



Saint Mary's University of Minnesota



THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST
**COMMENCEMENT
CONVOCATION**

May 2, 2026

11:00 a.m.

David R. Thies B'59 Arena

Very Rev. James P. Burns, IVD, Ph.D.
President of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
Presiding

Brother Robert J. Smith, FSC '76, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for University Initiatives and Special Advisor
to the President
Executive Director, Hendrickson Institute for Ethical Leadership
Master of Ceremonies

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
THE COLLEGE
SCHOOLS OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS
WINONA CAMPUS

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

PRELUDE

Spring from the *Four Seasons*, Antonio Vivaldi

Saint Mary's University String Ensemble
Zoraida Oyola Rebaza, D.M.A.
Director of Music Programming

PROCESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance, Edward Elgar, arr. by Paul Frederick
Classic Brass

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Brother Robert J. Smith, FSC '76, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for University Initiatives and Special Advisor to the President
Executive Director, Hendrickson Institute for Ethical Leadership

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key

Saint Mary's University Concert Choir Seniors
Grace Hardel, Ólafur Jóhannesson, Eric Kohr, Julia Langworthy,
John Littrell, Andrew McNally, Samuel Miron, Zachariah Steffens,
Vivian Stolz, Melanie Winzenburg

INVOCATION

Rev. Kevin Stolt, IVE, M.Eng., Ph.L.
University Chaplain

WELCOME

Gregory Stevens B'74
Chair, Board of Trustees

REFLECTIONS

Zoe Fink, Outstanding Senior
Javier Rodriguez Cifuentes, Outstanding Senior

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Il Sogno di Volare, Christopher Tin

Saint Mary's University Concert Choir
Zoraida Oyola Rebaza, D.M.A.
Director of Music Programming

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Very Rev. James P. Burns, IVD, Ph.D.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Shelly McCallum-Ferguson M'96, DBA
Dean of the College

Dean Beckman, M.S.
Chair of Business and Communication

Paul Christensen '11, Ed.D.
Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs
Minneapolis-Rochester-Online

ALMA MATER

Saint Mary's University Concert Choir
Zoraida Oyola Rebaza, D.M.A.
Director of Music Programming
Words and music by Patrick M. O'Shea
(music on page 15)

BENEDICTION

Very Rev. Jason Kern B'08, STL
Rector of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

RECESSIONAL

Trumpet Tune, Henry Purcell, arr. by Douglas Smith
Classic Brass

PHOTOGRAPHY

To respect the dignity of the ceremony and allow guests to see all degree candidates recognized, guests are requested to remain seated. Legacies by Laura will photograph each degree candidate during the ceremony.

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

BACHELOR OF ARTS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Latin honors, for students so identified, are based on grade point averages (G.P.A.) from the end of fall semester. Transcripts will document final grades and actual cumulative G.P.A. for the end of spring semester.

Connor Maxwell Abric
Computer Science
summa cum laude

Gabriella Acosta
Environmental and Conservation
Biology

Amarr Alamin Adam
Elementary Education

Steven Allen Adams
Philosophy

Tyson Allen-Woodcock
Business Intelligence and Analytics

Alexander Amin
Accounting
Business Intelligence and Analytics

Philip Thomas Apel
Health Sciences
cum laude

Blake Norman Arneson
Management
cum laude

Lauren Ashe
Biochemistry

Kindness Oseremen Atovie
Computer Science
Finance

Jacqueline Marie Avilez
Elementary Education
cum laude

Joseph Michael Beckman
Environmental and Conservation
Biology

Peyton Berg
Psychology
cum laude

Reese Kane Berg
Public Relations and Digital Media

Emelia Mara Bergh
Public Relations and Digital Media

Lars Theodore Bergo
Marketing
Sport Management

Seth Xavier Bestgen
Computer Science
summa cum laude

Alexis Blackburn
Nursing
magna cum laude

Alexis Boeck
Biology

Emily Anna Bonk
Health Humanities
Psychology
summa cum laude

Naleyah Elizabeth Bork
Marketing
magna cum laude

Alaina Botz
Nursing
magna cum laude

Khai Branham
Biochemistry

Gretchen Bredberg
Biology

Dominick Francis Brezinski
Philosophy

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Mallory Anne Brown
Elementary Education

Brenna Rose Bruchert
Public Relations and Digital Media
summa cum laude

Joanna Renee Buch
Healthcare Management
summa cum laude

Taylor Johanna Budde
Health Sciences
magna cum laude

Aldo Campagne
Computer Science

Ryan Matthew Campbell
Biology

Zachary Charles Campbell
Environmental and Conservation
Biology

Jack Ruttger Campion
Accounting
Finance
magna cum laude

Alexis Emily Campshure
Biochemistry

Maddox John Cejka
Accounting
Management

Eric David Charest
Business Intelligence and Analytics
Finance
cum laude

Claire Isabelle Chmielewski
Health Sciences
magna cum laude

Kaelyn Grace Clasen
Biology
cum laude

Hope Ann Marie Clegg
Secondary Education

Devann Elizabeth Clemens
Criminal Justice
Psychology
cum laude

Makiah Marie Cook
Nursing

Jose Diego Corvera Garcia*
Biology
summa cum laude

Joshua Costello
Management
Marketing

Alexander Wayne Crusan
Finance
Management

Brady Depoorter
Philosophy

Thomas Mark Dockendorf
Philosophy

Tanner Eric Donnay
Computer Science
cum laude

Taryn Nicole Dornseif*
Psychology
summa cum laude

Joseph Dunn
Health Sciences
magna cum laude

Kylie Faerber
Nursing
cum laude

Wesley Felten
Biology
cum laude

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Jacob Anthony Fiala
Philosophy

Zoe Fink*
Accounting
Business Intelligence and Analytics
summa cum laude

Ethan James Finne
Philosophy
cum laude

Kaiden Forsyth
Biology
cum laude

Alison Elizabeth French
Health Sciences

Megan Laurel Frosch
Health Sciences
magna cum laude

Ella Rose Fry
Nursing
magna cum laude

Alexander Cesar Garcia
Business Intelligence and Analytics
Management
Marketing

Jailene Garcia-Hernandez
Elementary Education

Martin Garr
Sport Management

Blase Gebes
Philosophy
summa cum laude

Emma Gerdes
Biology

Andrew Joseph Glanville
Philosophy
summa cum laude
co-valedictorian

Stephen Nelson Golden
Criminal Justice

Westin Lee Gourneau
Philosophy
summa cum laude

Gabrielle Lynn Grover
Finance
Management

Fernanda Gutierrez
Public Relations and Digital Media

Joelle Elizabeth Hammann
Biology

Grace Olivia Hardel
Elementary Education
magna cum laude

Kijuan Maurice Hardy
Public Relations and Digital Media

Cohan Hunter Hare
Management
Marketing

Jonah Vincent Heckman
Art

Emma Louise Heidenreich
Biology

Ariel Michelle Hernandez-Orea
Criminal Justice
Psychology

Kaitlyn Ann Holmes
Healthcare Management

Erica Angell Howard
Biology
cum laude

Abigail Marie Jacobs
Public Relations and Digital Media
magna cum laude

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Ólafur Jóhannesson Philosophy <i>summa cum laude</i>	Madison Mary Kubalek Accounting Finance
Dean Kamann Psychology	Kacper Franciszek Kunicki Business Intelligence and Analytics Finance
Zachary L. Kantor Accounting Business Intelligence and Analytics	Kristen LaDue Business Intelligence and Analytics Marketing <i>summa cum laude</i>
Daniel Kardor Management	Melanie LaDue Biochemistry <i>summa cum laude</i>
Emma Rose Kasella Nursing <i>summa cum laude</i>	Noah Jack Lahner* Psychology <i>summa cum laude</i> <i>co-valedictorian</i>
Houmam Kassar Business Intelligence and Analytics Marketing	Jacob Harlan Landgraf Sport Management
Benjamin Kolbe Kehoe Philosophy <i>cum laude</i>	Julia Mei Langworthy Mathematical Sciences Secondary Education <i>magna cum laude</i>
Elizabeth Ayed Khalil Health Sciences <i>magna cum laude</i>	Michael Mathias Leis Philosophy <i>magna cum laude</i>
Grace Amber King Elementary Education <i>summa cum laude</i>	Lindsey Lettner Accounting Business Intelligence and Analytics <i>summa cum laude</i> <i>co-valedictorian</i>
Nicholas Gerald Klika Philosophy	John Hardesty Littrell Public Relations and Digital Media
Paige Mary Klug Psychology <i>summa cum laude</i>	Genna Loween Nursing <i>cum laude</i>
Eric Christian Kohr Philosophy	Anelise Gabriella Maccoux Psychology
Benjamin Reid Kritsberg Sport Management <i>magna cum laude</i>	

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Gavin Mack
Criminal Justice

Peyton Emma Maier
Biology
cum laude

Leo Daniel Marcotte
Philosophy

Nicolas Martin
Public Relations and Digital Media

Madeline Rose McCartney*
Psychology
summa cum laude
co-valedictorian

Joseph Kelly McDermott
Accounting
Management

Caeli Rose McMahon
Elementary Education
summa cum laude

Andrew John McNally
Philosophy
summa cum laude

Susan Grace Mettler
Nursing
cum laude

Cole Charles Mickel
Finance
Sport Management
magna cum laude

Sara Miller
Nursing
cum laude

Andrew Thomas Milner
Criminal Justice

Samuel Miron
Philosophy

Sajida Mirzada
Management

ZamZam Mohamed
Computer Science
cum laude

Morgan Elizabeth Muhlbauer
Environmental and Conservation
Biology

McKenzie Munson
Biology
cum laude

Samantha Munson
Biology
cum laude

Abigail Margaret Nachand
Environmental and Conservation
Biology
magna cum laude

Heather Marie Nordlund
Psychology

Keegan Norton
Accounting
Finance
magna cum laude

Grace Olivia Olmstead
Elementary Education
magna cum laude

Nozomi Osada
Public Relations and Digital Media
magna cum laude

Tristan Ostrem
Environmental and Conservation
Biology
magna cum laude

Leah Q Parker
Accounting
Sport Management

Mateo Sebastian Pascual Sebastian
Philosophy

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Anna Peckosh
Nursing
cum laude

Liam Pelayic
Philosophy

Conner E. Perry
Health Sciences
summa cum laude

Teagan Kylie Phillips
Management
Marketing
summa cum laude

Elizabeth Grace Pike
Elementary Education
magna cum laude

Kevin Porcayo
Chemistry
Secondary Education
Spanish

Brady William Quan
Chemistry
Mathematical Sciences
summa cum laude
co-vaedictorian

Michael Rahm
Philosophy
summa cum laude

Valeria Ramos Kuzuhara
Health Sciences

Kiley Marie Randall
English
summa cum laude

Josephine Ann Zak Reed
Health Sciences
summa cum laude

Celeste Annise Rimstad
Biology
magna cum laude

Veronica Cecelia Ridsen
Biology

Mayra Rodriguez
Psychology

Javier Rodriguez Cifuentes
Biology
magna cum laude

Dillon Joseph Rosado
Marketing

Jennifer Rosas
Nursing
cum laude

Garrett Rotzien
Accounting
Business Intelligence and Analytics
magna cum laude

Jack Bernard-Benedict Schafer
Sport Management

Isabella Gene Schei
Biology

Riley Lea Schiernbeck
Nursing
magna cum laude

Brooke RaVonne Schilling
Nursing
summa cum laude

Brian Matthew Schmit
Philosophy
summa cum laude

Granton Edward Schneider
Computer Science

Kendra Celine Schneider
Biology
summa cum laude

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Patrick Steven Schork
Accounting
Business Intelligence and Analytics
Finance

Gavan Schulte
Business Intelligence and Analytics
Finance
magna cum laude

Ella Victoria Schultz
Environmental and Conservation
Biology

Daniel James Sherman
Biology

Taverie Lane Sherner
Healthcare Management
cum laude

Kirsten Elizabeth Sims
Nursing
magna cum laude

Lauryn Nicole Skoruppa
Nursing
cum laude

Zachariah Louis Steffens
Philosophy
cum laude

Kathryn Anne Stiegel
Biology

Abbie Stigler
Public Relations and Digital Media
cum laude

Vivian Summer Stolz*
Public Relations and Digital Media
summa cum laude

Eric Robert Stomberg
Biology
cum laude

Cade Sullivan
Philosophy
magna cum laude

Grace Luetta Swanson
Psychology

Nathaniel Wallace Thovson
Health Sciences

Paige Madison Thurner
Health Sciences
magna cum laude

Yaquelinne Tomas Coronado
Nursing

Rylie Tourtellott
Art
Public Relations and Digital Media
magna cum laude

Colin John Tushie
Computer Science
Mathematical Sciences
magna cum laude

Christopher Ullrich
Management
Marketing
magna cum laude

Shania Marie Vanlewin
Health Sciences
Spanish
magna cum laude

Mikayla Vasilevich
Nursing

Patrick Timothy Waddell
Mathematical Sciences
Philosophy
summa cum laude
co-valedictorian

Madison Renee Wall*
Biology
summa cum laude

Melanie Lynn Wardwell
Accounting
Management
summa cum laude

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Sarah Anne Watters*
Health Sciences
summa cum laude

Analeese Weckwerth
Biology
summa cum laude

Malerie Williams
Biology
cum laude

Mason David Windschitl
Business Intelligence and Analytics
Finance

Melanie Ann Winzenburg*
Health Sciences
summa cum laude

Brooke Amaya Woodmansey*
Health Sciences
summa cum laude

Alison JiaYi Wu
Health Sciences

Sophia Wysopal
Environmental and Conservation
Biology

Timothy Francis Zappa
Philosophy

Michael Joseph Zidanic
Marketing
Sport Management

SCHOOLS OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Brittany Ann Dickey
Accounting

Said Hassan Roble
Accounting

Daisy Mwango Mairura
Business Administration

Marissa Ann Torres
Business Administration

Matthew John Zarras
Business Administration

Alicia Mildred Mary Ganser
Healthcare Management

Debra Marie Wagner
Healthcare Management

Jessica Anne Wirz
Healthcare Management

MASTER OF ARTS

Khalid Hussein Sharif
Counseling and Psychological Services
and Graduate Certificate
in Addiction Studies

Sidney Koeller
Education

Terra M. Lieser
Education

Victoria Armandina Shier
Education

Spencer Tracy Udeen
Education

Nimco Abdikani Kalif
Marriage and Family Therapy

Luke Laxia Vang
Philanthropy and Development

Matison Julie Matz
Teaching

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
SCHOOLS OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

**MASTER OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION**

Emily Elizabeth Kiehne Anderson
Business Administration

Kelechi Fahnbulleh
Business Administration

Andrew Pattara Komenake Nones
Business Administration

Sea Vang
Business Administration

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Muna Mohamed Aweis
Public Health

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Crystal Joan King
Accounting

Ashlea Rae Pinder
Business Intelligence
and Data Analytics

Michael David Vo
Business Intelligence
and Data Analytics

Jessica C. Puma
Cybersecurity

Feisal Shakir Gedi
Data Intelligence and GeoAnalytics

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Leann Marie Eisel-Stecyk
Social Work

Molly Keaira Head
Social Work

EDUCATION SPECIALIST

Cindy Lily Jambor-Wolf
Educational Administration

Angela Kay McAndrews
Educational Administration

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

ACADEMIC HONORS

summa cum laude
3.9 grade point average

magna cum laude
3.75 grade point average

cum laude
3.6 grade point average

** Delta Epsilon Sigma*
national Catholic honor society

ACADEMIC DRESS

The academic costume worn today originated in the Middle Ages, when gowns and hoods kept scholars and clerics warm. The distinctive gown served to set the student apart from fellow citizens, giving birth to the expression "town and gown." Until after the Civil War, students at most American universities wore caps and gowns daily. They varied in design until they were standardized by the American Intercollegiate Commission in 1894. At that time, it was decided that all robes should be black: bachelor's gowns to be made of worsted material with pointed sleeves; master's gowns of silk with long, closed sleeves; doctor's gowns of silk with longer sleeves and faced with black velvet from hem to neck and back. They also carry three velvet bands around each sleeve above the elbow. Hoods are made of the same materials as the gowns, the length varying with the degree. The lining of the hood identifies the university by its colors. The border of the hood indicates the academic discipline in which the degree is earned:

White: arts and letters, journalism

Scarlet: theology

Purple: law

Green: medicine

Dark blue: philosophy

Yellow: science

Brown: architecture, fine arts

Pink: music

Lilac: dentistry

Orange: engineering

Olive: pharmacy

Light brown: business

Lemon yellow: library science

Light blue: education

Peacock blue: international affairs

Citron yellow: social work

Salmon pink: public health

Apricot: nursing

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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(President)

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Elaine Haydock

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Michael Laak B'77, J.D.
(Vice Chair)

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Sarah Landman B'04, M'07

Shaun Powers

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Sandra Simon CST'72
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(Chair)

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Marcy Van Fossen, Ph.D.

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Joseph J. Ross B'67, J.D.

Loras "Red" Sieve B'60

David Thies B'59

MISSION

Enriched by the Lasallian Catholic heritage,
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota awakens, nurtures, and empowers learners
to ethical lives of service and leadership.



*Approved by the
Board of Trustees
October 5, 2012*

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Alma Mater

For the community of Saint Mary's University past, present, and future

Patrick M. O'Shea



Hail Saint Ma - ry's, Al - ma Ma - ter!
Hail, Saint Ma - ry's, fount of wis - dom,
Hail, Saint Ma - ry's, shin - ing bea - con



Hail Saint Ma - ry's, Mo - ther true,
Nur - tur - er of heart and mind,
Of La - Salle's com - mu - ni - ty,



Ev - 'ry faith - ful son and daugh - ter
Strength - en us in thought and spir - it,
Send us out for - ev - er teach - ing



lifts this an - them now to you:
That in seek - ing we may find.
Love and faith and u - ni - ty.

(Refrain - all verses)



A - - ve, a - - ve,



a - ve Ma - ri - a!



Saint Mary's
University
of MINNESOTA