WHO ARE THE JESUITS?

The Society of Jesus — founded in 1540 by Saint Ignatius of Loyola — is the largest male religious order in the world with approximately 19,000 priests and brothers. Its members, known as Jesuits, live and work in 113 countries on six continents. The Jesuit education network extends to more than 3,500 institutions of various types and levels, caring for just over 2.5 million students. In the United States, 50 Jesuit high schools and 28 Jesuit colleges and universities currently exist. There are 11 Jesuits on campus at Regis.

JESUITS AT REGIS

Regis University has continued the Jesuit tradition since 1877, when a band of Jesuits from Naples, Italy, established a college on the edge of the desert in New Mexico and named it Las Vegas College.

In 1884, Bishop Joseph P. Machebeuf of the Diocese of Denver, eager to have a respected school for boys in Colorado, persuaded the Jesuits to relocate their New Mexico college to Morrison, Colo., where it was renamed the College of the Sacred Heart. In 1877, an entrepreneur developer by the name of John Brisben Walker offered the Jesuits a plot of land in Northwest Denver. Since the Morrison site proved too remote, Dominic Pantanella, S.J., the first president, moved the college to its present location. Main Hall, which was completed in 1887, was the only building on campus until 1911, when expansion began.

In 1921, the college was renamed “Regis” in honor of St. John Francis Regis, a 17th-century Jesuit missionary from the mountains of France. Recognizing the need for educating men and women together, Regis became a coeducational institution in 1968.

The motto “Men and Women in Service of Others” is an expression used to describe the purpose of Jesuit education: to form men and women who use their knowledge and energies in the unselfish service of others. The motto also expresses the desire of Regis’ faculty and staff to be of service to students and the community.
OUR MISSION

Regis University educates men and women to take leadership roles and to make a positive impact in a changing society. Standing within Catholic traditions, we are inspired by the particular Jesuit vision of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, which challenges us to attain the inner freedom to make intelligent choices. We seek to provide value-centered undergraduate and graduate education, as well as to strengthen commitment to community service. We nurture the life of the mind and the pursuit of truth within an environment conducive to effective teaching, learning and personal development.

Consistent with Judeo-Christian principles, we apply knowledge to human needs and seek to preserve the best of the human heritage. In the Catholic and Jesuit traditions of academic excellence and service to others, Regis University encourages the continual search for truth within an environment conducive to effective teaching, learning and personal development.

Inspired by Saint Ignatius of Loyola’s vision, particularly as reflected in his Spiritual Exercises, we encourage all members of the Regis community to identify and choose personal standards of values. We further encourage the development of the skills and leadership abilities necessary for distinguished professional work and contributions to the improvement and transformation of society.

JESUIT CHALLENGE

“You are called by the Society of Jesus to be men and women who reflect upon the reality of the world around you with all its ambiguities, opportunities, and challenges, to discern what is really happening in your life and in the lives of others, to find God there and to discover where God is calling you, to employ criteria for significant choices that reflect Godly values rather than narrow, exclusive self-interest, to make decisions in the light of what is truly for the greater glory of God and the service of those in need, and then to act accordingly.”

Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J.
Former Superior General of the Society of Jesus, 1997

UNIVERSITY MINISTRY

University Ministry serves the entire Regis community regardless of one’s faith. In the Jesuit tradition, University Ministry continues the work of Jesus Christ in affirming the value of each human person and the sacredness of all creation. Furthermore, University Ministry provides opportunities and activities that enable members of the community to respond to the invitation of St. Ignatius of Loyola to find God in all things. God is present in our lives and can be discovered through faith in all natural and human events, in history as a whole, and most especially, in the lived experience of each person. University Ministry offers a variety of ways in which students, faculty, staff and administrators can integrate mind, body and spirit.