

# Catholic Identity College Guide '13

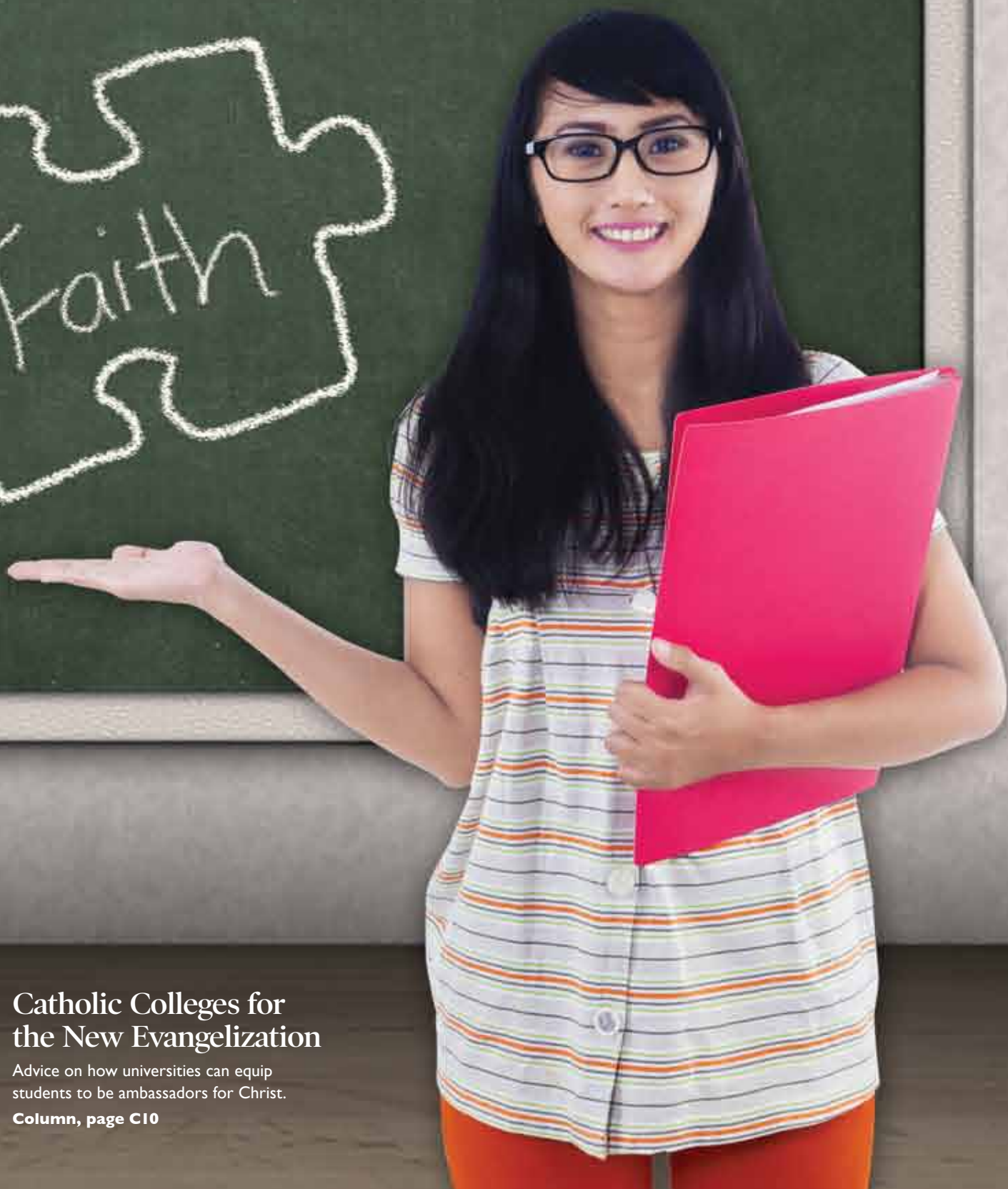
- C2 AQUINAS COLLEGE
- C2 THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE
- C2 AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY
- C2 BELMONT ABBEY COLLEGE
- C2 BENEDICTINE COLLEGE
- C4 CAMPION COLLEGE AUSTRALIA
- C4 THE CATHOLIC DISTANCE UNIVERSITY
- C4 THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
- C4 CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE
- C4 COLLEGE OF SAINT MARY
- C4 COLLEGE OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN
- C5 DESALES UNIVERSITY
- C5 FISHER MORE COLLEGE
- C5 FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE
- C5 HOLY APOSTLES COLLEGE AND SEMINARY
- C5 HOLY CROSS COLLEGE
- C5 HOLY SPIRIT COLLEGE
- C5 INSTITUTE FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES
- C5 INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE — SCHOOL OF CATHOLIC THEOLOGY
- C7 PONTIFICAL JOHN PAUL II INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY AT THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
- C7 JOHN PAUL THE GREAT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
- C7 LIVING WATER COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
- C7 MADONNA UNIVERSITY
- C7 MARYVALE INSTITUTE
- C7 MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
- C7 OUR LADY SEAT OF WISDOM ACADEMY
- C9 REDEEMER PACIFIC COLLEGE
- C9 ST. CHARLES BORROMEO SEMINARY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND PROGRAM OF CATHOLIC STUDIES
- C9 ST. GREGORY'S UNIVERSITY
- C9 SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE
- C9 THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE
- C9 THE THOMAS MORE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
- C9 UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS
- C9 UNIVERSITY OF MARY
- C9 UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS
- C9 WALSH UNIVERSITY
- C9 WYOMING CATHOLIC COLLEGE



This National Catholic Register resource is made possible through the cooperation of bishops, college presidents, our benefactors and our advertisers. This year, 37 schools went on record in answer to these questions:

### Text of the questionnaire we sent to Catholic colleges.

1. Did the president make the public profession of faith and take the "Oath of Fidelity"?
2. Is the majority of the board of trustees Catholic?
3. Is the majority of the faculty Catholic?
4. Do you publicly require all Catholic theology professors to have the *mandatum*?
5. Did all Catholic theology professors take the "Oath of Fidelity"?
6. Do you provide daily Mass and posted times (at least weekly) for individual confession?
7. Do you exclude advocates of abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem-cell research or cloning as commencement speakers or recipients of honorary degrees?
8. Do you exclude sponsoring pro-abortion campus groups?
9. Do you exclude coed dorms?
10. Do your student health services exclude referrals to abortion businesses?



### Benedictine College's Devotion to Mary

The Kansas school consecrates itself to the Blessed Mother.  
Story, page C6

### Sharing Christ on Campus

A look at three campus ministries that offer faith-filled programs to students across the country.  
Story, page C8

### Catholic Colleges for the New Evangelization

Advice on how universities can equip students to be ambassadors for Christ.  
Column, page C10

# Questionnaire Sources

The Catholic Identity College Questionnaire offers objective questions about a university's Catholic identity. We designed the questionnaire so that a "YES" answer reflects essential elements of the renewal of Catholic identity called for by Pope John Paul II's 1990 apostolic constitution on higher education, *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* (Out of the Heart of the Church), its 2000 "Application to the United States," canon law and other relevant Church documents.

### The Institution

**President's Oath:** Canon 833: The president of a Catholic university is personally bound to make a profession of faith, according to the formula approved by the Apostolic See, in the presence of the diocesan bishop or a delegate at the beginning of their term of office.

*The Profession of Faith and the Oath of Fidelity, "Acta Apostolicae Sedis" 1989:* The obligation of a special oath of fidelity has been extended to presidents of Catholic universities.

**Catholic Board:** U.S. Application: To the extent possible, the majority of the board of trustees should be Catholics committed to the Church.

**Catholic Faculty:** U.S. Application: The university should strive to recruit and appoint Catholics as professors so that, to the extent possible, those committed to the witness of the faith will constitute a majority of the faculty.

**Mandatum Required:** Canon 812: It is necessary that Catholic theologians have a *mandatum* from the diocesan bishop.

*Pope John Paul II (to American bishops, 2004):* "By their very nature, Catholic colleges and universities are called to offer an institutional witness of fidelity to Christ and to his word as it comes to us from the Church, a public witness expressed in the canonical requirement of the *mandatum*."

U.S. Application: Both the university and the bishops, aware of the contributions made by theologians to Church and academy, have a right to expect them to present authentic Catholic teaching. Catholic professors of the theological disciplines have a corresponding duty to be faithful to the Church's magisterium as the authoritative interpreter of sacred Scripture and sacred Tradition.

U.S. Application: Catholic students have a right to receive from a university instruction in authentic Catholic doctrine and practice, especially from theologians.

*Mandatum Text:* "I hereby declare my role and responsibility as a teacher of a theological discipline within the full communion of the Church. As a teacher of a theological discipline, therefore, I am committed to teach authentic Catholic doctrine and to refrain from putting

forth as Catholic teaching anything contrary to the Church's magisterium."

U.S. Application: If a particular professor lacks a *mandatum* and continues to teach a theological discipline, the university must determine what further action may be taken in accordance with its own mission and statutes.

**Theologians' Oath:** Canon 833: Catholic theologians are personally bound to make a profession of faith, according to the formula approved by the Apostolic See, in the presence of the university president if he is a priest, or the diocesan bishop or a delegate, at the beginning of their term of office.

*The Profession of Faith and the Oath of Fidelity, "Acta Apostolicae Sedis" 1989:* The obligation of a special oath of fidelity has been extended to Catholic theology professors.

### Campus Culture

**Mass and Confession:** U.S. Application: Catholic students have a right to be provided with opportunities to practice the faith through participation in Mass, the sacraments, religious devotions and other authentic forms of Catholic spirituality. The university shall make provision for effective campus-ministry programs, including the celebration of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and penance, other liturgical celebrations and opportunities for prayer and spiritual reflection.

**Speakers Vetted:** *The U.S. Bishops' 2004 "Catholics in Political Life":* Catholic institutions should not honor those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors or platforms that would suggest support for their actions.

**Unobjectionable Clubs:** U.S. Application: It is important for Catholic universities to implement in practical terms their commitment to the essential elements of Catholic identity, including activities of officially recognized student and faculty organizations and associations.

**No Coed Dorms:** U.S. Application: It is important for Catholic universities to implement in practical terms their commitment to the essential elements of Catholic identity, including the commitment to create a campus culture and environment that is expressive and supportive of a Catholic way of life.

**Health Services Okay:** U.S. Application: It is important for Catholic universities to implement in practical terms their commitment to the essential elements of Catholic identity, including the commitment to provide health care in conformity with the Church's ethical and religious teaching and directives.

Here are the 37 schools that each answered 10 questions about their college's institutional standards and campus culture. A check mark indicates a positive answer to our Catholic identity question. Schools' comments expanding upon a "Yes" answer and explaining a "No" answer are included. View online at NCRRegister.com / "Resources."

### Aquinas College

4210 Harding Pike  
Nashville, TN 37205  
(615) 297-7545; toll-free (800) 649-9956  
[AquinasCollege.edu](http://AquinasCollege.edu)  
Enrollment: 618

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

#### School's Comments:

**Institution:** Our new master's degree programs in teacher education and nursing education are based on strict Catholic and Dominican teaching and tradition. Aquinas College is in the heart of Nashville and is the only four-year Catholic liberal arts college in middle and east Tennessee.

**Culture:** Campus culture now includes a "Summa Crew" student service organization and a new Center for Faith and Culture.

**Dorms:** House life is based on the Oxbridge model.

**Mass & Confession:** Daily for both.

### The Augustine Institute — Theological Master's Program

6060 S. Syracuse Way  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111  
(303) 937-4420  
[AugustineInstitute.org](http://AugustineInstitute.org)  
Enrollment: 250

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS

- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- N/A \* HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

#### School's Comments:

**Faculty:** 100% Catholic faculty.  
**Mandatum:** Required of the entire faculty.

**Mass & Confession:** Daily Mass, individual spiritual direction and confession are all available and regularly attended or utilized.

**Clubs:** We not only exclude pro-abortion groups; we do no external business with groups that promote practices in opposition to Church teachings.

**Dorms:** We do not directly provide dormitories. We do promote "households," where many of our students choose to live together in either exclusively female or exclusively male communities.

**Health:** We do not provide health coverage, and we only promote practices in adherence with Catholic teachings. We also take the extra step of only choosing business vendors that do not support these practices as well.

**Enrollment:** Theological master's program: Offering theological M.A. degrees both on campus and through video-distance education, the Augustine Institute has become the third-largest Catholic master's program training people for ministry in the U.S.

### Ave Maria University

5050 Ave Maria Blvd.  
Ave Maria, FL 34142  
(877) AVE-UNIV (283-8648)  
[AveMaria.edu](http://AveMaria.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,000 (900 undergraduates; 100 graduate students)

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY



COURTESY OF AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY

### Belmont Abbey College

100 Belmont-Mount Holly Rd.  
Belmont, NC 28012  
(888) 222-0110  
[BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu](http://BelmontAbbeyCollege.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,706

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

### Benedictine College

1020 N. Second St.  
Atchison, KS 66002  
(913) 367-5340  
[Benedictine.edu](http://Benedictine.edu)  
Enrollment: 1,730

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

CONTINUES ON PAGE C4

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*With annual tuition of \$14,280, a graduate in four years guarantee, and free room and board for eligible graduates of Catholic high schools, it's a serious Catholic education and an exceptional value.*



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 800-288-6279



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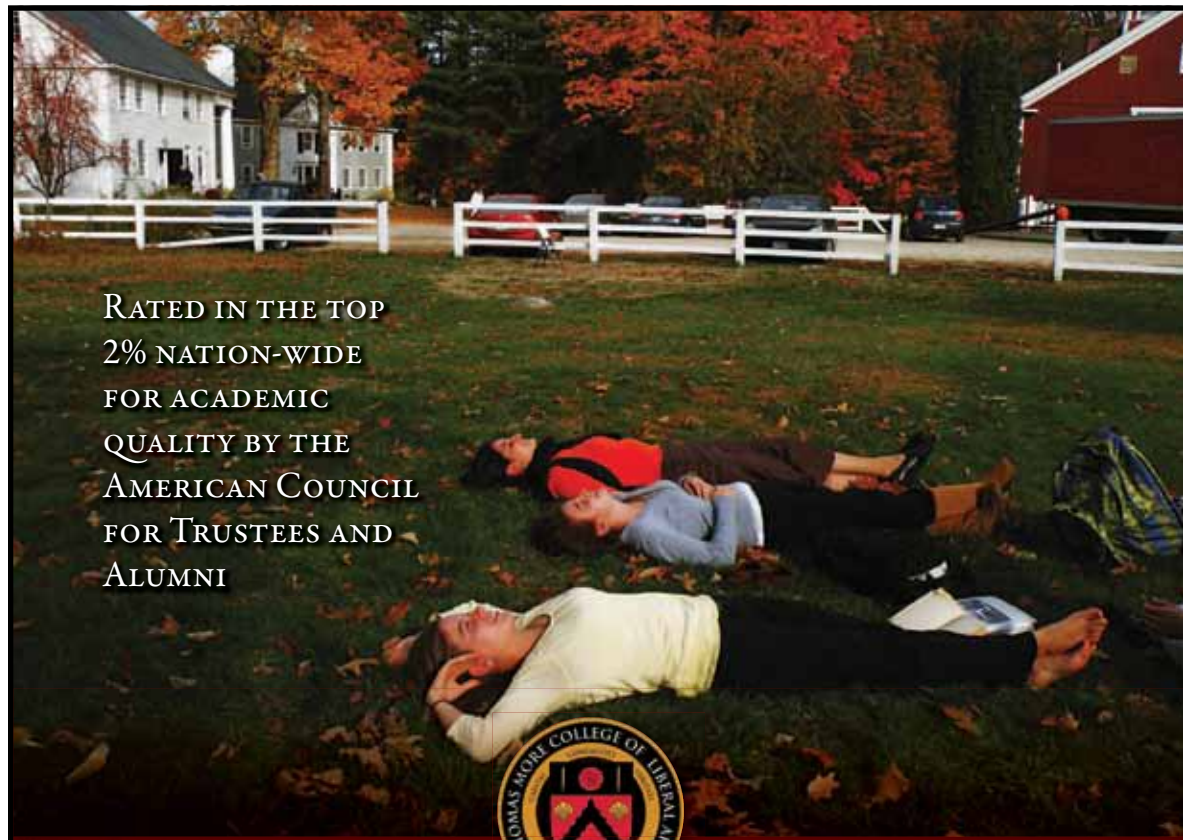
Brian Murphy ('14)  
Cheshire, Conn.



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www.ThomasMoreCollege.edu/OpenHouse



COURTESY OF CAMPION COLLEGE AUSTRALIA

### Campion College Australia

P.O. Box 3052  
Toongabbie East  
NSW 2146  
Australia  
+61 2 9896 9300  
Campion.edu.au  
Enrollment: 90

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- \*NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

#### School's Comments:

**Institution:** As the only Catholic liberal arts college in Australia, Campion goes to the core of education, faith and human flourishing. Located in western Sydney, Campion offers a uniquely integrated and fully accredited B.A. in the liberal arts. Small class sizes (tutorials are capped at 15 students) allow for a genuine community of learning in which students get to know faculty personally. Through studying literature, history, theology, philosophy, science and math, Campion students are taught to think critically, problem-solve and communicate effectively. Where many view university education as mere job training, Campion focuses on students' entire formation: spiritual, intellectual, social and vocational. Campion is grounded in the Catholic faith and exercises faithfulness to the teachings of the Church, but it helps all students live out their faith in all of life.

**Dorms:** Campion's accommodations are segregated, male and female, across all dorms and residences. Individuals are not permitted to enter rooms of the opposite sex, and access to the living spaces is limited. Senior students are designated as residential assistants, and one is allocated to each area. There is a senior residential assistant who lives on campus.

### The Catholic Distance University

120 E. Colonial Hwy.  
Hamilton, VA 20158-9012  
(888) 254-4238, ext. 700  
CDU.edu  
Enrollment: 1,200

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ \*MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ \*THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:\*

- N/A MASS AND CONFESSION
- N/A SPEAKERS VETTED
- N/A UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- N/A NO COED DORMS
- N/A HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

#### School's Comments:

**Mandatum & Theologians' Oath:** Since our theology faculty are primarily adjunct, the *mandatum* is taken in the diocese of their full-time employment.

**Culture:** CDU is an online university.

### The Catholic University of America

620 Michigan Ave., NE  
Washington, DC 20064  
(202) 319-5000  
CUA.edu  
Enrollment: 6,838 (3,694 undergraduates; 3,144 graduate students, as of fall 2012)

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- \*MANDATUM REQUIRED
- \*THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- \*NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

#### School's Comments:

**Mandatum:** Catholic theologians must receive a "canonical mission" from the local bishop/chancellor that obliges them to "teach in the name of the Church" — it is different from the *mandatum*.



COURTESY OF COLLEGE OF SAINT MARY

**Theologians' Oath:** The Catholic faculty recite the profession of faith in the presence of and along with the local bishop/chancellor and president at the opening Mass of each academic year. Catholic faculty have not been required to take the "Oath of Fidelity" because of the canonical mission/*nihil obstat* binding the ecclesiastical faculties.

**Dorms:** In fall 2013, all freshmen, sophomores and the majority of juniors will reside in single-sex residence halls. Eventually, the university expects to have all students living on campus housed in single-sex residence halls.

### Christendom College

134 Christendom Dr.  
Front Royal, VA 22630-6534  
(800) 877-5456  
Christendom.edu  
Enrollment: 400

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

### College of Saint Mary

7000 Mercy Rd.  
Omaha, NE 68106  
(402) 399-2454  
CSM.edu  
Enrollment: 1,037

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ \*MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:\*

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ \*NO COED DORMS
- ✓ \*HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

#### School's Comments:

**Mandatum:** All theology faculty have the *mandatum*.

**Dorms:** As a women's college, we only have residence halls for women.

**Health:** Our health service is provided by Alegent Creighton Health System.

### College of St. Mary Magdalen

511 Kearsarge Mountain Rd.  
Warner, NH 03278  
(603) 456-2656  
Magdalen.edu  
Enrollment: 62

#### The Institution:

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

#### Campus Culture:

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

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COURTESY OF HOLY CROSS COLLEGE

**DeSales University**

2755 Station Ave.  
Center Valley, PA 18034  
(877) 4-DESALES  
DeSales.edu  
Enrollment: 3,245 (undergraduate and graduate students);  
1,597 full-time, traditional undergraduates

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Faculty:** The university does not have those statistics.  
**Dorms:** Some DeSales residence halls do house both genders, separated by wing or floor. Access to these areas is limited by proximity card access; opposite genders cannot access each other's areas without being escorted as a guest during normal visitation hours.

**Fisher More College**

801 W. Shaw St.  
Fort Worth, TX 76110  
(817) 923-8459  
FisherMore.edu  
Enrollment: 45 full-time in residence;  
40 part-time

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** The college recently added St. John Fisher as co-patron with St. Thomas More in its college name. Holy Mass, every day, including Sunday, is in the extraordinary form. The school calendar is in sync with the liturgical calendar. Faculty, staff and students chant the Divine Office (*Sext*), pray the Rosary and share a common midday meal. Each day begins with holy Mass. The common midday meal includes a spiritual reading. Academic and student life is ordered to obtain the means to know, love and serve God.

**Franciscan University of Steubenville**

1235 University Blvd.  
Steubenville, OH 43952  
(800) 783-6220  
Franciscan.edu  
Enrollment: 2,466

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY

- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**Holy Apostles College and Seminary**

33 Prospect Hill Rd.  
Cromwell, CT 06416-2027  
(860) 632-3010  
HolyApostles.edu  
Enrollment: 250

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- N/A NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** The mission of Holy Apostles College and Seminary is to cultivate ordained, consecrated and lay Catholic leaders for the purpose of evangelization. The Bachelor of Arts program offers a philosophically based Catholic liberal arts degree for the purpose of graduate school and life. Courses are offered on campus and through distance learning.

**Holy Cross College**

54515 State Rd. 933 N.  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0308  
(574) 239-8400  
HCC-ND.edu  
Enrollment: 510

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS



COURTESY OF INSTITUTE FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES



COURTESY OF THE INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**Holy Spirit College**

4465 Northside Dr.  
Atlanta, GA 30327  
(678) 904-4959  
HolySpiritCollege.org  
Enrollment: 5 full-time undergraduate students; 16 graduate students (12 full-time, 4 part-time)

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** Catholic identity lies at the heart of Holy Spirit College. The graduate program now includes the Master of Theological Studies and Master of Theology.

**Institute for the Psychological Sciences**

2001 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Suite 511  
Arlington, VA 22202  
(703) 416-1441  
IPSciences.edu  
Enrollment: 82

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- N/A NO COED DORMS
- N/A HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** IPS now offers a wide variety of on-demand training and certification programs for individuals, parents and "first responders," as well as continuing education programs for counseling staff, therapists and other mental-health professionals.  
**Dorms:** IPS is a commuter campus.  
**Health:** IPS does not provide health services.

**International Theological Institute — School of Catholic Theology**

Schlossgasse 21  
Trumau, Austria  
+011 43 2253 21808  
ITI.ac.at  
Enrollment: 80

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY

- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

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CONTINUES ON PAGE C7



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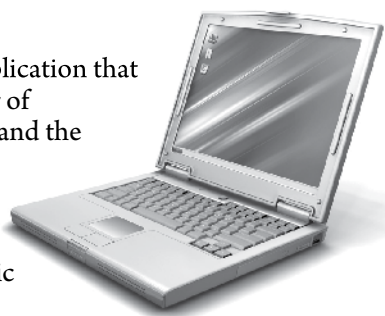
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## Benedictine College Is Consecrated to Mary

Long-Held Marian Devotion Strengthened on Kansas Campus

BY JOSEPH PRONECHEN

**B**enedictine College in Atchison, Kan., took another step forward in its strong Marian devotion Sept. 8. It consecrated the college to the Blessed Virgin Mary on the feast of her Nativity.

The day's consecration ceremony began with Mass at St. Benedict's Abbey Church and included a procession to the Marian shrines around the campus and the blessing of the new 21-foot fountain statue of Our Lady of Grace at the center of the main quad.

"In recent years, we've relied upon and called upon the Blessed Virgin Mary many times for her intercession for the college," said Benedictine's president, Stephen Minnis, who then shared examples:

"We created Memorare Armies for enrollment increases, which happened; for the building of the Mary Grotto, which happened; for the building of the new Ferrell Academic Center, which happened."

The college expanded its Memorare Army into a national campaign for religious liberty in 2012, with more than three million Memorares pledged.

"We called on the Blessed Virgin Mary, and she has interceded on our behalf, and success has come to the college. It becomes clear we hold a special place in our heart for her," Minnis said. "We always say Benedictine College is chosen by Mary to be in this place at this time."

### Mary's Help

This Marian connection goes back to the foundation of the 155-year-old college.

"In many ways, Benedictine College owes its very existence to Mary, the Mother of God," said Minnis, recounting the dramatic story linked to the founder of St. Benedict's Abbey and the college.

In 1856, Benedictine Father Henry Lemke found himself in the middle of a driving rainstorm on the pitch-black prairie. Lost, disoriented and exhausted, he ended up in a ditch, with water pouring on him.

"At the time, he thought he was not going to come out alive," related Minnis. "Father Lemke was a convert to the faith and had not really asked for Mary's intercession [before], because it was not part of his upbringing. But he looked to heaven and said, 'Mary, I have never called upon you before; but if you can help me, I'll be forever devoted to you.'"

"At that moment, a faint light shone in the distance — a light that had not been there before. The light gave him hope. He crawled out of that ditch toward the light."

It was a lantern in the only window of a prairie house. The mother there told him the family was in their beds, but when her 9-year-old daughter called for her, she lit a lantern and put it on the window sill.

The child said she was awakened by a woman dressed in white, who was standing at the foot of her bed and told her to call for her mother.

"Father Henry believed that was the Blessed Virgin Mary interceding



**DEVOTED TO THE BLESSED MOTHER.** Benedictine College was to be consecrated to the Blessed Mother Sept. 8 in thanksgiving for the Blessed Mother's intercessions on the school's behalf. One is pictured: Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City, Kan., wrote that Mary held back a storm for the dedication of Mary's Grotto on campus, which took place on Sept. 8, 2009. Courtesy of Benedictine College

to save his life," Minnis explained. "Two years later, he founded our college." That was 1858, the same year a "woman in white" appeared to St. Bernadette in Lourdes.

"If Father Henry lost his life that night on the prairie, you and I would not be speaking today," Minnis said. "That's why I believe the Blessed Virgin Mary has chosen this place through her intercession to save his life and also chosen us to be as successful as we've been in the last several years, through enrollment increases and important building on our campus."

Mary's Grotto, which was dedicated on the 150th anniversary of both the college and the Lourdes apparition, is constructed much like the Lourdes original, including stones from the shrine in France.

"There's no question we owe a great deal of thanks to the Blessed Virgin Mary," said Minnis, who decided on the consecration not long after he participated in the 2012 "Ecclesia in America" international conference in Rome that was dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Star of the New Evangelization.

"I thought, 'What a perfect time in our history to consecrate the college to the Blessed Virgin Mary.' It was so significant and important to make a public statement of our love and reliance upon our Mother," Minnis said.

So important that the college invited every bishop in America and Marian and Catholic leaders to attend the consecration.

St. Benedict Abbey Abbot James Albers, the main celebrant of the Mass and the consecration ceremony, also blessed the new statue of Our Lady of Grace.

The college decided to re-create this beautiful statue from photos of the original one that once stood by St. Benedict Hall, the college's original academic building that was built in 1910. The fountain deteriorated and was removed some years ago.

The new statue joins several different images of Mary around campus, noted Abbot James, who, as a student at Benedictine, founded the school's annual March for Life trip to Washington.

Abbot James explained the

importance of the consecration. "If we use Mary as our model for contemplation, as she 'pondered all these things in her heart,' we see that beauty of developing that relationship with Christ through Mary's intercession," he said. "She is that model for us on how we develop that relationship through prayer and meditation. Life would be pretty dry and unfulfilling if we didn't have that relationship."

Abbot James emphasized: "She is the avenue of Christ to the world. We need to model our Yes on her Yes in bringing Christ to the world."

Elated students see the consecration as another step forward in Marian devotion on campus.

"Mary is a part of our central formation, and our Mother is the way to Christ's heart," said senior Kate Kyle. "It only makes sense that we consecrate ourselves to her here, where we spend nine months of the year."

Kyle noted the number of students who consecrate themselves to Mary on Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, each year, after completing the St. Louis de Montfort method of Marian devotion. Minnis puts the number at 250 annually.

That doesn't include others like Kyle and her fiancé, senior Jeff Reimer, who together used Marian Father Michael Gaitley's *33 Days to Morning Glory* Marian consecration preparation.

Kyle emphasized the way students pray at Mary's Grotto — located at the heart of the campus — and pray the Rosary every Wednesday with President Minnis.

Kyle said this Marian devotion extends to the classroom: "Many of the professors remind us of how important Mary is in our faith lives, that through Mary we can be closer to Christ's heart and live our lives in a more efficient and straighter path to salvation."

Senior Michela Brooks, who completed her personal consecration to Mary during her freshman year, is excited to see the impact of the school-wide consecration: "The consecration is bringing all the little aspects of devotion to Mary to one larger act of devotion."

Joseph Pronechen is a Register staff writer.

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- N/A \*MANDATUM REQUIRED
- N/A \*THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ \*MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- N/A NO COED DORMS
- N/A \*HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** The institute is a graduate, theological, pontifical institute (not a university) founded by Pope John Paul II. With its central mission/goal of providing a comprehensive understanding of marriage and family that is faithful to the teaching of Catholic magisterial tradition, any institute faculty member is such only because he or she upholds this mission along with an expertise he or she offers. All the institute's professors have received approval from the local bishop and the Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education.

**Mass & Confession:** An institute Mass is celebrated weekly; the many daily Masses and confession times at the adjacent Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception are frequented; and the local abundance of priests for spiritual direction are sought out easily through the many local religious communities, the shrine, the student body and faculty at the institute and The Catholic University of America, etc.

**Health:** We are planning to offer a student health-insurance plan this year, but students have to find their own doctors. We certainly will prohibit referrals to abortion facilities.

**John Paul the Great Catholic University**

155 W. Grand Ave.  
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**The Institution:**

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- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- N/A \*HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Health:** We do not offer student health services.

**Living Water College of the Arts**

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LivingWaterCollege.com  
Enrollment: Varies by course\*

**The Institution:**

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- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** Living Water College is working toward presenting its full three-year, degree-granting program. Currently, we are offering short courses which contain the essential elements of the full program: the integration of art, faith and reason.

**Madonna University**

36600 Schoolcraft Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48150  
(734) 432-5315  
Madonna.edu  
Enrollment: 4,500

**The Institution:**

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- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** Madonna University is fully committed to its Catholic mission.



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**Maryvale Institute**

Maryvale House, Old Oscott Hill,  
Birmingham, B44 9AG  
England  
+44 0 121 360 8118  
Maryvale.ac.uk  
Enrollment: 736

**The Institution:**

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- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** Maryvale Institute is an ecclesiastical institute, a higher institute of religious sciences, the only one in the English-speaking world. "Ecclesiastical" is a formal designation, indicating that the degrees are from or under the jurisdiction of the Holy See. Maryvale Institute provides authentic Catholic formation for laypeople and for religious.

**Mount St. Mary's University**

16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd.  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727  
(800) 448-4347  
MSMary.edu  
Enrollment: 2,186  
(1,790 undergraduates)

**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Institution:** Mount St. Mary's University is proudly and joyfully Catholic. We fully embrace the letter and spirit of *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*. This teaching is embodied in our governing documents.

**Dorms:** In reference to our residence halls, students are divided by secured floors, with women on one floor and men on another — or they are in separate, private apartments. Additionally, we enforce a strong visitation policy wherein students and guests are not allowed on opposite gender's floors after midnight on weekdays and after 2am on weekends. This policy allows the Mount to successfully develop students capable of living in an adult community while practicing the highest moral standards.

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**The Institution:**

- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
- ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- \*MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

**Campus Culture:**

- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
- ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
- ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
- ✓ NO COED DORMS
- ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**

**Mandatum:** Our bishop has indicated that he approves of the theologians teaching theology, is confident that they teach with the mind of the Church and wishes them to continue doing so; and we are working to give this a formal embodiment in the Canadian context.

CONTINUES ON PAGE C9



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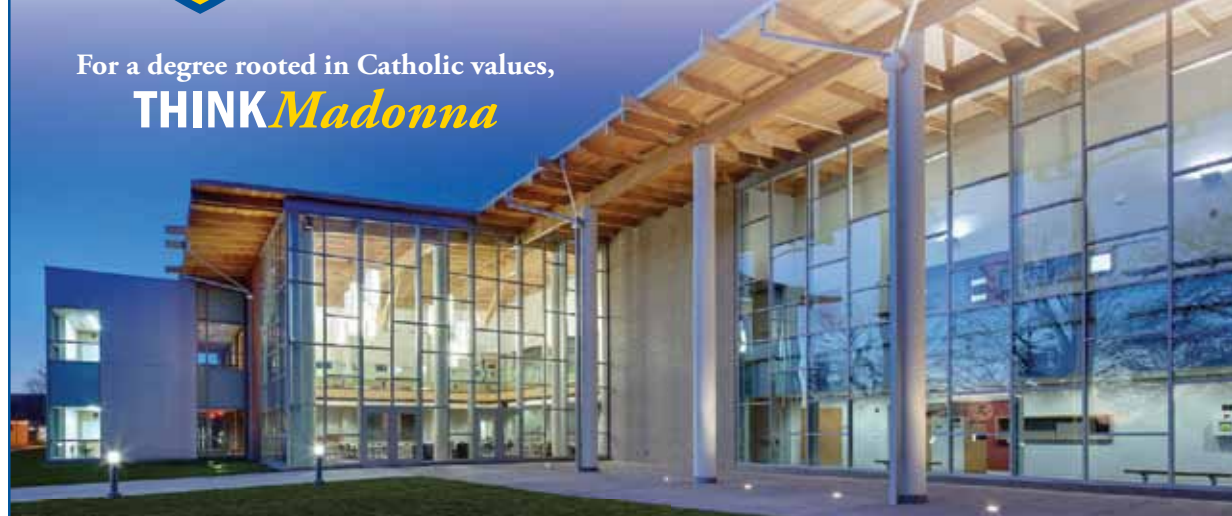
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# College Ministries Share Faith on Campus

## Programs Make An Impact Across The Country

BY JACQUELINE BURKEPILE

For countless universities across the country, Catholic ministry programs are an integral means by which college students are drawn to the faith or sustain it during the college years.

Ministry programs such as Fellowship of Catholic University Students, St. Paul's Outreach and The Evangelical Catholic encourage students to live their faith and take part in the Church's call to the New Evangelization on campus. These programs strive to reflect this mission, just as Pope Benedict XVI stated in his apostolic letter *Porte Fidei* for the Year of Faith: "Today, as in the past, he sends us through the highways of the world to proclaim his Gospel to all the peoples of the earth."

That includes college students on campuses across the country.

A well-known college ministry devoted to the New Evangelization is the **Fellowship of Catholic University Students** (Focus). Founded by Curtis Martin in 1998 at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kan., Focus missionaries encourage students in their faith through Bible studies, personal mentoring and outreach events. They invite young people to explore the purpose and meaning of their lives through their relationship with Jesus. They are



**READY TO SERVE.** The Fellowship of Catholic University Students' 2013 training took place at Ave Maria University, one of the 83 campuses at which it ministers to students. Focus Facebook

present on both Catholic and non-Catholic campuses.

According to 2013-14 statistics, Focus grew from two missionaries on one campus to 355 missionaries on 83 campuses (in 34 states and the District of Columbia) within 15 years. Furthermore, almost 70 missionaries have answered the call to a religious vocation within the past year.

This academic year, Focus has missionaries at 11 more universities. For the first time, Focus has expanded into California: at the University of California-Berkeley, the University of California-Santa Barbara and the University of Southern California. Other new campuses across the country include Stephen F. Austin State

University and the University of Rhode Island.

Full-time Focus missionary Shannon Zurcher serves at the University of Connecticut as a team director. She believes that evangelizing on college campuses helps shape the culture.

"The college campus is a place where young people make decisions that will affect the rest of their lives," said Zurcher. "If they understand the relationship that God their Father wants to have with them and base their decisions off of that, the trajectory of their lives will be able to bear much fruit."

Part-time missionary Emily Bench works for a special branch of Focus called Varsity Catholic at

Mount St. Mary's University. This branch concentrates solely on student athletes. Reaching athletes is important to her because these students will be future coaches, teachers, parents and/or young professionals. She wants them to embrace their faith and take it with them after college.

"Varsity Catholic missionaries are on campus to help witness to these young people," said Bench. "We show them that it is possible to live out the faith in college and that it will ultimately bring you more joy and fulfillment."

**St. Paul's Outreach** (SPO), which helps college students grow in faith through community and relationship building, serves more than 10 college campuses across the United States. The program trains young people to evangelize to fellow students on and off campus.

Mark Archibald, director of operations, said the 2012-13 school year set a record for the ministry, reaching approximately 5,000 students. The ministry also set a record this summer, gathering 227 students for an eight-day training program to prepare missionaries for the school year. Additionally, two SPO donors recently purchased a house within walking distance of Ohio State University, which will serve as a men's Catholic household for the campus.

"Through building strong communities of faith and the relational evangelization of young missionaries, students are brought to life-changing conversion in SPO," said Gordon DeMarais, SPO's founder and executive director. "We are needed on col-

lege campuses because we are losing the next generation of Catholics."

Ohio State University senior David Bethel engaged in the college party culture before he discovered SPO. This school year will be his third year to live in a SPO men's household. He will also serve as a student missionary, and he plans to live in the new house when it opens.

"We are a haven for the culture on college campuses. Because there is so much partying, sex, drinking and drugs, we are a countercultural example," said Bethel. "SPO's witness alone drew me deeper [in my faith]."

Just as Focus and SPO aim to enrich the faith of college students, **The Evangelical Catholic** (EC) works with campus ministries to help them thrive. Faye Darnall, director of campus ministry and publications for The Evangelical Catholic, said the group's mission is "to build self-sustaining, fruitful, sacramentally alive campus ministries."

Some campuses consult with them through monthly meetings, weekly phone calls and mentoring. Other campuses use their resources as needed.

Darnall said the staff at The Evangelical Catholic has tripled within the last two years. Although EC plans to expand over time, the current demand for its services is so high that EC is unable to assist every campus that wishes to utilize the ministry. The ministry held a training camp this year in the Washington area for the first time. The camp set a

record for EC, drawing in 120 students and campus ministers. It is offering three training camps this year and plans to expand to four in 2014.

University of Wisconsin-Madison alumnus Father Brian Dulli explained the impact The Evangelical Catholic placed on his priestly discernment amidst his work as a student. He stressed that EC helped him understand Scripture in ways he never expected, resulting in a desire to sincerely delve into his faith.

"Their programs opened the word of God for me in ways that I could understand and grow with, and they fostered an exciting and lively student community," said Father Dulli. "I grew a lot through this program, and I know hundreds of others did, too."

North Carolina State University student Angela Petrongelli considers The Evangelical Catholic a necessity for college campuses because it brings hearts to Jesus.

"The Evangelical Catholic reminds and reveals to us our purpose as disciples of Christ. Christ's love and our faith is reborn in our hearts, and we can strive to be the saints that we are called to be," said Petrongelli. "It reminded me of the freedom I have as a child of God, and I couldn't be more thankful for the grace God has brought into my life because of it."

Jacqueline Burkepile writes from Dallas-Ft. Worth.

**INFORMATION**  
EvangelicalCatholic.org  
FocusOnline.org  
SPOWeb.org



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  - ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
  - ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
  - ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - N/A \*NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**  
**Dorms:** RPC does not have any dorms of its own, so all resident students live in the residence of our affiliate, Trinity Western University, Canada's premier Christian liberal arts university. TWU has both single-sex residence halls as well as residence halls in which men and women are separated by either floor or wing.

**St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Graduate School of Theology and Program of Catholic Studies**

100 E. Wynnewood Rd.  
Wynnewood, PA 19096  
(610) 785-6287  
StudyCatholicTheology.com  
Enrollment: 480

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
  - ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
  - ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
  - ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
  - ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

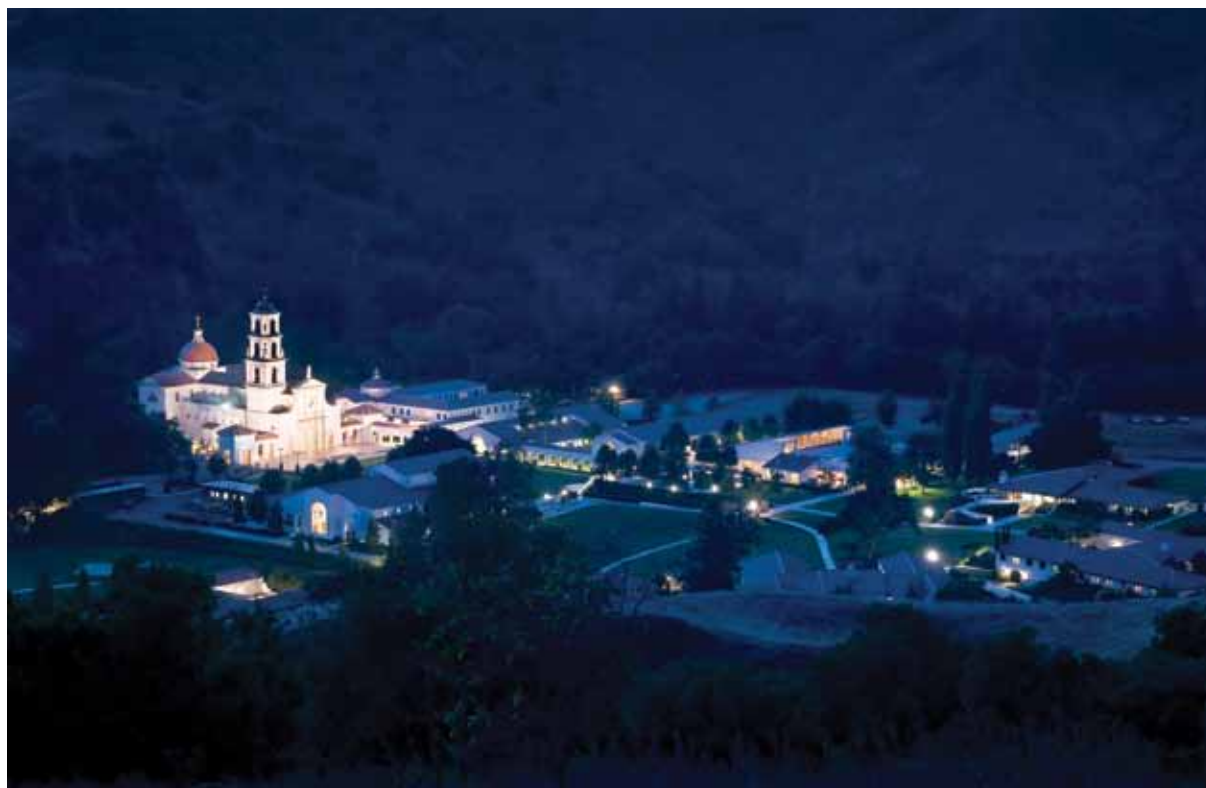
- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - ✓ NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**  
**Mandatum:** The Graduate School of Theology and Program of Catholic Studies' theology professors (undergraduate and graduate) take the "Oath of Fidelity" and make the profession of faith publicly before the archbishop and receive the *mandatum*.  
**Institution:** GST's mission focus is on implementing *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* and *Fides et Ratio* in the work of the New Evangelization.

**St. Gregory's University**

1900 W. MacArthur St.  
Shawnee, OK 74804-2499  
(888) ST-GREGS  
StGregorys.edu  
Enrollment: 764

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH



COURTESY OF THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE

ThomasAquinas.edu  
Enrollment: 358

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
  - ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
  - ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
  - ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
  - ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - ✓ NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**The Thomas More College of Liberal Arts**

6 Manchester St.  
Merrimack, NH 03054  
(603) 880-8308  
ThomasMoreCollege.edu  
Enrollment: 85

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
  - ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
  - ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
  - ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
  - ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - ✓ NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**University of Dallas**

1845 E. Northgate Dr.  
Irving, TX 75062  
(972) 721-5000  
UDallas.edu  
Enrollment: 2,576

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
  - ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
  - ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
  - ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
  - ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - ✓ NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**University of St. Thomas**

3800 Montrose Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77006  
(713) 525-3500;  
Choose-UST.org/catholic  
Enrollment: 3,711

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
  - ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
  - ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
  - ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
  - ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - ✓ NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**  
**Dorms:** The university maintains living areas for undergraduate students. These include dormitory/residence rooms, co-ops and apartments. There is only one dorm, but men and women are separated by floors and by wings.

- ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
- ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
- ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - ✓ NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**  
**Dorms:** All dorms have single-sex wings and/or floors. Some residence halls have four-person apartments that are single-sex.

**Wyoming Catholic College**

P.O. Box 750  
Lander, WY 82520  
(307) 332-2930  
WyomingCatholicCollege.com  
Enrollment: 112

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
  - ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
  - ✓ CATHOLIC FACULTY
  - ✓ MANDATUM REQUIRED
  - ✓ THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - ✓ NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

— Staff writer Joseph Pronechen coordinated the compilation of this guide.

**Walsh University**

2020 E. Maple St. NW  
North Canton, OH 44720  
(800) 362-9846  
Walsh.edu  
Enrollment: 2,964

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
  - ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD

**University of Mary**

7500 University Dr.  
Bismarck, ND 58504  
(800) 288-6279  
CometoMary.edu  
Enrollment: 3,084

- The Institution:**
- ✓ PRESIDENT'S OATH
  - ✓ CATHOLIC BOARD
  - \* CATHOLIC FACULTY
  - ✓ \*MANDATUM REQUIRED
  - NO \*THEOLOGIAN'S OATH

- Campus Culture:**
- ✓ MASS AND CONFESSION
  - ✓ SPEAKERS VETTED
  - ✓ UNOBJECTIONABLE CLUBS
  - ✓ NO COED DORMS
  - ✓ HEALTH SERVICES OKAY

**School's Comments:**  
**Faculty:** We do not presently have complete data on the religious affiliation of our faculty members. The majority of the university administration is composed of practicing Catholics.  
**Mandatum:** Theology professors have been granted the *mandatum* personally by the local ordinary.  
**Theologians' Oath:** We do not presently require theology professors to take the "Oath of Fidelity."  
**Dorms:** Our residence halls are not coed. One of the residence halls does host men and women in different corridors, with secured dividers after visitation hours. We also have two apartment buildings with doors which open directly to the outside.

www.iti.ac.at  
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# Catholic Colleges Are Essential Agents of Evangelization

## How to Form Graduates to Be Apostles of Jesus Christ

It cannot be forgotten that Jesus is the reason for Catholic higher education, and his Person and teaching should permeate everything we do.

As Benedict XVI told Catholic educators gathered at The Catholic University of America in 2008: "Education is integral to the mission of the Church to proclaim the Good News. First and foremost, every Catholic educational institution is a place to encounter the living God, who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth (cf. *Spe Salvi*, 4)."



MSGR. STUART W. SWETLAND

This is why Catholic colleges and universities are so important to the "New Evangelization." Blessed John Paul II stated in *Ecclesia in America*, the post-synodal exhortation on America, (71), that "[i]n the overall work of the New Evangelization, the educational sector occupies a place of honor." In this paragraph, the Pope made clear what is needed for effective witness to Christ: "... Catholic centers of education ... will be able to engage in authentic evangelization only if at all levels — including that of the university — they clearly preserve their Catholic orientation. The content of the education they impart should make constant reference to Jesus Christ and his message as the Church presents it in her dogmatic and moral teaching. Only in this way will they train truly Christian leaders in the different spheres of human activity and in society, especially in politics, economics, science, art and philosophical reflection."

Thus an essential starting point for colleges and universities to fulfill their role in the New Evangelization is an explicit Christocentrism that is faithful to the teaching of Christ and his Church and that attempts to integrate faith and reason in all areas of research and study.

Some might protest that evangelization is pastoral work, and universities are about research and education. This is a false dichotomy for several reasons. First, most of our colleges and universities are residential and therefore require a vibrant, faithful, focused pastoral ministry. Second, the research, teaching and studying that is essential to the nature of a university stem from the innate desire in all of us to know and live in accordance with what is true. But, ultimately, as St. Augustine taught and *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* — the apostolic constitution on higher education — quotes, the search for truth and the search for God are one because God is Truth (John 14:6): "In fact, the blessed life consists in the joy that comes from the truth, since this joy comes from you who are Truth, God my light, salvation of my face, my God" (St. Augustine, *Confessions* X, xxiii, 3). Third, every university recognizes its essential role in forming the next generation of intellectual and social leaders. But this commitment to service (in other words, one's vocation in life) ultimately makes sense only if there is meaning and purpose to reality.

Authentic service means helping people discover who and why they really are. As *Gaudium et Spes* (The Church in the Modern World), 22, teaches, it is only in Christ that man's vocation becomes clear. Fourth, a university is the ideal place for forming disciples who can live completely integrated lives. Where else can the research and formation take place that will allow modern men and women to integrate their faith and their field of endeavor, their love of Christ with their daily vocation of work and family life?

For all these reasons and more, the Catholic university is an essential agent in the New Evangelization.

Practically, what does this mean? Some distinctions must be made, and different Catholic colleges and universities have somewhat different roles to play, given their unique histories and varying demographics; but, minimally, it seems to me that this means that every student (whether Catholic or not) who attends a Catholic college or university should be thoroughly familiar with the person of Jesus Christ and his teachings. They should be well-versed in the basic *kerygma* (teaching) concerning Christ's life, death and resurrection. They should know that they are all invited to join in the worship and prayer of the community (and if they are not Catholic but choose to become so, into full communion with the Catholic Church).

As well-educated members of a diverse world, our students should all have achieved "religious literacy" — a working knowledge of the basic teachings of the major world religions. Every student should be taught how to live a virtuous life (including the theological, moral and intellectual virtues) and know of the basic human dignity of each and every person because of their creation *imago Dei*. They should be introduced to the social teaching of the Church, especially in those areas where our society is most unjust (life issues, the nature of the family, immigration, etc.). They should see their lives as full of meaning and purpose and be invited to examine and deepen their own faith and reflect on their calling to be servant leaders.

For our Catholic students, we need to do more. We must afford the opportunity for our Catholic students to appropriate their faith on an adult level, making a personal commitment to an intimate, passionate relationship with Jesus and his community, the Church. They should have a working knowledge of at least the basics of Church teaching, as compiled in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Hopefully, they will go beyond the basics to begin a life of theological study and prayer that will deepen their faith and commitment.

They should know that they are called to greatness and saintliness, with a vocation to personal holiness and a particular calling or vocation to serve others, especially those most in need. They should be well-versed in their majors and understand, in depth, the relationship between faith and reason, ethics and practice in their fields.

We must form our Catholic graduates to be apostles of Jesus Christ, so that they may spread the Good News to others. Obviously, there is much work to be done.

Perhaps a starting point would be recognizing that such efforts will require more "agents of evangelization" than our current staffing affords. This is especially so if, as many experienced pastors will attest, most evangelization today takes place via peers. This evangelization of "like by like" will mean the need to recruit and train young adults to work to evangelize their peers. Groups like Fellowship of Catholic University Students, The Evangelical Catholic and St. Paul's Outreach have already begun this work, but much more is needed.

Second, and this will be a painful admission, we have to face the catechetical crisis in our Church today. Our faculty, staff and students are bright and very capable. But far too many of them have not received an adequate catechetical formation on which to build. There is much need for remedial work in this field. But this ought not to surprise us. Due to the general educational shortcomings in our society, there is all kinds of remedial work

going on at colleges and universities: math, science, languages, reading skills, writing, etc. Why should we be resistant to recognize and address the remedial work needed to be done in catechetics? The talented and creative people at our campuses should be able to develop the kind of college-level courses that would weave together history, art, literature, music, architecture and our faith tradition, so as to present in a coherent, complete and attractive way the basic teachings of the Church. Without such an honest assessment, I am afraid that our efforts in the New Evangelization will be like building castles in the sand.

Before his resignation, Benedict XVI finished his *ad limina* visits with the bishops of the United States. His discussions focused on the New Evangelization in the context of American culture; and in one (May 5, 2012), Benedict stated: "It is no exaggeration to say that providing young people with a sound education in the faith represents the most urgent internal challenge facing the Catholic community in your country."

Our Catholic colleges and universities, to be what they are called to be, must rise to meet this challenge.

*Msgr. Stuart Swetland is vice president for Catholic identity and mission at Mount St. Mary's University and executive director of the Center for the Advancement of Catholic Higher Education.*

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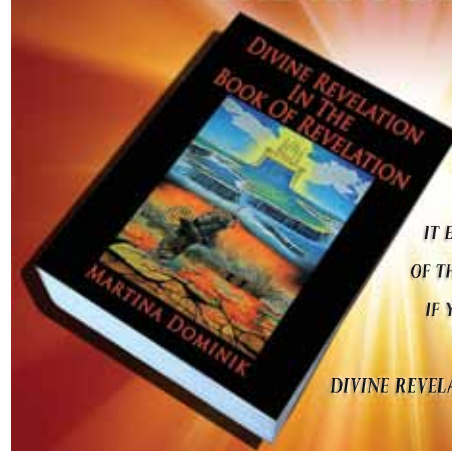


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