

# ENVISION

SPRING 2023



## MOTHER PAULINE SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT

**M. SUZANNE "SUSAN" SCHERER CALANDRA '72**

### Inspiring a Philanthropic Spirit from Generation to Generation

M. Suzanne "Susan" Scherer Calandra '72 is grateful for her father's influence as it has profoundly impacted the trajectory of her life. Recognizing the importance of higher education, Susan's father, John Scherer ND '43, introduced her to Saint Mary's and encouraged her to enroll at the College. In recollecting about her decision to attend Saint Mary's, Susan replied, "It was the only place I wanted to go and I was not disappointed."

Susan met her husband, Philip Calandra ND '72, when they were first year students. She has many Saint Mary's friends, all of whom have inspired and championed each other through a lifetime of personal and professional opportunities and obstacles.

Following in her father's footsteps, she pursued an economics and business major. Susan's impressive professional journey included positions with Price Waterhouse and Marriott Corporation and culminated in a 25-year career at Stanford University. "Saint Mary's College instilled in me a love of learning and an intellectual curiosity which has served me well as I have progressed in my career and taken on different challenges," said Susan.

Susan's father taught her to give back and inspired a philanthropic spirit within her. Shaped by her transformative experiences and instilled with her father's belief in higher education, Susan has been a supporter of Saint Mary's with gifts of her time, talent, and treasure, having served as a College trustee for eleven years.

Understanding the impact of legacy gifts, Susan has named the College in a bequest intention and designated the College as a beneficiary of her retirement plan. The philanthropic spirit instilled in Susan by her father will support future Saint Mary's students and will hopefully inspire them to give back to the College, too.

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*Susan and Phil Calandra with their son, John.*



**Saint Mary's  
College**

NOTRE DAME, IN

[SAINTMARYS.EDU/GIFTPLANNING](http://SAINTMARYS.EDU/GIFTPLANNING)

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear friends,

*Saint Teresa of Calcutta stated, "We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop." This statement creates beautiful*

*imagery for the collective power of good deeds. Even the smallest of good deeds ripples outward to reach others.*

*I believe that anyone can make a planned gift. The ability to create a planned gift is not driven by age or wealth. Rather, it is guided by affinity and passion in support of an organization and its mission.*

*From my engagement with alumnae and friends of the College, I know there is strong affinity for Saint Mary's. Thank you if you have already supported Saint Mary's with a planned gift. If you are passionate about your Saint Mary's experience but believe that you can only give a "drop in the ocean", please contact me. I would be delighted to discuss with you the rippling impact of planned gifts.*

Very truly yours,

Lauren Jaworowski Henzel, '91  
Director of Gift Planning

Contact info:

**Lauren Jaworowski Henzel, JD '91**

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To learn more visit:

**[saintmarys.edu/GiftPlanning](http://saintmarys.edu/GiftPlanning)**



## Henry Luce Foundation gift will create the Clare Boothe Luce Assistant Professorship in Physics

Saint Mary's College was awarded a five year, \$498,900 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation to establish the Clare Boothe Luce Assistant Professorship in Physics. The grant will be used to hire an early-career female assistant professor in physics, adding a tenure track that builds on the growing strength of STEM education at Saint Mary's.

Ian Bentley, associate professor of physics at Saint Mary's and the project director for the Clare Boothe Luce Program for Women in STEM grant, noted "The physics program at Saint Mary's College is vital for actively confronting the gender gap in physics and engineering." He added "Our physics major began five years ago and we have substantially higher than expected interest in the program, particularly because of how well it pairs with the College's Dual Degree in Engineering program with the University of Notre Dame."

With 15 students graduating in 2020/2021, the College's physics program entered the top 14% nationwide in the total number of physics bachelor's degrees awarded to women among all colleges and universities as well as the top 6% among primarily undergraduate institutions.

**If you know a prospective first year students interested in a physics major at Saint Mary's, please direct them to [www.saintmarys.edu/academics/departments/physics](http://www.saintmarys.edu/academics/departments/physics).**

## IN MEMORIAM

*Saint Mary's acknowledges alumnae and friends who have recently passed away, naming the College as a beneficiary in their estate plans or establishing a life income gift with the College:*

***Mary Sharon Holland Logan***

***Elizabeth Lewis Rompf '73***

*These planned gifts from alumnae, parents, and friends enable future generations of students to access a Saint Mary's education.*

## Lilly Endowment Inc. \$1 million grant for Summer Programs and Camps: From Summer Camper to Student

Lilly Endowment Inc. awarded Saint Mary's College a \$1 million grant to enhance and expand on-campus educational summer programs for girls. This grant will modernize the College's existing summer programs, expand internal capacity for program development and logistical support, and launch numerous programs beginning this summer.

Through the grant, the College will have the capacity to host more than 1,200 students each summer. The grant will support existing programs - including the Democracy & Dialogue Institute, the Embody Theology Institute, and programs focused on fine arts and forensics - and help the College develop new offerings including the Spark Entrepreneurship Summer Institute. The College's popular athletic camps remain in place and will not be impacted by the grant.

"Through scholarships, transportation assistance, camp kits and other resources, Saint Mary's can provide reassurance and opportunity for families that might be hesitant to send their girls to our campus for a week. We believe this positive exposure to campus life will be a catalyst for these students to continue their education after high school" said President Katie Conboy.

Attending a summer program at Saint Mary's can be the impetus for a young girl to apply and eventually enroll at Saint Mary's. Former program attendees who later enrolled at Saint Mary's have shared that their summer experiences on campus were the foundation for their love of Saint Mary's.

"My camp experience was amazing! I loved living in the dorms and remember feeling so grown up," said Grace Maxwell, a third year nursing major from Evergreen Park, Illinois who attended fine arts camp. "Dance was always my favorite hobby growing up, so learning from a college professor was so exciting to me."



*All smiles from these campers turned students!  
L to R, Hannah Harnisch, Grace Maxwell, Abby Harnisch*

Abby Harnisch, a second year elementary education major, and her sister, Hannah Harnisch, a first year nursing major, both from Oakton, Virginia, created several memorable moments at fine arts camp with their cousins.

Grace, Abby, and Hannah agreed that their camp experience played an integral role in their decision to attend Saint Mary's.

"Everyone was extremely nice and the teachers were very encouraging and supportive," said Abby. "Looking back at my memories from camp made me realize that I wanted to make even more memories at Saint Mary's as a student."

Hannah added, "My camp experience did contribute to my decision to enroll at Saint Mary's because of all the wonderful memories I had. I made so many great friends at Saint Mary's camp and I wasn't even a student."

Echoing these sentiments, Grace noted, "I felt so at home even though I was only there for a week, and I knew that an environment like Saint Mary's would help me thrive."

As Abby crisscrosses campus as a student she continues to see the connection to her camp experience. "There are times when I am walking around campus and I see a spot that makes me think of one of the many amazing memories we made at camp, which makes me very happy and grateful that I get to make even more memories at Saint Mary's as a student," she said.

**To learn more about Saint Mary's summer programs and camps, go to [www.saintmarys.edu/camps](http://www.saintmarys.edu/camps).**



*feature cover story continued*

## MOTHER PAULINE SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT

Susan and her husband believe strongly in the impact of education and support the family's alma maters. And like Susan's father, they have fostered a passion for philanthropy in their son, John. He promises to carry on their legacy by supporting Saint Mary's and Notre Dame as well as his alma maters, Catholic University and University of San Francisco.





# Saint Mary's College

NOTRE DAME, IN

## Lauren Jaworowski Henzel, JD '91

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# Calendar of Events

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| April 28 - 29 | Dance Arts 2023: Wholehearted Artists      |
| May 4         | Spring Choral Concert                      |
| May 20        | Class of 2023 Commencement                 |
| May 25        | Engaging Women Conference 2023             |
| June 1 - 4    | Reunion 2023 - Classes ending in 3's & 8's |

To see more Saint Mary's events, both in person and virtually, go to [saintmarys.edu/events](https://saintmarys.edu/events)



## Guest Column

# Invest in Saint Mary's College and Reduce Your Taxes with Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)



**Katherine Walsh Hennessy '94 CFP**  
Partner at AssetGrade, LLC  
Chicago, IL

Wouldn't it be great if you could invest in Saint Mary's College and also reduce your taxes? You can do so easily by making charitable donations through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA to a qualified charity. Distributions from a traditional IRA are taxable when received. However, the QCD rule allows IRA owners aged 70 ½ and older to reduce the taxable amount of their IRA distribution, if they make the contribution directly from their IRA to a qualified charity. A QCD will count towards your current year Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if the funds are withdrawn from your IRA by the RMD deadline which is typically December 31.

The maximum individual amount that qualifies for a QCD is \$100,000 annually; however, for a married couple where both spouses are 70 ½ or over and have IRAs, the total is \$200,000 per year.

As a proud Saint Mary's alumna, I know how much of a positive impact the school has had on my life. By investing in Saint Mary's via a QCD, you can both reduce your annual tax bill as well as invest in our College's future.