

Resolution SS1819-02**February 11, 2019**

Catherine Gabanic, Senator - Pasquerilla East Hall
Mark Spretnjak, Senator - Sorin College, Campus Life Council Representative
Aaron Benavides, Director of Faith & Service - Executive Cabinet

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ARCHBISHOP THEODORE MCCARRICK'S
HONORARY DEGREE TO BE REVOKED IMMEDIATELY**

Whereas, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick received an honorary doctor of laws in 2008;

Whereas, a Notre Dame honorary degree recognizes commitment to the University's values, positive contributions to society, high moral integrity, and concern for the common good;

Whereas, allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by now-Archbishop McCarrick have been found "credible and substantiated" by the Review Board of the Archdiocese of New York;

Whereas, the Vatican is investigating similar allegations against McCarrick involving other minors, and other vulnerable adults under his jurisdiction have made similar claims;

Whereas, two dioceses have paid settlements involving allegations against McCarrick;

Whereas, the Vatican has elected to pursue an administrative penal process against McCarrick, which is used only in cases where the evidence is overwhelming, making a full trial unnecessary;

Whereas, many of our peer institutions, including Fordham University, Catholic University of America, and the University of Portland, that have bestowed Archbishop McCarrick an honorary degree have already revoked it;

Whereas, University President Fr. John Jenkins has stated that "the University finds the alleged actions reprehensible and has no reason to question the review board's findings";

Whereas, Archbishop McCarrick's alleged behavior is inconsistent with the Catholic morals the University upholds;

Whereas, the University should be committed to supporting survivors of sexual abuse and building a world free from sexual assault, abuse, and other forms of violence;

Resolved, that the Student Senate hereby calls on the University administration to stand with survivors of sexual abuse, especially those affected by the clergy abuse crisis, and rescind the honorary degree conferred on Archbishop Theodore McCarrick without any further delay.

Gates McGavick, Student Body President