



CLASS LETTER 2019

Dear Class of 1969,

Happy New Year! It seems like only yesterday that I was sending new year greetings, but a whole year has passed. For me, this is the first year without both parents. But, I still had much to be thankful for and many beautiful memories of past family gatherings.

Well, class of 1969, this is the year. We will be celebrating our 50th ANNIVERSARY of our graduating from Mount Mary! At our 45th, we said we wanted to reach as many of our classmates as possible and make this a real "blowout"! We hope to have as many as possible present in person during the actual celebration. Please check out your contact list and reach out to those classmates you haven't talked with recently. However, with the advances in technology, we should think about using Google Hangout or Skype to share some of the times with our classmates who may not be able to make it in person. Think about it and let me know what you think about the idea. Also, who would like to work with me on our 50th Anniversary Committee? One of the early tasks would be to divide our class list and try to make personal contact with our classmates. We would check contact info, see how many might be coming, check if there would be interest in a video chat if they can't come, and solicit other ideas for our celebration.

If you are on Facebook, remember to check out our Class of 1969 page under the Mount Mary Alumnae Association page. If you have trouble finding it, contact me or the Alumnae Office. Some of our classmates using Facebook include Mary Seramur, Patty Benham Wallenburg, Mimi Ruff Nolan, Patricia Ann Beltran Taylor, Sharon Power, Betty Thoresen Bruhn, Patricia Black and Dian K. Castle.

There are many new changes on campus. The Teacher Resource Center where I worked is now being moved to the first floor of the library. I am hoping by the time you read this the main move would have taken place. As of the end of June, I officially retired. However, I am assisting on a volunteer basis to help my friends in the library with the move. Sister Georgeann also retired at the end of November after 42 years. I know that many of you may not know her personally, but she headed Building and Grounds and was groomed by Sister Mary John. If you returned to campus for any activity in the last 42 years, you probably ran into her. Her attention to people and the grounds of Mount Mary was/is evident. But, never fear, she returned to campus to bake her famous fruitcakes in December.

STAYING CONNECTED

Do you know what exciting things are happening at Mount Mary? When the next alum event is? If you would like to continue to receive news, invitations, e-communications, and more from Mount Mary, please update your contact info with the Office of Alumnae Relation by calling [\(414\) 930-3025](tel:4149303025) or emailing mmu-alumnae@mtmary.edu.

By keeping your contact info current, you stay informed about our classmates through class letters and the Mount Mary Magazine. In each magazine, we celebrate and remember the lives of our classmates and their families in the [In Memoriam](#) listing, and we learn about their professional and personal accomplishments, weddings, births and more in [Class Notes](#). Please submit any class notes or in-memoriam notices at mtmary.edu/alumnae/update.

Another great way to stay connected is by liking the Alumnae Association Facebook page. Here, you will find the most up-to-date information, event reminders and news from your fellow alums.

GETTING TOGETHER

Alumnae Weekend and Reunion is a fun, festive time for us to reconnect with old friends and come back to Mount Mary. Each class is invited to participate with special recognition to the milestone anniversary years. In the past few years, there have been class programs, lunches, entertainment, presentations and so much more. What would you like to see at this year's Alumnae Weekend and Reunion? Let's talk with our classmates and brainstorm some ideas to send to the Office of Alumnae Relations.

More information about Alumnae Weekend and Reunion will be available in summer.

MOUNT MARY UNIVERSITY AND ALUMNAE EVENTS FOR 2019

- **Mount Mary Week Celebration** | Feb.18-22 | Including "Show the Love" Giving Day on Feb. 20
- **Women's Leadership Institute: Voices of Leadership** featuring Jessica Shortall | Mar. 21
- **CREO Fashion Show** | Friday, May 10
- **50th Starving Artists' Show (Alumnae Association Scholarship Fundraiser)** | Sunday, Sept. 8
- **Alumnae Weekend and Reunion** | The Weekend of October 6
- **Alumnae Christmas Luncheon** | MILWAUKEE: Tuesday, Dec. 3 | CHICAGO: Tuesday, Dec. 10

PLEASE STAY TUNED FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS IN 2019!

For full event descriptions and registration, visit mtmary.edu/alumnae/events.

Personal Message from Mount Mary President, Dr. Christine Pharr

These days when I think of generosity, I often think of our alums. Whether you graduated 5 years ago or 50 years ago, I'm continuously inspired by your ongoing gifts of time, talent and treasure.

Some of you have volunteered tirelessly for decades. I see you at the Starving Artists' Show or making popcorn for students. I know some classes have set up endowments for student scholarships, and individuals make donations to all sorts of things including the unrestricted fund, which allows Mount Mary to use the funds where they're needed most. You might be interested to know that during the last fiscal year, alums donated nearly \$1.7 million, largely for student scholarships. And I know you pray for us because I can feel it and see it in the transformation of lives happening on campus.

What I want to tell you is that whether you give \$50 a year or an estate gift, whether you have volunteered for years or only once, whether you share your expertise with us, recruit for us or pray for us...whatever you give... we are extremely grateful. You are paying it forward to the next generation of women who are now attending Mount Mary as they seek to find their way, their calling, and their vocation in life.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

Christine

ANNUAL CLASS GIVING & MOUNT MARY GIVING DAY

Mount Mary shaped us into the people we are today. It was the place where we built lifelong friendships and gained knowledge and learned lessons that have sustained throughout our lives. I want to ensure that the future remains bright and full of potential for today's students. Will you join me in making a gift to Mount Mary this year?

The best time to give is during Mount Mary's 2nd annual **Giving Day on February 20** from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. You don't want to miss this opportunity. **All gifts will be matched dollar-for-dollar through the federal Title III Grant** that Mount Mary received in fall 2018. It doesn't matter whether you give \$10 or \$1,000 because every gift makes a difference in continuing the Mount Mary tradition.

Throughout the day, there will be special challenges that unlock additional money including the opportunity to make a gift in honor of your favorite program and a virtual scavenger of Mount Mary. Let's show the love and ensure that all students have opportunities to discover their passions and become world changers. Visit app.mobilecause.com/vf/MMULove to learn more.

If you have any questions about giving to Mount Mary, please call 414-930-3034 or email mmu-dev@mtmary.edu.

I hope you enjoyed reading about news and updates from our class and Mount Mary. Wishing you and your family a blessed, joyous, and healthy new year. Looking forward to seeing many of you at some of the events in 2019, especially our 50th ANNIVERSARY! Meanwhile, you can also reach me at impiana5563@att.net or via the Alumnae Office.

Sincerely,
Isabel Maria Piana
Class Delegate



Mount Mary, Here's to You!

Mount Mary, here's to you. We are your daughters loyal and true.
We pledge you our song and devotion life long.
We cheer and revere just you, Mount Mary.
Years may pass away, with you our hearts will always stay.
Our Mount Mary name will ever be the same,
We'll love you as we do today.

