

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



L to R: Joe Lion; Emma O'Dell, President, Student Government Association; Jason Niehaus '98, Chairperson, Board of Trustees; H. James Williams, Ph.D., President; Sister Elizabeth Joan Cook, SC, '64, President, Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati; Steve Radcliffe, Director, Athletics & Recreation; Raye Allen, Vice President, Division of Institutional Advancement.

Dear Alumni:



Throughout the decades, the Mount has experienced a steady expansion of campus facilities, academic programs, student and alumni support services, instructional technology, and more—all to ensure that our community remains a thriving institution where learning, spiritual well-being, and community service are paramount.

In this issue of *Mount News*, you'll read about the first bold step in our Transformation 2025 Strategic Vision. In addition to featuring new spaces and the latest equipment for students and alumni to engage in athletics and other activities, the new Recreation & Fitness Center will symbolize a fundamental focus of our plan—to nurture the mind, body, and spirit of each member of the Mount community. Expected to be completed in fall 2020, this significant

construction project has the loyal financial support of so many of our generous donors, partners, and alumni—all who wish to be part of the Mount's incredible future. If you're interested in contributing to the newest part of the Mount's campus (above is a photo from the April 29 groundbreaking), please contact Kelby Siler '97, the Mount's new executive director of alumni engagement, at kelby.siler@msj.edu or at 513-224-4359.

Alongside our newest expansion comes the restoration of one of our most revered campus locations—the Mater Dei Chapel. In this issue, you'll also learn about the precise and delicate work involved in refurbishing this cherished site, as well as the dedicated MSJ employees who work to ensure it remains a sound and sturdy spiritual home for decades to come.

In addition, check out the latest in our ongoing series of retrospectives recounting the Mount's history. In this issue, we focus on the 1990s—another

decade of growth in academic programs, enrollment, technology, and more. This was also a defining moment of campus expansion, with the construction of the Jean Patrice Harrington Student Center and Thomas L. Conlan Center. It was also the decade in which the Mount celebrated its 75th anniversary!

On a final note, anticipation continues to build as the Mount's Centennial approaches. I hope you will join us on Saturday, September 14, for a Founders Day Mass and Centennial Celebration Kickoff—the first of many festivities to honor our 100-year legacy. Check this issue of *Mount News* for details and save-the-date information on these and other exciting events to come.

Best regards,

H. James Williams, Ph.D.
President