

MOUNT SAINT MARY ACADEMY



Special Anniversary Mass Celebrates Milestones

Made by S. Lisa D. Gambacorto, RSM, Ed.S.

WATCHUNG – S. Lisa D. Gambacorto, RSM, Ed.S., Directress of Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung, marked two significant milestones this year which have been referred to as her 20-40. She celebrated 20 years as the Directress of Mount Saint Mary Academy and 40 years as a Sister of Mercy.

While a Gala and special celebratory Mass were planned for the spring of 2020, they were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic which, at the time, limited large gatherings. The Mass was rescheduled for Sunday, October 25, 2020 with Bishop Paul Bootkoski and Msgr. William Benwell officiating on Angels of Victory Field. A celebratory dinner was held afterward.

S. Lisa's 20 years as the Directress of Mount Saint Mary Academy have been filled with notable accomplishments. She was responsible for the renovation of the science labs, gymnasium and tennis courts along with the creation of the student center, the Saint Joseph classrooms, the Angels of Victory Field and the Snack Shack. She also upgraded the technology infrastructure and brought one-to-one computing to the Academy.

S. Lisa had the vision to bring remote learning to the Academy through the launch of Moodle. She also instituted the Student Assistance Program and the Peer Ministry programs. She added seven interscholastic sports: Volleyball, Cross Country, Equestrian, Indoor Track, Spring Track, Lacrosse and Golf to the Academy's roster of athletic offerings.

Finally, S. Lisa prepared the Academy for the future by establishing high-quality security systems for the campus. While these are some of the physical representations of her term as Directress, S. Lisa's contributions to recruiting, mentoring, and retaining a highly-competent and committed team of faculty and staff, her loving sense of humor, her many years of varied experience and her unwavering support of Mercy Core Values are leadership attributes that cannot be adequately quantified.

S. Lisa is passionate about Mount Saint Mary Academy. Her leadership style is that of an innovative visionary. She leads by example and is goal-oriented, always moving the Academy

forward. She is a compassionate woman of integrity and, in short, makes everyone around her better.

In the fall of 2019, S. Lisa completed the renovation of Mercy Hall, bringing to life a theater that was only a dream a few years ago.

In celebration of her 20-40 and to thank her, the Sisters of Mercy MidAtlantic, the Board of Trustees and Sister Lisa's Administration revealed that the new theater will be formally named "The Sister Lisa Gambacorto Theater" at Mercy Hall.

Please join us in wishing Sr. Lisa congratulations.

Thank you, Sister Lisa for sharing your gifts and talents with us. We love you!