

# from the president

## **"To love Christ is to serve others."**

This simple message resonates through this issue of Notre Dame Today. Here we celebrate those who give of themselves in service to those in need, those who labor outside the spotlight and seek nothing in return.

The amazing Fr. Gregory Boyle, S.J., lives among the gangs of Los Angeles, teaching and rehabilitating violent felons and extending the helping hand they desperately need to turn their lives around.

Sister Rita Mary Harwood, SND, the first recipient of the Notre Dame College InnerCitySaints Award, was called by God to serve in the prisons of Northeast Ohio, bringing Christ's love to those cast off by society. She began alone, and now heads a team of more than 400 who serve and support her.

"To love Christ is to serve others," is at the heart of our campus and our mission. Notre Dame College serves students from diverse backgrounds and all walks of life—each is welcomed into the Notre Dame family. Our incredible faculty and staff make sure that each one receives the outstanding and ethical education they need to make a positive difference in our community. Our heart for service means that no student is ever overlooked, and we are there for those who need that extra helping hand. The Academic Support Center supports those with learning disabilities, and our FirstGen Center helps those 40 percent of our students who are the very first in their families to ever attend college.

You, our friends and donors, are also members of the Notre Dame College family. When you give us your time, or your money, or share the special talents you have been blessed with—you serve. Your contribution, whatever it may be, matters. In this Christmas Season, when we celebrate God's greatest gift to the world, perhaps you would consider a special donation to a very worthy cause, the Notre Dame Caring Hearts Fund.

You can use the enclosed envelope, or donations can be made online at [www.notredamecollege.edu/support-ndc/ways-to-give](http://www.notredamecollege.edu/support-ndc/ways-to-give). Your contribution will provide emergency assistance to a student who has suffered a personal tragedy or crisis, and would otherwise be forced to leave school. You could also choose to make the donation in a friend's name or as a memorial to a departed loved one—it is a true gift of love that will make a difference to the young men and women whose lives will be changed because you cared.

The Notre Dame College family, my family and I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a blessed new year.

Sincerely,



**Thomas G. Kruczek**

PRESIDENT



**We celebrate  
those who give  
of themselves  
in service.**