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SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE'S STUDENT-RUN NEWS SOURCE

MONDAY MAR. 27, 2023

## Seniors Hope to Light the Torch of Passion in the Freshmen

By: Suki Rowden, Staff Writer



The seniors and freshmen unite to light their candles. (SOURCE: PALMER)

t Saint Vincent College, International Women's Week was celebrated last week from March 13-17. With multiple events designed to empower and celebrate the women in the SVC community, the second annual Lighting Our Way Forward event was the most heartwarming.

Lighting Our Way Forward

endeavored to be one of the many traditions that combat the isolation that COVID-19 brought upon the SVC community. The event took place in the St. Vincent Basilica Crypt on March 16, complete with an all-female chorus under the direction of senior music major Kate Kell, 25 senior students, and 20 freshman stu-

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## Schnitzel, Cobblestone Streets, Castles, Oh My!

By: Sean Callahan, News Editor

'decided to go on the McKenna School spring break trip to Bavaria, Germany, in a moment, not a day. I had heard about people's international trips, and how 'now is the time'. Prior to this year, I had always made the same excuses why I wouldn't do it. I don't have the time. I'm trying to save money, I have other things to focus on. I would ask myself, "why do I need to go to another country right now?" Of course, the COVID-19 pandemic was another road bump. But above all else, I did not want to be impulsive.

I'm glad I was impulsive this year, even though I had to sit in airplane seats barely tall enough to support my head for 9 hours, and constantly clarify with German waiters whether I was getting actual water or sparkling



## NEWS

# Women's Week was Celebrated with a Candle Lighting Ceremony in the Crypt

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dents. The seniors and freshmen lined the crypt, and the seniors lit the candles of the freshmen. The event was followed by refreshments where the participants had a chance to meet and mingle.

The hope for the future of the event is to continue evolving, especially the budget, and to eventually be able to give the senior and freshman girls mementos of their time at Saint Vincent. The ideal gift would be a lantern, which will remind them to always keep their light burning.

Dr. Doreen Blandino is the chairperson of the Department of Modern & Classical Language and also the most senior female faculty member at Saint Vincent College. She helped organize the event.

"We are looking for opportunities to connect," Dr. Blandino said. "Traditions and rituals are important to remind us who has come before us .....we each need to play a role in keeping the flame burning from generation to generation."



Dr. Blandino finishes her speech to the women of Saint Vincent. (SOURCE: PALMER)

# Candle Lighting Ceremony

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With Dr. Blandino was Bridgit DiVittis, Campus Ministry's assistant director. Both Dr. Blandino and Bridgit DiVittis organized Lighting Our Way Forward to empower the female student population and to celebrate their achievements along with all of their achievements to come.

This event was meant to create connections and bonding opportunities between all of the women on campus, but especially with the freshman students who are still trying to build their support systems away from home. Women's Week was a special appreciation of all of our women on campus, which will hopefully attract more female students as the number of female students enrolling at SVC has been decreasing.

"When I started here there were probably less than eight female faculty members," Dr Blandino said. "However, with more inclusive events like this and Wimmer Welcome, [we hope to] help foster togetherness at Saint Vincent and encourage a sense of community and support."



The crypt is alight with the spirit of SVC women. (SOURCE: PALMER)



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## Student Speaks High Praises of Germany Abroad Trip

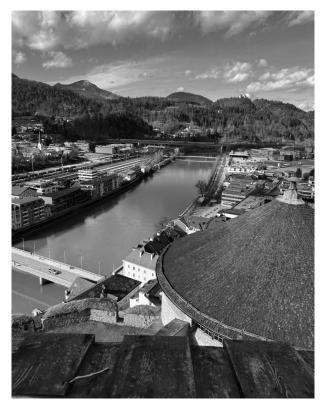
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water with dinner. It also meant staying awake for more than 40 hours on the first day. (SVC students: how do you guys pull all-nighters?!)

The small things in Germany struck me just as much as the big ones. We had to ask waiters for ice in our drinks if we wanted it. The metro stations were much cleaner compared to America's. There were paved bike lanes next to sidewalks in every city. Every German I interacted with knew English. Some could even guess I was American before I spoke!

Our itinerary consisted of cities, cultural locations, and a business and university visit. Our hotel was in Munich, where we had easy access to the metro system. We used the metro for travel within the city, while our tour guides had us use a bus for locations outside Munich. These included the German cities Nuremberg and Regensburg, and the Austrian town of Kufstein. Although I liked them all, my favorite is a tie between Regensburg and Nuremberg. I loved the stone streets and the scarcity of cars as people walked up and down them. Regensburg had a lot of great gift shops and stores to browse, and Nuremberg had one of the most unique restaurants I've ever dined in. If you've ever wondered what it's like to eat a threecourse dinner with just a knife and your bare hands... Nuremberg has just the place.

Throughout my group's time in Bavaria and Austria, grand churches, clock towers, and castles were common sights to see. We visited a castle in Kufstein that had beautiful views of the town and some great medieval history. But the view I had from Neuschwanstein Castle dwarfed Kufstein. I had never seen anything like the Alps before in America. But I was not prepared to stand on the windy balcony of Neuschwanstein Castle, knowing we were in the Alps,



The windows of a castle in the Austrian town of Kufstein provide a great view of the buildings below and the Alps in the distance. (SOURCE: CALLAHAN)

looking into even higher mountains, looking over towns and villages and highways and roads and farms. It is the most surreal thing I have ever experienced in nature, and I can safely say the best view I have ever had in my entire life. On top of that... Hohenschwangau, the village we had just come from to get to Neuschwanstein, had the best gift shop of any place in Bavaria.

## McKenna School Spring Break Trip

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Some of the most memorable moments and places of my visit were cultural sites we visited, including the Bavaria Film Studios, the Walhalla Memorial, and Dachau Concentration Camp. I made friends with our tour guide for the film studios, an acting student who shares my love of all things movies and TV. My group made a lot of fun memories at the studio, such as (badly) acting in front of a green screen and getting to explore set pieces of iconic German films. I also enjoyed the Walhalla Memorial. Not only was the view pretty, but it felt like a 'Best of Germany' hall of fame, as it memorialized many German public figures, such as Immanuel Kant, Albert Einstein, and Martin Luther.

Dachau, home of one of the first concentration



The SVC group poses for a photo during the first day of the spring break trip in Munich, Germany. (SOURCE: SVC LinkedIn)

camps, is memorable to me in a very different way. Everyone knows about concentration camps and that seeing them is not pleasant. But to me, nothing prepares any of us for what in the camps will stick with us. A friend on the trip had told me beforehand that he had been to Auschwitz, which he had said was the biggest concentration camp. When I walked through the gates of the Dachau camp, I was stunned how enormous it was. All the tour groups were huddled around the courtyard. Chills went down my spine, because all I could think of were the prisoners rounded up in this courtyard over 80 years ago. What also struck me emotionally was our tour guide's explanation of the physical identifiers for different prisoners, such as Jews, criminals, gypsies, Jehovah's witnesses, and homosexuals.

While the cities and cultural locations were memorable, my favorite moments of the trip were the dinners. I wish I could go back to each of them, and not just because of the schnitzel, spaetzle, pork knuckle, duck, and the (best) potato dumplings. I have never enjoyed sitting for two to three hours at a dinner table as much as in Germany. Almost every time, I sat with different professors and students, and each time, I got to know many of them personally. We talked about everything from our opinions on the best "Star Wars" movies (or best beer) to future plans.

Germany has made me reflect on myself, on the professors and other students who accompanied me on the trip, and on America itself. We are used to living such a fast-paced life, minute to minute and hour to hour. We get lost in midterms, jobs, friend drama, sports, and American news and politics every day. We are not used to having a week to truly have new experiences. Most of us are not used to waking up every day for a week and realizing that we are on a different continent, in a foreign country. We are not used to having so much time to take in so many new things.

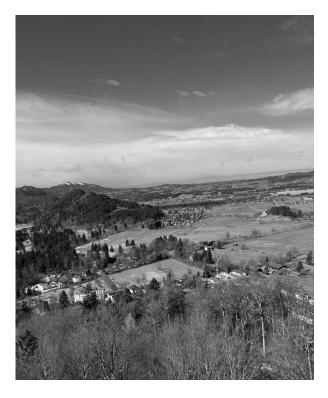
## **Germany Trip**

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It is true that I have never had a view as great as when I was nestled in the Alps atop Neuschwanstein Castle. I have also never had potato dumplings, beer, or hotel scrambled eggs and sausage as good as Germany's. (I will not miss sparkling water, and I don't think the 29 other people who went on this trip will either.) I will miss metro trains so clean that they make America's look like the old toys of a toddler. I will miss cobblestone streets and paved bike lanes in every single one.

I will miss many things about Germany, but what I will miss the most is the people. I will miss the enthusiastic tour guides sitting with the group during bus rides, walking with us through the cities, and enjoying dinner with us. I'll miss having a week to talk with students and professors I never knew as people until this trip. The good news is that today, each one of them were a part of my experiences of Bavaria. All of them were a part of my best experience with Saint Vincent College to date.

I hope anyone reading this who has not gone on an international trip strongly considers it. Look into abroad opportunities every semester, even if you think you have no interest or ability. You will be surprised by what your conscience tells you. You will be surprised what few excuses you actually have. Take it from me: let yourself be impulsive.



Villages, farmland, roads, and the Alps are just some of the things that can be seen from the balcony at the top of Neuschwanstein Castle. (SOURCE: CALLAHAN)

## ARTS & CULTURE

## Old Truth in the New World

By: Erin Brody, Arts & Culture Editor

I umanities students here at Saint Vincent College are well aware of the many reading groups and organizations that are aimed at helping students further their interaction with old texts and Catholic ideals. This semester, a new organization was established, and it's called the Thomistic Institute.

"The Thomistic Institute's mission is to promote Catholic truth in the contemporary world through providing campus chapters on college campuses which provide resources for furthering intellectual pursuits and questions concerning a broad range of topics in relation to Catholicism," Sophie Bringman, sophomore politics and philosophy double major, said.

Bringman first got involved with the Thomistic Institute when assistant professor of philosophy, Dr. Jessica Jones, Ph.D., approached her and fellow student Peter Feng with the idea. Originally, the Thomistic Institute was founded in Washington, D.C., with the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas as their standard. In 2015, the institute was able to extend its mission to over 80 campuses, and thanks to Dr. Jones, Feng, and Bringman, one of the newest chapters was established at St. Vincent.

"I'm so excited to have a part in leading it!" Bringman said.



The Thomistic Institute prides itself on facilitating Catholic questions and ideologies among both Catholic and secular colleges. (SOURCE: SVC Flickr, 2021 Wimmerfest)



We are always accepting opinion pieces, open letters, reviews. critiques and creative writing. **Email us at** review@ stvincent.edu if interested.

# About SVC's Newest Chapter, the Thomistic Institute

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The Thomistic Institute tackles a variety of subjects "ranging from the mystery of the Holy Trinity to the ethical implications of Artificial Intelligence." With that being said, the Institute does not subscribe solely to Catholicism.

"This group is for anyone looking to meet people who are interested in not just Catholicism, but in pursuing truth or other liberal arts interests as well," Bringman added.

Because it's the Institute's first semester in action, there are a small number of members who are in the organization. There are currently no weekly meetings that take place, but with the meetings that have taken place, Bringman said the Institute has a reading discussion or an activity planned.

If you're wondering whether or not the Thomistic Institute is for you, Bringman outlines the type of person that would enjoy the Saint Vincent chapter: "I encourage anyone looking for a social outlet that engages the intellect on various topics in the liberal arts and wants to be brought together with like-minded people to consider joining!"

If you or someone you know would be interested in the Thomistic Institute, email Sophie Bringman (sophie.bringman@stvincent.edu) or Dr. Jones (jessica.jones2@stvincent.edu).

# SPORTS

# Double-Digit Destruction from the Bearcats

By: Jacob Rzempoluch, Sports Editor

he spring sports season is starting to ramp up, with several teams beginning to see action. The women's lacrosse team has come out blazing hot, with three straight wins and 57 goals in four games. While an early loss to Marietta mars their record, the Bearcats have shown some serious strength with their aggressive play. Head Coach Jym Walters describes SVC's style of play as "Fast, Fun & Funky".

Seven different Bearcats scored in Saint Vincent's first victory of the season, a 19-13 triumph at Muskingum. Kaylee Bandow, senior psychology major, led the Bearcats with six goals. Bridget Doyle also had a strong performance; the junior history and anthropology major's four goals and seven assists would contribute to reaching her 100th career point. It seems as if this game allowed the Bearcats to settle into a groove of playing together, because their next two were outstanding.



Bridget Doyle (center) has been a force to be reckoned with this season. (SOURCE: JULIE WATKINS)

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## Sports

Bearcat sports and those relating to SVC



Men's lacrosse in strong form 3-List McL Soon Little The Sale Record Deach

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Wrestling returns to Saint Vincent

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#### Men's tennis begins season with spring break trip

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## New athletic facility on the

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Softbell opens season strong: Team aiming for championship win

## Women's Lacrosse Records 16-3 and 18-6 Victories over Weekend

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In the Bearcats' home opener on March 18, they triumphed over the Lancaster Bible College 16-3 before trouncing the Wilson College Phoenix 18-6 the following day. Goals were scored by ten different Bearcats, showing the deep strength of the team. The most outstanding performance came from Bridget Doyle, with 15 points against the Phoenix. That performance is one of the best in program history. Doyle is currently ranked second nationwide in points per game (5.5) and assists per game (8.75) and was named Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) Offensive Player of the Week and Bearcat of the Week for her performance.



Freshman Carolina Walters has made an immediate impact for the Bearcats. (SOURCE: JULIE WATKINS)

## Women's Lacrosse Victories

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Saint Vincent's performance mirrors that of their star, with the Bearcats leading the conference in points per game (23.75) and assists per game (9.5), ranking 21st and sixth in the nation respectively. The depth of the team has been a significant strength so far, with five Bearcats scoring over five goals so far. Freshman philosophy major Carolina Walters was recognized as PAC Rookie of the Week for her 13 points over the week. Many Bearcats have also made an impact beyond the stats sheets. Walters and Doyle recognized freshman biology major Kloe Templeton, freshman accounting major Melanie Seefeldt, and sophomore early childhood education major Addy Carbaugh for their play so far.

"We're just really fun and we always have a good vibe that I think never really seems to get us down," Doyle said about the team. "I just love them, they're like the best group of girls I could ever play with."

The Bearcats hope to continue their performance into conference play and better their fourth-place finish from last season. Their next home game is against Grove City College on March 28 at 4 p.m. at UPMC Field.

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## **Team Standings**

#### Men's Lacrosse

Team	w	L	Streak
Franciscan	4	0	W4
Saint Vincent	7	1	L1
Bethany	4	2	W4
Allegheny	4	4	W2
Westminster	4	4	W3
W&J	3	5	L3
Chatham	3	6	L2
Thiel	2	5	L2
Grove City	2	5	L2

**Schedule:** Grove City 3/29 4 p.m., W&J 4/1 11 a.m., @Westminster 4/12 7:30 p.m.

#### Women's Lacrosse

Team	w	L	Streak
Saint Vincent	4	1	W4
Chatham	4	1	W1
Allegheny	5	2	L2
Thiel	4	3	L1
Bethany	4	3	L1
W&J	3	3	W2
Franciscan	1	2	L2
Westminster	2	5	W1
Waynesburg	1	3	L3
Grove City	1	6	L4

**Schedule:** Grove City 3/28 4 p.m., W&J 3/31 4 p.m., Waynesburg 4/5 4 p.m.

### Men's Volleyball

Team	W	L	Streak
PSU-Behrend	13	6	W1
Thiel	12	10	W2
Geneva	13	13	W1
Saint Vincent	7	8	L1
Hiram	7	11	W2
Hilbert	6	13	L3
Medaille	6	15	L3
Mount Aloysius	4	12	L5
Wells	3	15	L4
PSU-Altoona	3	17	L2

Schedule: Hiram 3/29 7 p.m., @Thiel 4/1 6 p.m., Mount Aloysius 4/5 7 p.m.

#### Baseball

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	12	4	W2
Bethany	11	4	L2
W&J	9	4	L1
Chatham	7	7	L1
Saint Vincent	6	9	L1
Geneva	7	11	L1
Westminster	5	8	L1
Allegheny	4	8	W1
Waynesburg	4	10	L2
Franciscan	3	8	W2
Thiel	2	10	W1

**Schedule:** @W&J 3/28 1 p.m., Bethany 4/1 1 p.m., @LaRoche 4/4 3 p.m.

#### Softball

Team	W	L	Streak
Waynesburg	7	3	W1
Westminster	8	4	W3
Allegheny	8	4	L2
W&J	5	3	L3
Saint Vincent	6	5	W1
Grove City	6	6	W3
Geneva	5	9	W2
Thiel	3	7	L2
Chatham	3	11	L2
Franciscan	1	7	W1
Bethany	0	10	L10

Schedule: Franciscan 3/28 3:30 p.m., LaRoche 3/30 3 p.m., Bethany 4/1 2

#### Men's Tennis

Team	w	L	Streak
Allegheny	5	3	W1
Grove City	5	3	W1
Geneva	2	3	L1
Saint Vincent	2	3	L3
Westminster	1	2	L1
W&J	1	4	W1
Franciscan	1	8	L6
Thiel	0	2	L2
Waynesburg	0	2	L2

Schedule: @W&J 3/28 4 p.m., @Mc-Daniel 4/1 TBD, @Grove City 4/4 4 p.m.

#### Men's Track & Field

Schedule: @Slippery Rock 4/1 9 a.m., @Grove City 4/5 TBD, @Thiel 4/15 10 a.m.

#### Women's Track & Field

Schedule: @Slippery Rock 4/1 9 a.m., @Grove City 4/5 TBD, @Thiel 4/15 10 a.m.

#### Men's Golf

**Schedule:** @Geneva 3/27 11 a.m., @Grove City 3/30 9 a.m., @Thiel 4/1 1 p.m.

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