

## MATURE SAVINGS BONDS: They Produce No Interest

A recent article I read stated that more than \$9 billion in U.S. savings bonds have not been cashed in. Do you own a portion of these matured bonds? Did you know that once U.S. savings bonds have matured, they no longer pay interest?

In effect, you are making interest-free loans to the government.

In addition, interest on matured savings bonds, whether you cash them in or not, should technically, under the law, be reported on your income tax return. In some cases, the IRS has been aggressive with taxpayers who do not report the income on matured bonds. This could result, not only in the payment of interest and penalties from the bonds maturation date, but also the need to file an amended return.

If you have matured savings bonds, you may want to cash them in and use the proceeds in a more productive way, one that will give you income for life. Taxes need to be paid on the interest earned but investing in a Jesuit Charitable Gift Annuity to benefit St. Mary Student Parish can offset those taxes. The benefits are considerable; an immediate tax deduction, a fixed interest rate and payments for life, and the knowledge that you are supporting St. Mary's in a significant manner. Those matured bonds that were no longer earning any additional interest are now benefiting both you and St. Mary's.

If you think you may want to consider cashing in those mature bonds and would like assistance in making a decision, please feel free to give me a call at 734-663-0557 ext. 245 or you can e-mail me at rbrennan41@comcast.net.

A no-obligation proposal for a Jesuit gift annuity takes just minutes and may help you in your decision.

As always, your support of St. Mary's campus ministry is deeply appreciated.



Rachel Brennan  
Director of Development

Examples of Single-Life Gift Annuity Rates			
Age of Donor	Rate of Return	Age of Donor	Rate of Return
60.....	5.0	78 .....	6.7
61.....	5.1	79 .....	6.9
62.....	5.1	80 .....	7.1
63.....	5.2	81 .....	7.3
64.....	5.2	82 .....	7.5
65.....	5.3	83 .....	7.7
66.....	5.4	84 .....	7.9
67.....	5.4	85 .....	8.1
68.....	5.5	86 .....	8.3
69.....	5.6	87 .....	8.6
70.....	5.7	88 .....	8.9
71.....	5.8	89 .....	9.2
72.....	5.9	90 .....	9.5
73.....	6.0	91 .....	9.5
74.....	6.1	92 .....	9.5
75.....	6.3	93 .....	9.5
76.....	6.4	94 .....	9.5
77.....	6.6	95+ .....	9.5

# Campus Connection

ST. MARY STUDENT PARISH AND FR. GABRIEL RICHARD NEWMAN CENTER ■ WINTER 2009

## A Smile and a Can-Do Attitude Staging a musical at St. Mary Student Parish

By Sarah Breed ('09 BS)

This is the third year that student parishioners have undertaken the production of a musical. "Children of Eden" was performed on February 6 and 7.

"Children of Eden...Oh, you must mean that novel by John Steinbeck, right? Wait, it's a musical?" Not exactly my first words when asked by several students if I would be directing the third St. Mary Student Parish 'Theater' production, but fairly close. After gradually increasing my involvement in the musicals by taking on a chorus role in *Godspell* and assisting in the production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, I decided it was time to take a giant leap, directing the next show. I had no idea the next show would be one I had never heard of.

Stepping into the rather roomy shoes left by the previous directors, I plunged in headfirst. Begging my trusty side-kicks, Music Director Chris Ranney, Orchestra Director Daniel Fernandes, Producer Monica Sendor, and Co-Director Brandon Ebenhoeh, to join me in my quest, I decided to pitch the show idea to the church. After receiving the 'ok' from the parish administration, I set my sights on the cast. Many of the students in the parish, with diverse talents and varying degrees of experience, jumped at the opportunity to be part of the cast. In a few short weeks, we were already a family within the parish family of St. Mary's. We were not merely students or cast members; we were long-lasting friends.

Upon opening the script for the first time, realizing that this show was going to be much more work than the previous two because of the tremendous amount and difficulty of the music, I hesitated to set a date for the opening of the show. Fortunately, the cast merely found this a fun challenge to undertake and spent endless hours practicing notes, rhythms, and choreography. That made our opening date in early February a much easier target.

With opening night behind us, I thank God every day that I had such amazing people to work with. I owe all success to the dedication of the cast, orchestra, and crew in making this show come to life. The cast gelled into a cohesive unit and members even met on their own to work on difficult parts of the show. Despite the immense amount of work needed for a successful show, everyone came with a smile on their face and a can-do-it attitude (or at least a have-to-do-it attitude). They were willing to give up their nights and weekends to perform a show that most of them had not even heard of five months ago.



Children of Eden cast members (kneeling in front) Christian Schulte ('12 BA), Margaret Mueller ('11 BSE), (second row) Lily Porter ('12 BFA), Evan Dougherty ('10 BSE), Jack Ebert ('09 BSE), and John Rett ('09 BSE)

Coming from a home parish that did not even allow the Christmas pageant to be performed in the church, I thank St. Mary Student Parish for their willingness to entertain the idea of a full-fledged musical in its sacred space. I am blessed to have been given this opportunity to show students and parishioners alike the talents of their local community. I can only hope that this enthusiasm and creativity will draw more students to the faith-filled family that is St. Mary Student Parish.

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# Whispers in the Newman Lounge...

*Catholic campus ministry is thriving at U of M! Recently, we asked a group of students to share what it's like being Catholic on campus. Here's what some of them said...*

## Q What's it like being a Catholic at U of M?

**A:** I love it! I have never felt more connected to my faith and to God. St. Mary's has revitalized my Catholic faith and beliefs.  
*Mary Piereson, Class of 2012, Undeclared*

*Interesting. I feel like there are a large number of people who aren't religious (either apathetic or atheistic) and yet I'm part of a vibrant community.*



*Scott Jenks, Class of 2010, Computer Science Engineering*

**A:** Since I've come to college, I've noticed people having certain, negative stereotypes about Catholics. It's frustrating but by defending my beliefs, I've grown in my faith.  
*Kristin Heinowski, Class of 2011, History*

**A:** I come from an area that's mostly Catholic, but here, being Catholic has become something I take more pride in.  
*Andrea Koueiter, Class of 2012, Undeclared*

**A:** It's nice to get to know people who share my same beliefs. It is also interesting to get to know about other religions.  
*Patty McCormick, Class of 2011, Engineering*

**A:** I often feel like I am a minority and that many people do not share my views.  
*Erin O'Shea, Class of 2012, Flute Performance*

## Q What's the best thing you like about St. Mary's campus ministry?

**A:** I like that Newman Student Gathering is student run, because they are dealing with the same things I am.  
*Lyndsay Berger, Class of 2012, Kinesiology/Pre Med*

*They have a lot of interesting discussion topics and when in small groups, people really listen. Plus they have snacks afterwards which are a great bonus.*



*Cari Skrzynski, Class of 2012, English*

**A:** I really like the events to help local organizations.  
*Luke Sullivan, Class of 2012, Biochemistry*

**A:** Small Church Communities—through it I have made some of my closest friends who I know will always stand by me.  
*Megan Land, Class of 2012, Psychology*

*I really like the catechist program here. I love teaching 3rd grade and helping the kids expand their faith – along with me!*

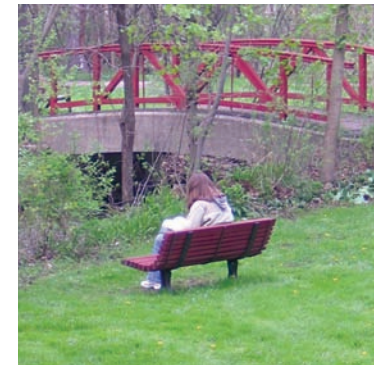


*Beth Bodiya, Class of 2012, Undeclared*

**A:** It's devotion to students – we are given an abundance of opportunities to connect with fellow Catholics, participate in new adventures, and explore our faith, all while being encouraged to discover and nurture our true selves as God created us to be.

*Erinn Smith, Class of 2011, Nursing*

**A:** Since I am a freshman, I was concerned about making good, lifelong friends. I came to St. Mary's and not only did I instantly have awesome friends, I had a family.  
*Maria Schneider, Class of 2012, Engineering*



*Retreats. Like Sr. Catherine said, they are like vacations with God.*

*Stephen Hannon, Class of 2010, Civil Engineering*

**A:** It's good to be part of a community as strong as this. It really has created a good web of friends who I feel I can talk to.

*Marcus Berger, Class of 2010, Spanish and Linguistics*

**A:** St. Mary's campus ministry allows me to build a smaller community at a huge university. St. Mary's has become a second home—even a second family—for me.

*Laura Tomassi, Class of 2012, Undeclared*

## Q What does St. Mary's have that you wish your home parish had?

**A:** An active youth component. Sometimes it seems that, at home, none of the high school students are involved in the parish.

*Caroline Morel, Class of 2012, Chemical Engineering*

**A:** I wish my home parish had a cool lounge and fireplace like the lounge here!

*Mary Manuszak, Class of 2012, Pre Med*



*Lots of college kids and pumped-up ministers!*

*Charlie Mouch, Class of 2011, Movement Science*

**A:** Great friends. I also love how easy it is to talk with all of the staff—they're like parents away from home.  
*Anna Jenks, Class of 2011, Chemical Engineering*

## Q If I were a campus minister at St. Mary's, I'd...

**A:** ...get to know everyone as best I could and always be willing to help them out.

*Julie Cprek, Class of 2010, Architecture*

*...continue to let students be leaders. The campus ministers are great support and act behind the scenes, allowing students to have a leadership role in many parish areas. This is the best way to prepare us for the future!*

*Colleen Long, Class of 2010, Geology*



**A:** ...focus on helping people who feel estranged from the Church.

*Steve DeWitt, Class of 2009, Engineering Physics*

**A:** ...make sure St. Mary's was visible to the student body as a whole.

*Russ Wasylyshyn, Class of 2012, Psychology*



*...always be smiling!*

*Rick Siller, Class of 2009, Biology*