

## Mount Mary College Commissioning Ceremony for Faculty<sup>1</sup>

*Leader:* Loving God, the source of all knowledge and truth, give to all who teach, wisdom, strength and compassion in all they undertake, and grant that all who learn may be open to your transforming power.

*All:*           **Amen.**

*Leader:* The mission statement of Mount Mary College expresses our commitment to **competency**, integrating the liberal arts with career preparation. Mother Theresa, the founder of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, once said: “A well-educated teacher can more easily accept persons where they are and help them than one who is inadequately educated; good will does not supply for lack of competence.”

Will you strive for excellence in teaching and learning, honing your professional skills and drawing out the best in our students?

*Faculty:*       **We will develop and offer our gifts with integrity.**

*Leader:* Mount Mary College promotes a diverse learning **community**. Mother Caroline, the one whose leadership established the School Sisters of Notre Dame in North America, was bi-cultural, bi-lingual, and intent on establishing schools and communities that promoted right relationship.

Will you foster an environment which witnesses to unity in a divided world?

*Faculty:*       **In the spirit of Mother Caroline we will promote the unity in diversity, which carries forward the principles on which the idea of a university was originally founded.**

*Leader:* The promotion of a deep sense of social justice arising from sensitivity to moral values and Christian principles is pivotal to the mission of Mount Mary College, and key to the development of **compassion** within our students. The Constitution of the School Sisters of Notre Dame recalls that “Deep faith and high courage urged Mother Theresa to risk already meager resources...Like her, we educate... and...exclude no one from our concern.”

Will your educational efforts not only concentrate on competence but also focus on what it takes to live justly in our society?

*Faculty:*       **We will work toward character development in our students, which includes a sense of their interconnection with all other beings. We will do our utmost to aid them in their personal transformation and move them to help transform our world.**

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<sup>1</sup> Contributed by Joan Penzenstadler, SSND, Vice-President for Mission/Identity

*Leader:* Encouraging leadership, we call forth **commitment** in our students, commitment that emerges when one is convinced of one's dignity and one's solidarity with all of creation.

In your call to be educators at Mount Mary College, will you help to grow a sense of commitment in our students?

*Faculty:* We pledge ourselves to fostering an environment for the development of the whole person, which includes the kind of commitment leadership requires.

*Leader:* We welcome you into this community of scholars. May you experience the support of your colleagues as together we realize the mission and vision of Mount Mary College.