



This issue brings the good news of the appointment of John J. Hurley '78 as the 24th president of Canisius College (page 14).

A little more than 12 years ago, I recruited John to the college to serve as our vice president for college relations. At that time, the college was on the verge of announcing the public phase of what was then the largest fund-raising initiative in the college's history: the \$30 million *Imagine Canisius* campaign. While not a professional fund-raiser, John brought to the campaign his knowledge of Canisius, its alumni base and the Buffalo community. Three short years later, we concluded the campaign with \$38.8 million raised. And today, we are closing in on \$70 million raised for the *Legacy of Leadership* campaign.

John is not just a fund-raiser, though. He has worked closely with me on a wide variety of matters and in 2007, became the college's executive vice president in addition to his roles in development and public relations. These experiences will put him in good stead as he assumes the role of president next summer.

I am grateful to the Board of Trustees and the presidential search committee chaired by Rev. Michael F. Tunney, S.J., professor of fine arts and rector of the Jesuit Community at Canisius. By moving expeditiously with this process, they have provided us with an ample transition period that will serve the college well. After all, John will only be the third president of the college in the last 44 years.

Many alumni and friends have asked me what I will be doing when my term at Canisius ends. In the life of a Jesuit, this is a decision that is made in consultation with one's provincial. I will be discussing this with our New York provincial, Rev. David S. Ciancimino, S.J., in the months ahead. I can say this: I have always enjoyed new challenges and I am looking forward to serving the needs of the Society of Jesus in the future.

With my best wishes for a healthy and prosperous new year!

God bless you,

Vincent M. Cooke, S.J.

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Rev. Vincent M. Cooke, S.J.

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