SAINT MARY'S STUDENT LIFE PLAN

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

The spiritual formation of our students continues to be the primary aim and focus at Saint Mary's. As many of you know, this formation is not an add-on. Rather, it happens through our rich curriculum, and most importantly, through the witness of our faculty as Catholic disciples. With students coming back on campus, the sacramental life of Saint Mary's will be available immediately again, starting with All-School Mass on the first days back. In addition, we will offer daily Mass twice a day (before school and at lunch) and confession every day at lunch.

ATHLETICS

While normal sports-related activities are heavily affected by current restrictions, we are doing everything possible to prepare our students to return safely to athletic competition. Current state and Diocesan guidelines mandate that we remain in Phase 1 of the 'Return to Participation' protocols outlined by the Catholic Schools Office and the Arizona Interscholastic Association. This phase is the most restrictive and limits activities to groups of 10 or less, prohibits the use of shared equipment such as balls, and requires the cleaning of all equipment in between individual uses. We will continue to follow diocesan and state guidelines as we gradually and carefully return to athletic activities. Following is an update of where each fall sport stands.

- Non-contact sports, including Cross Country and Golf, have begun the process of practicing under phase 1 guidelines.
- Girls Volleyball will tentatively begin tryouts on Wednesday, September 2
- Football will tentatively begin practices on Monday, September 7
- Teams will progress into less restrictive phases only when deemed permissible through the Catholic Schools Office
- Phase 1 Guidelines will be enforced on campus when students return on September 8. This includes guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting of equipment, appropriate group sizes, social distancing practices, and refraining from using certain facilities such as locker rooms.

CAMPUS MINISTRY AND SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

We are excited to have a new Campus Minister, Mr. Daniel Barba, and new full-time School Chaplain, Fr. Estevan Wetzel on campus this year. They will make themselves available to students throughout the day in-person and online, as well as planning other ministry events and presentations that students can attend. Announcements about these ministry events and opportunities will be send out through Teams and through the *Parent Weekly*.

CLUBS

Student Clubs and Organizations are a vibrant part of our student life program. Several of our clubs have begun to meet in an online format. And, we look forward to providing more opportunities for our students to connect with each other and the Saint Mary's community through various organizations that speak to their individual talents and interests. As we move to hybrid instruction, we will be holding a club fair during the Knight Time period on Tuesday and Thursday to provide all students the opportunity to learn about the various club offerings on campus.

- Information on student clubs is available at https://wearesm.org/clubs
- Returning club members will be added to their virtual club meetings through Microsoft Teams.

We will also offer an in-person Club Fair for students during Knight Time later in the month of September.

GUIDANCE COUNSELING

Our fully-staff Guidance Office will follow its usual hours in order to offer guidance and support to students as needed, including both in-person and online assistance. We encourage students who are having academic, social, or technological difficulties to reach out to their grade level guidance counselor.

Mrs. Ashley Mager (Freshmen and Sophomores)
Ms. Nora Talavera (Juniors)
Mr. Brian Rollo (Seniors)

For more information about our Guidance Office, including contact information, follow this link: https://wearesm.org/guidance-counseling

HOUSE SYSTEM

The Saint Mary's House System incorporates many of the best aspects of student life. Similar to our academic classes, House Rooms have begun the school year with weekly online meetings through Microsoft Teams and Zoom. When students begin hybrid instruction on September 8, they will attend classes in person based on their House enrollment. This will allow for House Room meetings with all members in attendance. During hybrid instruction, House Rooms may meet on Tuesday or Thursday during Knight Time periods (based on the Houses scheduled to be on campus on that particular day).

House Rooms play an important role in the overall formation and development of our students. While observing all necessary guidelines, mentor teachers will strive to promote social, spiritual, and emotional guidance and formation to our students. More information on the Saint Mary's House System can be found at https://smknights.org/house-system/

STUDY HALL AND TUTORING

We recognize that learning in a hybrid classroom is more difficult than a typical environment. For this reason, during Knight Time on every Tuesday and Thursday, students will have time set aside to work in a study hall. This may also include opportunities to visit their teachers to receive tutoring. Additionally, our standard practice of teachers being available every day before school for office hours, both in-person and online is available.

STUDENT LIFE IS AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF STUDENT FORMATION.