



OPENING DAY

STATE OF THE MOUNT

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

MISSION STATEMENT

As a Catholic university,
Mount St. Mary's graduates
ethical leaders who are inspired
by a passion for learning and
lead lives of significance
in service to God and others.



MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
Office of the President



VISION STATEMENT

Inspired by Mary, Spes Nostra,
on our sacred mountain,
we will be recognized as a
historic Catholic institution that
intellectually, spiritually, socially,
and morally transforms all
for the common good.



MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
Office of the President



The Student Is...

The most important person on the campus. Without students, there would be no need for this institution.

Not a cold enrollment statistic but a flesh and blood human being with feelings and emotions like our own.

Not someone to be tolerated so that we can do our thing. They **are** our thing.

Not dependent on us. Rather, we are dependent on them.

Not an interruption of our work, but the purpose of it.

We are not doing them a favor by serving them. They are doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do so.

—Anonymous



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Enrollment 2026–27 Admissions Programs

Fall Open House 1	Saturday, October 17, 2026
Fall Open House 2	Saturday, November 14, 2026
Mount Summit	Saturday, January 30, 2027
Mount Mania	Sunday, March 21, 2027
Spring Open House	Saturday, April 10, 2027



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Organizational Update

- In August 2025, the University made the difficult decision to eliminate 20 staff and administrator positions, including both filled and vacant roles, as part of a broader effort to align expenses with enrollment and ensure long-term financial sustainability.
- Since that time, we have eliminated five additional positions, bringing the total to 25 positions eliminated, while reducing compensation-related costs by approximately \$1.9 million through position eliminations and restructuring initiatives.
- We also introduced a Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program (VRIP) for faculty as an additional workforce planning tool. Five faculty members elected to participate, creating opportunities to rethink how we deliver programs and services while reducing our reliance on full-time faculty replacements.



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Organizational Update (cont.)

- These reductions should be viewed in the context of a multi-year effort to strengthen the University's financial position, not as a one-time solution.
- While we have reduced expenses, we have also continued to make targeted investments in areas critical to our mission, including student success, compliance, and other strategic priorities necessary to support our students and sustain academic excellence.
- Although meaningful progress has been made, our work is not finished. We will continue to review our organizational structure, staffing levels, programs, and operational models to ensure resources remain aligned with enrollment trends, student needs, and the University's long-term financial health.



MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
Office of the President





CREATED

WE ARE GOD'S HANDIWORK

EPHESIANS 2:10

Mission and Ministry



- **FRASSATI NIGHTS** became a weekly cornerstone of student spiritual life, bringing students together for adoration, worship, confession, a guest speaker, and fellowship. **Many thanks to Krysti Patient and Fr. Justin Gough** for bringing this tradition to life.
- **HUNGER-FREE CAMPUS DESIGNATION** was awarded by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, recognizing the Mount's commitment to addressing student food insecurity. **We are grateful to Francis Lukban, Lucia Mendez-Cabello, and many others** for earning this recognition.
- **GROTTO 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** welcomed nearly 1,200 visitors for two days celebrating one of the oldest Lourdes shrines outside France. **Thank you to Dawn Walsh, Julie Smith, and the entire Grotto team** for making this milestone possible.
- **FIRST NIGHT GROTTO PILGRIMAGE** became a meaningful new tradition, with approximately 350 new students joining a candlelight pilgrimage that introduced them to the Mount's mission and heritage. **Thank you to Student Life and the Division of Mission & Ministry** for creating this experience.
- **ANNUAL THEME: "CREATED: WE ARE GOD'S HANDIWORK"** inspired the campus community to affirm the dignity of every person through faith, compassion, and respect, drawing inspiration from **Venerable Fr. Edward J. Flanagan** and his witness that every person possesses immeasurable worth.



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Advancement

Mount Flag Day // Wednesday, July 29, 2026

- The first annual Mount Flag Day established a strong foundation for a **NEW Mount tradition!**
- **43,500 views** and **1,300 interactions** across Mount Alumni Association social media channels.

One Mount One Day // Thursday, April 16, 2026
67% of Mount Employees Gave

\$15.8 MILLION Raised in FY2026

Supporting the University, Seminary, National Shrine Grotto & Athletics



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\$1,006,627
TOTAL \$\$\$ RAISED



990
TOTAL DONORS

UNIVERSITY



\$743,326

DOLLARS RAISED



435

UNIVERSITY DONORS

ATHLETICS

\$159,931

DOLLARS RAISED



394

ATHLETICS DONORS



NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO



\$37,660

DOLLARS RAISED



68

GROTTO DONORS

SEMINARY

\$65,710

DOLLARS RAISED



93

SEMINARY DONORS



32

STATES
REPRESENTED

69

ALUMNI CLASSES
REPRESENTED



CLASSES IN THE
1960'S TO 2030

WHO GAVE?
FACULTY
ADMINISTRATORS
SEMINARY PARENTS
FRIENDS
TRUSTEES
ALUMNI
STUDENTS
PAST PARENTS
STAFF
PARENTS
GROTTO FRIENDS
SEMINARY ALUMNI
ST. JOSEPH COLLEGE ALUMNAE
SEMINARY FACULTY & STAFF
SEMINARY FRIENDS

Academic Affairs

Agnone School of Education



- The School of Education was renamed the Anthony F. and Alice G. Agnone School of Education, honoring two lifelong educators through the generosity of Tony Agnone, C'75, and Jaynee Agnone.
- A \$1.9 million grant, in partnership with Frederick County Public Schools, will support 45 FCPS employees in earning teaching degrees and licensure beginning in January 2027.
- Faculty are developing new coaching resources through the MD Elevates initiative to strengthen teacher preparation.
- **Dr. Kara Brady** and **Professor Clarke Kole** will lead professional development at St. John's Catholic Prep on building positive classroom relationships.
- **Dr. Angela Mucci Guido** presented professional development on dignity and learning needs at St. Francis Xavier Catholic School.



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Academic Affairs

Bolte School of Business

- **Dr. Christina Green** received the **Central Penn Business Journal's Women of Influence Award** for her professional achievements, community service, and commitment to mentoring.
- **Dr. Byunghee Choi's** research was featured in **The Washington Post** article, "*Capitalists of the World Aren't Uniting Against Workers.*"
- **Dr. Alejandro Cañadas** was ordained a **deacon** and appointed to serve the pastorates of **St. John the Evangelist (Frederick)** and **St. Joseph-on-Carrollton Manor (Buckeystown)**.
- **Dr. Mike Barry** completed an economic impact study for the **Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan**, analyzing the effects of U.S. tariff policies using a computable general equilibrium model.
- **Dr. Josey Chacko's** Project Management students partnered with local nonprofit and municipal organizations to complete community impact projects, earning praise from community leaders for their professionalism and service.



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Academic Affairs

College of Health Professions

- Secured **Maryland Higher Education Commission approval** for both the Traditional and Accelerated BSN programs through collaborative work across faculty and departments.
- Maryland Board of Nursing approval is pending.
- Launched the inaugural PA cohort in January 2026 with 46 students (100% capacity).
- **76%** of the cohort is from the local region, including 5 Mount graduates.



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Academic Affairs

College of Liberal Arts

- **Study Abroad expanded** with faculty leading programs in **Florence, Dublin, and Spain**, providing international experiences for **78 students**.
- **Dr. Julia Yujin Jung** received the **2026 APSA Michael Brintnall Teaching and Learning Award** for excellence in teaching and scholarship.
- **Dr. Joshua Hochschild** was named a **Visiting Scholar** at the **Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum)** in Rome for AY 2026–27.



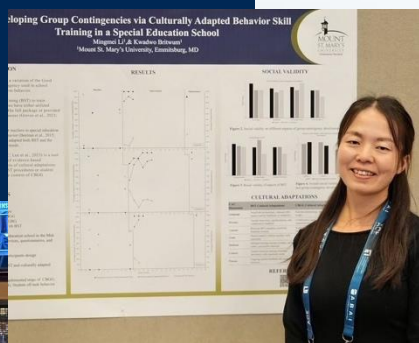
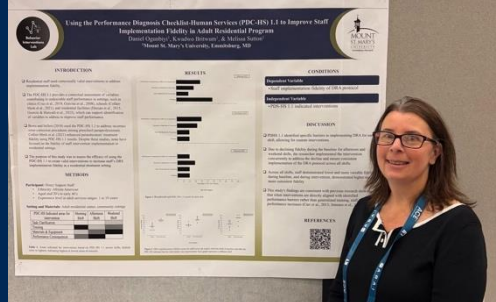
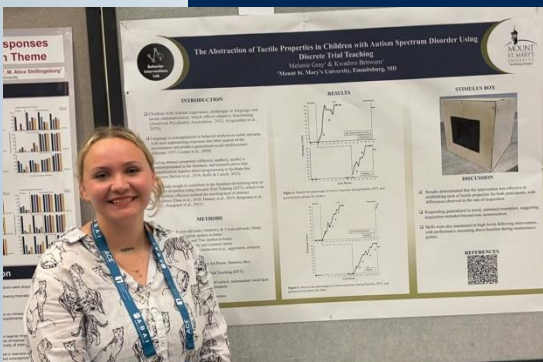
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Academic Affairs School of Science, Mathematics & Technology

- 8 students secured competitive summer internships at Harvard, North Carolina State, The Ohio State University, the University of Maryland, and Frederick National Laboratory.
- 28 students participated in immersive summer research with 12 faculty mentors, complemented by weekly professional development seminars.
- Student researchers presented their work through summer lightning talks and will showcase their projects at QUEST this fall.
- The Cybersecurity Program earned the prestigious NSA Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense designation, recognizing the strength and quality of the program.



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Academic Affairs Division of Continuing Studies

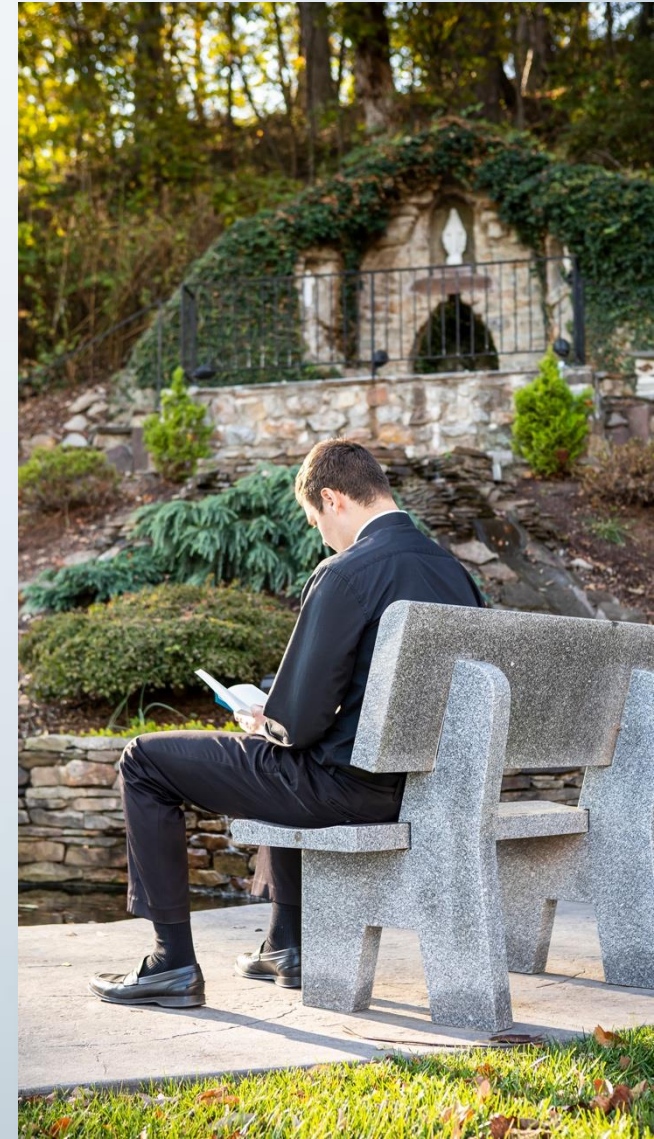
- **MSABA students** presented research at the **Association for Behavior Analysis International Conference** in San Francisco.
- The **ABA program** earned **Tier 2a recognition** from the Association for Behavior Analysis International.
- Established **new enrollment partnerships** with the Maryland Soccer Foundation, Phoenix Mecano, EVAPCO, Inc., and ShiftTurn.
- Developed new **2+2 accelerated degree pathways** in **Biomanufacturing** and **Engineering Management** with Frederick Community College.



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Seminary

- The Seminary is welcoming the **largest Propaedeutic Class (35)** to the Rother House this year.
- Four new dioceses (Altoona-Johnstown, Metuchen, Norwich, Venice in Florida) are entrusting some of their seminarians to the Mount this year.
- The Seminary will host the Vianney Cup, an annual inter-seminary soccer tournament, on Saturday, September 19.
- The new Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America, Archbishop Gabriele Caccia, has accepted the Seminary's invitation to make a visit this Fall.



Student Life

The Student Life Division is happy to welcome...



Stephanie Kelley, M.Ed.
*Vice President for
Student Life*



Lisa Littlefield, Ph.D.
*Executive Director of the
Career Center*



Jessie Rosano
Director of Housing

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE



The Mount owes a huge debt of gratitude to Dr. Paula Whetsel-Ribeau for her willingness to provide interim leadership to the Division of Student Life for six months during a critical time of transition for the team whose role is to support the holistic development of students by supporting their learning and well-being.



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Student Life

The Newly Inspired Vision for the Career Center

- Focus on expanding employer outreach
- Increase on-campus employer engagement
- Encourage alumni involvement
- Launch a calendar of career programs to provide consistent opportunities for career exploration, internships, and professional employment.
- Collaborate with faculty and campus partners to cultivate a welcoming, student-focused Career Center where students are supported in making informed career decisions and inspired by the possibilities that await after graduation.

Efforts will strengthen post-graduation employment outcomes and graduate school application success while deepening the University's partnerships with employers, alumni, and the broader community.



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DON'T CANCEL THAT CLASS: Let the Career Center come to your students!

Faculty who need to be away at a conference, meeting, or other commitment can use the Career Center's new online form to request a speaker to offer your class a practical career session on topics such as resumes, internships, job searching, interviewing, and more.

Student Life Family Orientation 2026 Was A Rousing Success

Family & Virtual Orientation
welcomed a combined
523 students & families.

Highlights:

- Return of student-led course scheduling, supported by faculty, department chairs, deans, and advising staff, which empowered students to take ownership of their academic plans.
- Mount Guides continued to support incoming students and families, with 97% of participants strongly agreeing the Mount Guides enhanced their orientation experience.

As one parent shared...

"Mr. Jerry and Mrs. Barbara walking to get coffee stopped and chatted with us, to them a simple conversation to us the highlight of our day!"

Thank you to the entire team at the Mount. Everyone did amazing, from the opening prayer to the delicious lunch and the icing on the cake all the cheering and applause we got on the way out made me cry tears of joy all the way home. Thank you to all."



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Student Life

Enhanced Initiative to Increase Use of the Mount PEAK App

The Center for Leadership and Community Connection and the Center for Student Engagement are actively preparing to welcome students back to campus for the 2026-2027 academic year. A key initiative this fall is the launch of **PEAK Points** within the **Mount PEAK app**, allowing students to **earn points by attending events and engaging in campus life**.

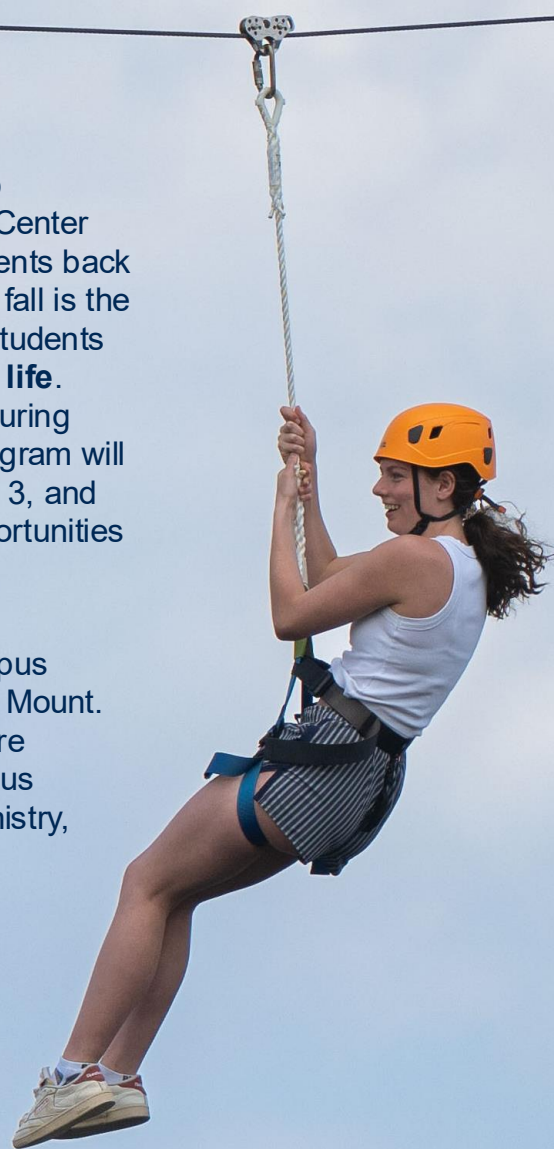
Accumulated points can be redeemed for entries into raffles featuring prizes such as iPads, JBL speakers, and other rewards. The program will debut at the annual Involvement Fair, Block Party on September 3, and continue with Kick Back at the PAC, providing students with opportunities to connect, build community, and have fun.

New PEAK Picks Calendar

Two new marketing efforts are underway to ensure that the campus community knows about all the exciting events happening at the Mount. The **Stall Street Journal** and the new **PEAK Picks Calendar** are initiatives out of the Office of Student Success highlighting campus events offered by academic departments, Athletics, Campus Ministry, Recreation & Wellness, and Student Life.

Continued Partnership With BetterMynd

MSMU will continue its contract with BetterMynd, Inc. to provide online mental health services for students. This service also includes a 24/7/365 Crisis Hotline. In AY25-26, **94 students** accessed this on-line platform for teletherapy sessions provided by independent licensed mental health clinicians.



MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
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Athletics

- **More than \$12 million** was raised for the Rooney Athletic Performance Center and Bolte Rugby Clubhouse, both scheduled to open for the 2027–28 academic year. Join us on **September 2 at 5 p.m.** for the Rooney groundbreaking.
- **Men's Outdoor Track & Field** captured the Mount's second MAAC Championship, and **Jay Phillips** was named MAAC Coach of the Year.
- **Student-athletes** earned a record **3.34 team GPA**, with **49 students** achieving a perfect 4.0.
- **Athletics** will welcome **268 new student-athletes** this fall, including **68 from affinity programs** that continue to strengthen enrollment and retention. Athletes represent **nearly 45%** of the undergraduate enrollment this fall.
- **The MAAC** officially rebranded this summer as the **Metro Conference**.



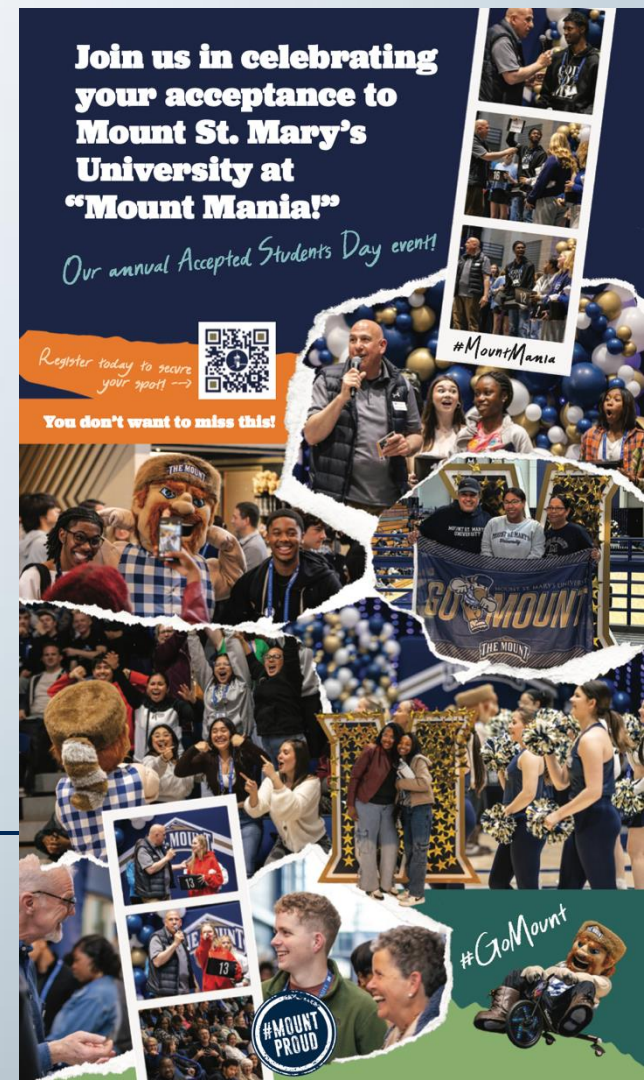
MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
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Marketing & Communications

- **Expanding top-of-funnel enrollment communications** to engage prospective students earlier in the decision journey, with **increased focus on junior-year audiences** and early outreach to seniors.
- **Enhanced the campus visit experience** by designing the new Admissions Welcome Center and presentation space in Knott AC.
- Continued evolution of enrollment marketing content and messaging to better communicate the Mount's distinctive value proposition and **"one-of-one" student experience**.
- **Strengthening the University's reputation and market differentiation** by promoting our recognition in Colleges of Distinction, Money's Best Colleges 2026, *U.S. News & World Report* Best Value rankings, and a **#1-in-Maryland** ranking for job placement after graduation.



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MOUNT
FOUNDERS CIRCLE

Marketing & Communications

- Expanded marketing and creative support for Advancement efforts, including **Mount Founders Circle**, **One Mount One Day**, and **Mount Magazine**.
- Launched a new landing page and digital campaign for the new **Bachelor of Science in Nursing program**. Developing a robust PR and social media campaign to support recruitment in early fall.
- Redesigned Mount Messenger** based on feedback from the campus community, building on last year's initial launch. Adding an **"In the News"** section to amplify student and faculty accomplishments and media recognition.



Thursday, May 14, 2026

Class of 2026 Featured Graduates

Congratulations to the Class of 2026! Meet some of our newest graduates and see where their Mount education is taking them. [Read about the graduates.](#)



24/7 Access to Phillips Library concludes today - May 14

The library's 24/7 access for finals week concludes Thursday, May 14 at 5 p.m. Library Staff wishes everyone a great finals week! Good luck on your exams!

FINALS WEEK

open 24/7

Open: Monday, May 18 @ 7:30 am - Thursday, May 14th @ 5:00 pm

Halls Close! May 14 at 6 p.m.

Attention Mount Residential Students! The halls close today at 6 p.m.! Please head to your checkout station starting at 8 a.m. to checkout with an RA! [Get the checkout checklist.](#)



MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
Office of the President



Campus Environment

- Fostered exceptional collaboration across Campus Environment, Public Safety, Athletics, Dining, Campus Recreation, Student Affairs, and other partners, delivering the University's most successful summer operation to date.
- Welcomed **43,700+ guests** through **62 summer conferences and events** while preparing campus for Fall 2026.
- Completed the summer conference season **within budget**, earning outstanding client feedback and repeat business.
- Standardized summer turnover, cleaning, inspection, and move-in processes to improve operational efficiency and consistency.
- Prepared **1,500+ residence hall rooms** and assigned housing for thousands of students through coordinated efforts across campus departments.
- Enhanced the student experience with improved move-in procedures and successfully supported **Commencement, Orientation, athletics, camps, and conferences**.

Public Safety

- Maintained **24/7 campus safety**, implemented a centralized Public Safety dispatch center, and strengthened **Clery Act, CSA, and fire safety compliance**.



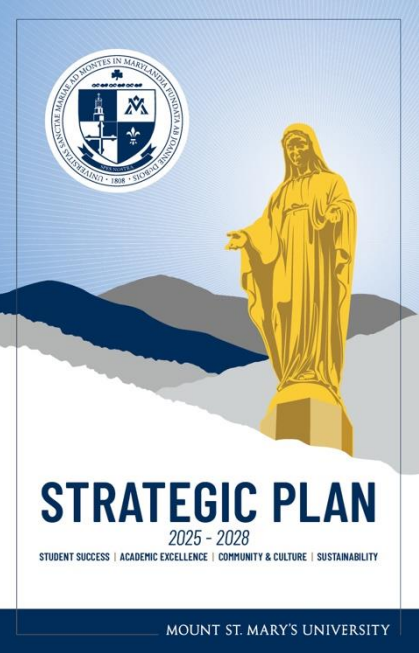
Capital Projects

- Continued major investments in campus infrastructure through **HVAC, plumbing, electrical, lighting, residence hall, and beautification projects.**
- Advanced construction of the **Rooney Performance Center** and launched the **Rugby Clubhouse**, both scheduled for completion in **2027**.
- Continued construction of **The Way**, honoring **Blessed Stanley Rother**, with completion expected in **Fall 2026**.
- Advanced planning and design for the **Nursing and COAD Expansion**, creating state-of-the-art facilities to meet future healthcare workforce needs, with completion targeted for **2027**.



MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
Office of the President

Strategic Planning



STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Academic Excellence

The Mount remains at the forefront of academic excellence in undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education through a culture of continuous improvement. Through its rigorous academics and unique scholarly programs, the Mount prepares its graduates to be ethical leaders who will transform all for the common good. Our innovative Catholic liberal arts Core curriculum, enriched by engagement with rigorous and relevant majors, transforms students into deep thinkers with a strong moral foundation. Experiential learning opportunities such as internships, research, and service challenge students to integrate their knowledge with their leadership skills to effect change.

GOAL 1: Explore and launch academic program expansion in the areas that ensure we remain at the forefront of liberal arts education.

GOAL 2: Enhance the culture of continual improvement in all programs, functions and services.

GOAL 3: Demonstrate and market the value of the Core curriculum.

GOAL 4: Graduate nationally competitive leaders who have been transformed by signature scholarly programs such as the Office of Competitive Fellowships, Ethical Leaders Program, Honors Program, and Study Abroad.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Sustainability

To preserve the resources needed for the expansion of robust and relevant programs, we depend on friends and partners who recognize the value of a Mount education. Thus, it is essential that we clearly promote our distinctiveness as a university, a seminary, and a national shrine in service to God and humankind. As prudent stewards, we strategically manage our resources through comprehensive financial planning and data-informed decision-making.

GOAL 14: Construct a sustained, comprehensive marketing strategy that maintains brand awareness and growing enrollment.

GOAL 15: Construct a comprehensive enrollment strategy that results in effective recruitment and matriculation into all programs.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Community and Culture

At Mount St. Mary's University, our sacred story continues to unfold. Rooted in a deep Catholic tradition and guided by a mission of service, we are committed to forming a community where all people are welcomed, known, and called to something greater. In the years ahead, we will strengthen the living legacy of the Mount by honoring our past, uplifting our people, deepening our commitment to service, and walking in partnership with our Seminary and the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes. Through these shared efforts, we seek not only to preserve our sense of community, but to boldly live it today as we prepare for the communion of tomorrow.

GOAL 5: Honor our sacred past, inspire our future.

GOAL 6: Deepen our culture of care by honoring, supporting, and uplifting our people.

GOAL 7: Advance our mission through meaningful service.

GOAL 8: Continue to collaborate with the Seminary in support of its strategic priorities and shared Catholic mission.

GOAL 9: Lead with wisdom as we prepare for an Abba-driven future.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

Student Success

The Mount is a vibrant and welcoming community that is passionate about supporting and guiding the development of the whole student. Students receive academic support tailored to interest and needs. Outside the classroom, learning and development continue as students engage in a plethora of experiential opportunities focused on leadership, service, spiritual formation, creativity, innovation, cultural immersion, and/or wellness. Faculty and professional advisors provide holistic guidance to ensure students are prepared to embark on lives of significance.

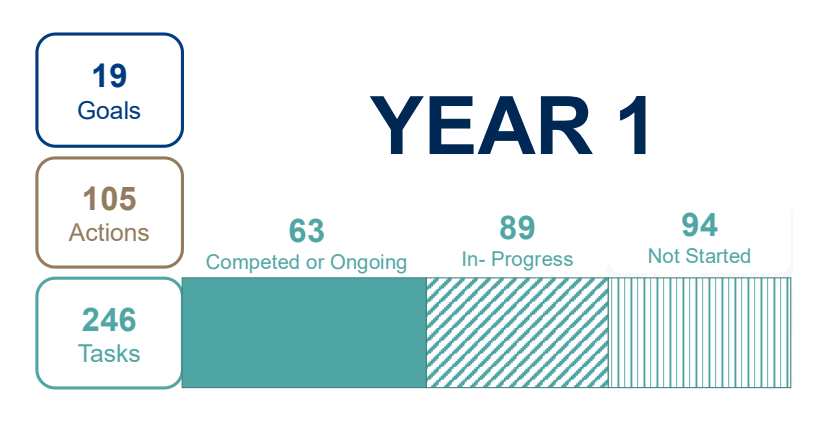
GOAL 10: Enhance and support a premier NCAA Division I athletics program that enriches the student experience.

GOAL 11: Elevate the student Mount experience for all students.

GOAL 12: Increase student engagement through robust diversification and integration of opportunities and services.

GOAL 13: Promote the Mount's mission-driven commitment to student success through high-quality advising.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



Strengthening Catholic identity and mission

Academic innovation and program growth

Enrollment growth and student success

Financial sustainability



MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
Office of the President

THE STUDENT IS...

**The most important person
on the campus. Without
students, there would be
no need for this institution.**

Not a cold
enrollment
statistic
*BUT A FLESH
& BLOOD
HUMAN
BEING WITH
FEELINGS &
EMOTIONS*
like our own.

NOT SOMEONE
TO BE TOLERATED
SO THAT WE CAN
DO OUR THING.

**THEY ARE
OUR THING.**

Not dependent on us.

Rather, we are dependent on them.

*Not an interruption
of our work, but
the **purpose** of it.*

WE ARE NOT
DOING THEM
A FAVOR BY
SERVING THEM.

THEY ARE DOING
US A FAVOR BY
GIVING US THE
OPPORTUNITY
TO DO SO.



—ANONYMOUS