfaith discussions and service days. Rising to meet the President’s challenge, every event is meant to elevate the conversation about interfaith service and engagement. Past events have included a Saturday of Service with the local Sikh community and a panel discussion among Christians, Muslims, Jews and Hindus about shared religious values, including nonviolence, respect of human rights, and concern for the poor. In April, the Center will lead a campus-wide celebration of the Hindu spring festival Holi, its vibrant colors representative of the diversity of beliefs and traditions held by SMC’s students, faculty and staff.

“There is widespread support across campus and a whole coalition of people involved in this effort,” McGraw said, noting the work of student volunteers including Catholic Institute for Lasalian Social Action liaison Elise Tran, Resident Hall Association liaison Shelia Garcia, Mission and Ministry Center liaison Alexandra Carroll, and Intercultural Center liaison Terell Nelson, as well as students Kaitlin Roth, Cabrilla McGinn, Declan Wolfe and Hoi Wong.

“We can do a lot of disagreeing about who God is, theology, what happens in the afterlife,” McGraw said. “But there’s a whole lot we can agree about to work together to make the world a better place.”
Mahershala Ali ’96  You could say that 38-year-old Mahershala Ali owes his acting career to his grandfather. A gifted athlete from Hayward, Calif., Ali attended Saint Mary’s College on a basketball scholarship. His grandfather told him, “If you graduate with a 3.0, I’ll give you $5,000.”

This tempting proposition prompted Ali to defer Spanish his junior year and take an acting class with Rebecca Engle. That “amazing experience” sparked an interest in acting that resulted in a lead role in a Saint Mary’s production of “Spunk,” directed by Engle.

The young actor’s transformation began. “I felt a peace during that period of time that seemed to give my life a defining purpose.” In retrospect, Ali is surprised he didn’t discover acting sooner. “My dad was in ‘Dream Girls’ and on Broadway, so I’ve been backstage most of my life.”

After earning a degree in mass communication, Ali performed at the California Shakespeare Festival. Encouraged by SMC Professor Victoria Trostle to attend a graduate acting program, Ali auditioned for NYU’s prestigious Tisch School of the Arts with hundreds of hopefuls and was one of the final 18.

The promising actor immersed himself in the craft for a grueling three years, and it paid off. When he graduated from NYU with an MFA, he had an agent and two lead roles already lined up. And he’s been a working actor ever since, landing roles in such films as, “The Curious Case of Benjamin Button” and “Predators.” He has also appeared in many TV shows, including “Crossing Jordan” and “Law and Order SVU.”

His current project? “House of Cards,” a new TV series starring Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright, that airs this February.

“I came to SMC wanting the fullest experience as an athlete,” Ali reflected, “and left wanting to experience life as an artist and well-rounded person.” While he hopes to take on meatier parts eventually, he has his eye on another life-changing role. “At some point, I’d like to have a wife and start a family, too.”
We believe a college education should do more than **stretch** students’ intellects.
It should also feed their souls and enliven their desire to change the world for the better.

Saint Mary’s students pour themselves into everything from social action to community service to spiritual formation. Serving 40,000 hours each year, they do a multitude of good works. They tutor middle-school students. Teach English as a second language. They go farther afield — New Orleans, Alaska, Haiti, and throughout the Bay Area — to get involved in helping build (or rebuild) communities in need. And they continue this service after Commencement: nearly 10 percent of graduates join the Peace Corps, Lasallian Volunteers, Teach for America or the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Saint Mary’s was listed on the 2012 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction. The award particularly recognized SMC leadership initiatives as well as a School of Science environmental education project and math camp. The College was also recognized by USA Today College as one of the top 10 colleges “most committed to community service.”
Lasallian Partner, A Lifelong Pursuit

Alisa Macksey '00  You can call it coincidence or say it’s just fate — but Alisa Macksey sees her ties to Saint Mary’s College as “divine intervention.” What else could explain her freshman enrollment in a school outside her faith that seemed, to her, too close to home?

That was 1996 and she’s been a Lasallian partner ever since. As the Program’s Director for the Office of Lasallian Education of the Christian Brothers Conference, Macksey oversees the mission and education formation programs for faculty, staff and administration at 100 ministries in North America and Canada.

“I’m on the road reviewing curriculum, programs and designs to make sure they’re relevant and up to date,” she said.

Saint Mary’s helped teach her the skill set. “Seminar was very influential in problem solving and critical thinking,” she said. Macksey’s passion for social justice was spawned at Saint Mary’s, too, especially after studying abroad in racially divided South Africa. She returned from that trip to become student body president and a volunteer for the newly formed Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action. Balancing meetings with classes, she said she was “notorious” for staying up all night.

Macksey’s boundless energy has served her well in a job where she travels almost half the year. At the age of 34, she admits her social life probably takes a back seat to her job, but she enjoys spending time with her co-workers. “There are a group of us who’ve been professionally formed by the Brothers,” she said. “We do work a lot, but it helps to have other people with similar views, so it can be a social time as well.”

From her first job out of college with Lasallian Volunteers to her position as regional director, Macksey sees her work with the Brothers as a lifelong pursuit. “It’s a mission I believe in very strongly,” she said.
Sparky Harlan EE ’79  What’s in a name?
For Sparky Harlan, it’s a sense that her mother knew, even at birth, that her daughter would be a catalyst for change.

Since 1983, Harlan has directed services for runaway and homeless youth at the Bill Wilson Center in Santa Clara. She’s such a strong advocate, she was recently honored at the White House as one of 13 “Champions of Change.”

As if by fate, Harlan was once tagged as a runaway herself, picked up by police for sitting on a stoop in Haight-Ashbury. “When I was younger, I really saw the injustices,” she said. “There were things teens could do that they could be locked up for. Hitchhiking. Truancy.”

With an abusive father, she left home at age 17, and within a year began working as a counselor at a substance abuse center in South San Francisco.

Juggling work and school, she transferred from San Francisco State University to Saint Mary’s College, where the curriculum was geared toward working professionals. “I was already director of an agency,” she said, adding the teachers respected that. “At a lot of schools, there’s this attitude, ‘I’m the professor and I’m going to teach you.’” She said she was able to share her experiences at Saint Mary’s in a way that meshed with her education.

At the Bill Wilson Center, Harlan is credited with retooling the homeless crisis response system and building a coalition of advocates to lobby for funding. But her influence spreads beyond the Silicon Valley and Capitol Hill. Her 17-year-old adopted son recently told her he wants to be a counselor, too.

She smiles when she thinks of the influence a Catholic education has had on her life, as well as the life of her son. “I’m not Catholic, but I often appreciated the whole social justice position — looking at what you can do to better the community.”
Karen Trang ’14  She may not think of herself as a role model, but Karen Trang is a student who exemplifies the Saint Mary’s College tradition of service learning.

For the past two years, Trang has volunteered as the co-coordinator of SMC’s Peer Health Exchange (PHE), a national program that trains college students to teach comprehensive health curriculum in public high schools where students live at or below the poverty line. Volunteer instructors like Trang fill in where public education budgets have been slashed, first evaluating students’ baseline knowledge before delving into health topics most relevant for teens: healthy relationships, mental health, nutrition, drugs and alcohol. With a young, relatable teacher up front, 96 percent of PHE-taught 9th graders report that they’ll use something they learned from the classes.

Inspired by the social justice themes in her English Honors class, biochemistry major Trang first joined PHE as a freshman to give back to the local community and campus. “It’s great to be a part of the mentorship community at Saint Mary’s,” she said of managing 40–50 program volunteers. Teaching every Friday has helped improve her public speaking skills and comfort working in the classroom setting. All told, she commits about 15 hours a week to PHE — and that’s in addition to a full academic course load and 12 hours per week in the chem lab.

Though a potentially tricky topic, Trang says that sexual assault is one of most rewarding subjects she covers as a program instructor. “It may be the first and only time students discuss the issue,” she explained, noting that sexual violence isn’t often talked about at the high school level. As she considers a future in medicine, her proven ability to convey sensitive information to diverse groups of people will be just as critical as her ability to diagnose symptoms.
In nearly every way — from athletics and academics to service and spirit — Saint Mary’s has an energy that’s undeniable.
We come at the world with David-meets-Goliath intensity. We work against the odds and consistently come out on top. Whether it’s our current students, our faculty or our alumni, we’re making a huge splash out in the world.

Examples can be found in every corner of the campus. The Macken Debate and Speech Team members regularly represented the College in competition, earning honors in every event in which they competed. The SMC Chamber Singers and Glee Club, competing against 362 choirs from 64 countries, both won silver medals at the 2012 World Choir Games in Cincinnati.

In 2012 Saint Mary’s athletics program was named the best men’s sports program in the West Coast Conference. The award came after Saint Mary’s teams won three WCC championships — men’s soccer, men’s basketball and men’s golf. In club sports, Saint Mary’s men’s rugby advanced all the way to the Division I semifinals in 2012 and were in the Sweet 16 for the past eight years in a row.

And news coverage of Saint Mary’s increased substantially during the 2011-12 academic year, with the number of media mentions about Saint Mary’s faculty up 104 percent.
From Bat Boy to the Major League

Mario Alioto ’82  As Mario Alioto drives around San Francisco and back and forth to the East Bay suburb of Alamo where he lives, he sees the fruits of his labor all around. Men and women, boys and girls, decked out in San Francisco Giants gear, marking their loyalty to the beloved World Series champion franchise that he’s devoted his life to promoting.

“It’s pretty incredible,” Alioto said. “I feel like San Francisco has become a baseball town.” And Alioto has been one of the chief architects.

Alioto, with the Giants’ front office since 1983, oversees the club’s ticket sales and services, including luxury suites and premium seats, sponsorships, promotions, media sales and special events. He is also the liaison for the team’s media partners on television and radio.

Alioto was primarily responsible for marketing the team’s new ballpark, now AT&T Park, when the Giants moved from Candlestick in 2000. In 1999, he oversaw a promotional lineup that included the first-ever “bobblehead,” which has since become a staple souvenir item in professional sports.

He has played an integral role in making AT&T Park one of the most appealing fan experiences in sports, as well as fostering the intense, sometimes quirky connections between fans and players. He knows the landscape well, having been a Giants die-hard since serving as a team bat-boy in 1973.

“We have a beautiful park, the kind of park you would come to even if you weren’t a fanatic fan,” Alioto said. “Our marketing position has been, over the years, that even a casual fan is going to have a great time at AT&T. And we’ve grown our audience quite a bit.”

Alioto has presided over two straight sell-out seasons for the Giants — including a record-breaking 3.3 million fans in 2011. He supervised the explosion of merchandise sales that have fans all over the Bay Area wearing their black and orange. Not to mention their panda hats in honor of third baseman Pablo Sandoval, the kind of only-in-San Francisco tribute that Alioto embraces and fosters.

“I feel like our job is to really keep our finger on the pulse of the fans,” Alioto said. “Certain things mark the character of the team and the fans feed off that. I think it’s that emotional connection that drives the energy of the ballpark.”
Trevor Newquist ’13  When Trevor Newquist was 6 years old, he started playing soccer in Naples, Italy, where his father, a special agent for the Navy, had been transferred with the family.

“I lived around a lot of Italians who were crazy soccer fans, so I was inspired by that.”

Fast forward to present day, and 21-year-old Newquist is now captain of the men’s soccer team at Saint Mary’s College. Since first becoming a Gael four years ago, Newquist was instrumental in turning the College’s soccer program into a highly competitive franchise. The highlight of his soccer career, he recounted, was scoring the winning goal in overtime with a head shot that launched “The Team of Destiny” into the NCAA Elite Eight last year.

“It gave me goose bumps to run around the field and dog-pile with my brothers, my teammates. It was one of the best moments of my entire life.”

The defensive mid-fielder, who garnered a lot of attention at his San Diego high school for being lead scorer on both the basketball and soccer teams, had offers to play for UC Davis, UC Irvine and the University of Santa Clara. But he liked the tight-knit community that Saint Mary’s offered. “I love the people here and the small class sizes, and the professors are always available when you need them.”

The soccer star is only four classes away from earning a degree in kinesiology, with an emphasis in sports management. While he aspires to play professional soccer one day, he does have a back-up plan. “I’d like to work with a sports organization, like the Giants, in the marketing or communications department.”

His enthusiasm for Saint Mary’s has rubbed off on his 19-year-old brother, who attends UC Berkeley. But not for long. “He’s transferring to Saint Mary’s next semester to run track and cross-country,” said Newquist. “He believes Saint Mary’s is a place where he can be successful and be recognized, too.”
A Triumphant Debut

Lysley Tenorio, Associate Professor of English

A self-confessed “pop culture freak,” Lysley Tenorio peppers his stories with superheroes, Beatlemaniaics, bullied comic book fans and the forgotten B-movies of the Philippines, including one called “Squid Children of Cebu.”

His tales are dark, fantastical, funny, utterly unpredictable and sometimes violent. Some of his stories take readers into a world turned upside down.

While his smoothly written debut collection, Monstress, has earned rave reviews in the Los Angeles Times, The New York Times and NPR among others, Tenorio is quick to point out that good writing is a long and painstaking process.

“Bouts of uncertainty and outright panic do happen, because writing, for me, is very hard work,” he said.

Tenorio, whose family emigrated from the Philippines to the United States when he was seven years old, has come a very long way since he first took up writing seriously. He was a senior in college and read a collection by Bharati Mukherjee.

“I read her story collection, ‘The Middleman and Other Stories,’ and was blown away by her sharp, unsentimental, and wildly diverse stories on contemporary immigrant America,” Tenorio said. “That’s the book that made me want to write.”

When young writers ask for his advice, he is quick to tell them that they “must love sentences. Not just words, but sentences.”

This lifelong passion doesn’t leave much mental space for hobbies. “I tried decoupage,” he said. “But that only took for about three weeks.” When it’s time to relax, he tunes in to “Chopped” on the Food Network, or spends time with his partner, friends and family.

Lately, Tenorio’s work is getting plenty of recognition. He’s received numerous fellowships and awards and is currently working on a novel. And he continues to find great inspiration in the classroom.

“Teaching keeps me on my toes,” he said. “I’m constantly thinking of ways for my students’ writing to improve, and it makes me think about my own writing challenges.”
Where can you find the Gael spirit?
You’ll find it in the 40,000 alumni, 4,000 students, 350 staff and 200 faculty living out the College’s Lasallian mission everyday in ways large and small. It’s in the weekly Community Time barbecue where students, faculty and staff gather for casual conversation. It’s the roar of the Gael Force and the feeling in our hearts as we attend the Mass of the Holy Spirit each year. And it’s in the way we come together in support of the College.

Last year alone 5,800 alumni, family, friends and donors attended a record-breaking 80 events in 25 locations worldwide. Attendance at July 2012 class reunions jumped 62 percent with nearly 1,000 alumni and friends participating in the weekend activities — the most in College history.

Household giving to the College grew by almost 15 percent, with alumni giving up 9 percent and donations from parents up 30 percent. Service to the College by alumni and friends is at an all-time high, with 776 alumni and friends serving on 27 different College boards, committees, chapters and groups, and providing an estimated 7,000 service hours.
**Investing in Opportunity**

**Eric Flowers MBA ’04**  Ensuring that others have access to a better life is a family tradition for Eric Flowers.

Ramsell Corp., the Oakland, Calif.–based company his father founded and he now runs as president and CEO, implements and manages health and drug programs for underserved populations. The Flowers Heritage Foundation, which Flowers also created with his father, helps fight AIDS.

Flowers spends a large portion of his time and money on volunteer efforts. In addition to a busy work schedule, he has served on the board of the Haight Ashbury Free Clinic, now known as Health-Right 360, since 2001, sometimes devoting as many as 40 hours per month to that cause. He is also a member of the Saint Mary’s College School of Economics and Business Administration Dean’s Advisory Board and an active donor to the school.

Flowers gives money to Saint Mary’s because he wants to offer other African-Americans access to the same quality education he received while studying for an MBA at SMC, an education that helped him succeed in his career and in working with the nonprofits he has helped to manage.

Over the next five years, Flowers will contribute $50,000 to establish the Ramsell Corp. endowed scholarship, which, when fully funded, will offer financial aid to African-American graduate business students.

“The reason I’m giving money to Saint Mary’s is to add more diversity to the student body and provide an opportunity for minority students to experience the school’s benefits — the small classes, the quality of the faculty and the ability to interact with them on an individual basis,” he said.

“I believe in hand-ups instead of handouts and want to contribute to making a better community based on the Christian values of lifting people up and helping those who may not have the blessings that I have.”
Brother Michael Murphy '79, MA '95

When Brother Michael Murphy, accepted the job as Saint Mary’s Director of Mission and Ministry in January 2012, he was coming full circle. He’d first worked in the office 17 years ago, when the Dominican priests ran what was then called Campus Ministry.

Despite many changes, the job description remains much the same — to promote the Lasallian core principals of respect for all people in an inclusive community, faith in the presence of God, a quality education and social justice and concern for the poor.

“I’m pleased that it is and always has been a ministry for the whole campus,” he said. “We’re charged to promote that. We’re charged to promote the Catholic and Lasallian character.”

The challenge is staying relevant in an increasingly secular society — a society Brother Michael called “eroded by materialism and individualism.” More than ever, he sees his role as providing a welcome environment for students to share meals, prayer and service. “For many students, this is the first time they’ve experienced this sense of community,” he said.

While the core principals have remained the same, the demographics on campus have changed. The number of non-Catholic students has grown to 46 percent, prompting Mission and Ministry to make mass more inclusive and, on special occasions, invite spiritual leaders of other religions. “Every faith is important,” he said, adding that he’s even looking for a second worship space for non-Catholics on campus.

For those who would question how far we should go to accommodate other faiths, Brother Michael was steadfast in his resolve. “I could argue that the most powerful way to evangelize is by example,” he said. “By the kindness in our eyes and the warmth of our smile. Hospitality is so important.”
Joe Shally ’32

Motivated by a strong desire to help his College, Joe Shally ’32 spearheaded one of the longest tenured alumni groups at Saint Mary’s in 1956 — the Saint Mary’s EastBay Scholarship Fund.

After learning Saint Mary’s had raised tuition to $375, making it impossible for many local men to attend the College, Shally decided to take action.

“My father wanted to do something for Saint Mary’s,” said Miriam Cordeiro, Shally’s daughter, who presides as dinner chair at the fund’s annual fundraiser in Oakland. “It was his second home.”

Gathering a group of local alumni, Shally and company built the fund from humble beginnings. After initially raising $443 to aid one student from the East Bay, the fund has never looked back. To date, $2.15 million has been donated to the College, benefiting more than 100 students.

From a young age Shally was inextricably linked to Saint Mary’s.

“As a little boy, Joe was a witness to the great fire of 1919 at the Brickpile,” said Randy Andrade ’73, the current president of the EastBay Scholarship Fund. “This really gave him a profound sense of community.”

Saint Mary’s made sure Shally, who also served on the Board of Trustees, and his close bond with the College did not go unrecognized. Among his many honors, he received the Signum Fidei award in 1973 and was the Alumnus of the Year in 1977. The Fran and Joe Shally Award, named for Shally and his wife, also exists today to further aid students at the College.

“He cared about people and would help anybody,” said Brian Shally ’70, Joe’s son. “He would give people the shirt off his back.”

As a man who was dedicated to making a difference, the time and money he donated has left a legacy that embodies the spirit of Saint Mary’s College.
Financial Highlights Fiscal Year 2011–12

Operating results of Saint Mary’s College continued to improve during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. Primary evidence of this improvement is the $1.8 million increase in unrestricted net assets (or net income) from operations for the fiscal year. This increase is attributed to growth in net undergraduate tuition and fee income and to the strategic management of overall operating expenses.

The College’s strong operating results occurred despite the lingering effects of a slow economic recovery, instability in global financial markets and decreased public support of higher education. These factors did, however, negatively impact the College as evidenced by a $12.7 million decrease in total net assets from non-operating activities as of June 30, 2012 that is attributed to the unrealized losses in the market value of the College’s long-term (endowment) investments and in the market value of the College’s interest rate exchange (or swap) agreement.

Since June 30, 2012, the College’s endowment investments increased from $128.0 million to $136.0 million as of September 30, 2012. This reflects both the continuing volatility in global equity markets as well as the College’s efforts to continue to diversify the endowment’s investments. The College has also made changes to its variable rate demand bond structure since June 30, 2012 to stabilize and simplify it.

In summary, the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 demonstrated that Saint Mary’s College can continue to improve its operating results despite economic and political uncertainties. However, it also demonstrated the College must continue to adapt to its environment in order to fulfill the potential of its mission.

Strategies that are being deployed by the College to continue to adapt to these environmental uncertainties include the further diversification of endowment investments, the further simplification and stabilization of the debt structure, the strategic expansion of funding for institutional student financial aid, the investment in programs that attract and retain students, the investment in new and renovated facilities, and the expansion of resources for fundraising operations. These and other strategies should help assure that Saint Mary’s College is able to successfully pursue its mission as it celebrates its sesquicentennial year.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter A. Michell
Vice President for Finance and Treasurer
The 2011–12 year was one of considerable growth for Saint Mary’s College in terms of engaging alumni and new donors. Household giving grew by almost 15 percent with alumni giving up 9 percent and giving from parents up 30 percent. Visits to donors by advancement staff grew 15 percent over the previous year — an important accomplishment in broadening the number of people supporting the College. In the fiscal year ending June 30, the College raised a total of $8,644,127 in gifts and pledges.

Two new donor levels were introduced. The 1863 Society and the President’s Circle both drew new donors and led the way for our annual giving efforts. Telefundraising grew 10 percent and responses to direct mail increased 62 percent over the previous year. Giving online through email solicitations and mobile text messages all went up. The 2012 Senior Class set a College record of 58 percent participation for their senior gift. And, the number of gifts from faculty and staff increased almost 50%, and the value of those gifts increased by 15 percent.

The College invests considerable effort in letting donors how important they are in the lives of our students. We had the most successful year in arranging for undergraduate student scholarship recipients to send notes of thanks to donors, with nearly 200 students sending personal notes to 142 donor families. This represented about 80 percent of all students receiving donor-funded scholarships. In June, a video recorded at commencement was distributed via e-mail to all donors with students thanking them for their gifts to the College. And, last September, the new President’s Circle donor wall went up in the Korth Tower portico.

The Advancement Office sponsored a record number of events (80), involving 5,800 guests, in 25 locations worldwide for alumni, family, friends and donors. Attendance at July 2012 class reunions jumped 62 percent with nearly 1,000 alumni and friends participating in the weekend activities — a College record — and, giving through the class gift program increased.

Volunteer engagement with the College continues at an all-time high, with 776 alumni and friends serving on 27 different College boards, committees, chapters and groups, and providing an estimated 7,000 service hours.

Thank you to everyone who played a role in advancing the mission of Saint Mary’s!

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Dick ’69 and Laurie Meyer

The Lasallian tradition of giving to others was instilled in Richard “Dick” Meyer ’69 as a Saint Mary's student four decades ago, and it remains the reason he donates to the College today. He wants to ensure that others have access to the same educational opportunities that were available to him.

The liberal arts education Meyer received at Saint Mary's helped him succeed in his 33-year career with Abbott Laboratories, where he rose from a sales rep in Los Angeles to director of business development and marketing for anesthetics and electronic flow control, handling the company's international business in that area.

Along the way he picked up an M.B.A. from Pepperdine, but it was Saint Mary’s that really made him well-rounded. “What I learned at Saint Mary’s has allowed me to be able to talk to people intelligently on so many subjects, thanks to Great Books and courses like that,” he says. “I also acquired the confidence, ability and knowledge to do more than I ever thought I could do.”

Although Meyer, who is a member of the Saint Mary’s College Board of Regents, and his wife Laurie give to a variety of causes, it is Saint Mary’s they are most passionate about and recently made a long-term commitment to helping build the new library. “I’m a sports fan, but the library is far more important,” Meyer said.

Retired from Abbott, Meyer moved to Santa Fe, N.M., last summer. They’re busy building a new home, traveling extensively and volunteering as docents at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi, which dates to 1610.

Being a member of the board of Southmedic, a Canadian company that designs and manufactures medical equipment, keeps Meyer up to date in his professional field. By serving as past president and current board member of, and longtime contributor to, the Hearing Loss Association of America, he continues to exemplify the values of caring for others learned at Saint Mary’s College.
WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE an online Honor Roll of Donors. Please visit stmarys-ca.edu/honorroll for a complete list of donors during 2011–12.

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