Let us persevere in running the race that lies before us.

Hebrews 12:1

With your help, Catholics athletes at Tulane like Marshall (center, above) are sharing their faith with teammates and taking it to the field and the court. Saint Paul uses athleticism as a metaphor for the spiritual life in his letters—he encourages us to “fight the good fight” and “finish the race”, to “compete well” so as to win the “eternal crown”. Without you, these students would not be growing in faith in Christ as they fight hard on and off the field.

– Director of Campus Ministry, Fr. Thomas Schaefgen, OP, tschaefgen@tulane.edu

YOU’RE TRAINING THESE STUDENTS

You’ve helped Tulane Catholic athletes Marshall, Leslie and Joy grow and share their faith in Christ with their teammates.

You know the mission: you’re helping college students grow together into the saints they’re called to be! Athletics is all about growing and working together. Your generosity is all about running with these students as they persevere in running the race that lies before them.

Hear their stories inside this newsletter. You’ll read about these amazing faith-filled student athletes and just what you’ve done for them by supporting Tulane Catholic!

Fr. Thomas (left) with Fr. Francis (right) on a 478-mile walking pilgrimage over the summer. For more information see: friarsonfoot.wordpress.com
Your support gives Joy a place to invite her teammates and to discern her own vocation to religious life—

“I have learned that the need for ‘teammates’ in my spiritual life is just as important as my teammates in my sport. We are all striving to become the saints we were made to be, and I have learned how vital my friends are in building each other up toward the goal. I’ve learned how impossible it is to do it on my own, and I have never been so motivated to live for Christ than by my Catholic ‘team’ that I have found at Tulane Catholic.

Thank you for being one of Joy’s ‘teammates’!”

Marshall (’17, below, left in both photos) with his football teammates.
MEET

LESLIE

As a point guard, Leslie is a leader on and off the court. She brings many of her teammates to the chapel for PGP—“Pre-game Prayer”!

“After PGP, we all come out with a peace of mind and a fueled heart to go out and play fully and freely for HIM. I always repeat ‘He must increase, and I must decrease’ (John 3:30). This verse takes a lot of pressure off of me to always perform perfectly. It allows me to humble myself and put God above the performance.

Thanks to you, Leslie can share life & faith with her teammates!

MEET

MARSHALL

Thanks to you, Marshall has been able to show leadership and share his faith in Christ both on and off the football field.

“" For me, the greatest benefit Tulane Catholic provides is a community of individuals striving to make their faith the center of their lives. Here I have found much needed support and inspiration which have helped me focus the many facets of my life, especially my dedication to football, on glorifying God."
FR. THOMAS, COUNT ME IN . . .

I want to help college students by being on their team. I want to see young people active in the Church, so here is my special gift to help them grow together into saints!

HERE’S MY ONE-TIME GIFT

- $1000 - brings a speaker to Tulane Catholic
- $500 - sends a student to SEEK2017
- $100 - buys Catholic books/DVDs for library
- $65 - sends a student on retreat
- $ ______

SIGN ME UP FOR MONTHLY GIFTS

I want to join the SaintMakers Society!
I authorize Tulane Catholic to automatically draft a monthly gift from my bank account or credit/debit card (given below under “payment options”) in the amount of...

- $200/month
- $100/month
- $ ______/month

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- I have enclosed a check.

Credit/Debit Card payment:

- Visa  MC  Disc  AmEx

Card # ___________________________ / ___________
Exp. Date

Bank Withdrawals (automatic monthly gifts only):

Bank Acct # ___________________________  Bank Routing # ___________________________

SEND STUDENTS A MESSAGE

We’d love to share YOUR thoughts and insights with students who are trying to find their place on campus and good friends to help them grow in their faith in Christ. They love hearing from you!

Would you share a personal story or offer them a word of encouragement?

__________________________________________

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Your message will be posted for students to read at the Fr. Val McInnes, OP Center for Catholic Life next to Tulane’s campus, the new home for Tulane Catholic! If you’re an alum, don’t forget to include your class year and major.
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

Sometimes people ask why a place like Tulane Catholic even needs generous supporters like you. Maybe you’re already convinced about the necessity of good and vibrant college campus ministry. But, it’s still easy to forget the “why” behind what we do.

When people ask why privileged college students at an expensive university need their financial support and prayers—especially if their kids don’t even go to Tulane!—this is what I say:

First, what do you see at Mass each Sunday? Who is there? If your parish is like most, you see a somewhat aging crowd. Yes, there are some young families. But, who’s on the parish staff? Usually it’s an even older crowd. Who’s on the parish council? Older. Knights of Columbus? Ministries? Who are the priests? Who are the religious sisters, if there are any? Older. Older than you probably. Our Church in the U.S. is aging for the most part. Yes, there are some parishes that are exceptions and we look to them for advice. But, young people are leaving in droves because they often find no life in the Church.

Here’s where it gets really serious: if you and I want to see young, happy, vibrant Catholics in our parishes, on our altars and in our schools, hospitals and ministries, college is the place to support their formation as Catholics. We live in a complicated world, where an 8th grade religious education is simply not sufficient to provide the moral and spiritual foundation young leaders (doctors, lawyers, scientists, architects, financial advisors, CEOs, writers, social workers, politicians, priests, sisters, etc.) need to make serious decisions about how they live their lives, raise their children, and influence others in the marketplace and at Church.

What you’re doing by supporting Tulane Catholic matters and has a profound impact on the world. The students you support are making critical decisions and learning to put aside ambition and selfishness in order to care for their vulnerable neighbors, build just communities and economies, give freely from their resources, and above all: love God and neighbor.

I can’t tell you how grateful we are to you for helping these students grow together into the saints they’re called to be. The tricky thing is: I don’t know what kind of saints they’re called to be—just that they are called. God knows what he’s calling them to. Our job (yours and mine) is to help them hear his call—“Follow me” as Jesus said 2000 years ago on the shore of the Sea of Galilee—so they can get up and go. Thank you for going with them on this journey.

— Director of Campus Ministry, Fr. Thomas Schaefgen, OP, tschaefg@tulane.edu
SAINTMAKERS SPOTLIGHT

MEET THE JACOB FAMILY

“It was only after we met Father Thomas, Madelaine and the staff on move-in day in 2015 that we were comfortable with leaving our daughter in the Big Easy... We were hopeful that she could find a place that would cultivate not only her mind but also her soul and spirit.”

Stephanie & Tim are SAINTMAKERS—members of our monthly giving society.

Give automatically each month! catholic.tulane.edu/saintmakerssociety

Claire Jacob (far right), her brothers and her parents Tim and Stephanie.

WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Thanks to you, we’re serving 66% more Tulane students than just two years ago! They’re the same young people who hopefully will be in your parish in a few years! But even though they’re ‘Catholic’ now, there’s still a long journey from college to the parish—if we don’t have the funds to help them be intentional disciples of Christ, they’ll end up like 80% of their peers who leave the Church by age 23.

Supporting them now means supporting your Church’s next leaders and innovators—and the next generation of saints. These students want to change the world and help their neighbors. You’re helping to form that desire and direct it toward real excellence and virtue. Thank you!

7 Amazing THINGS YOU CAN MAKE happen...

If you want to donate items from our wish list: e-mail Madelaine Kuns (mkuns@tulane.edu) or call Tulane Catholic (504-866-0984).