



## Remembering Father David M. Clarke, S.J. April, 2015

It is with great sadness that we share with the Regis community the passing of Father David M. Clarke, S.J., one of its greatest and most influential leaders. Regis University mourns the loss of Fr. Clarke and we remember and celebrate his impact on this institution over the years.

Fr. Clarke first encountered Jesuit education at Gonzaga University, where he received a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree in organic chemistry. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Northwestern University. His experiences with the Jesuit faith at Gonzaga inspired him to enter the Society of Jesus (Oregon Province) in 1953, and he was ordained a priest in 1964.

Fr. Clarke pursued a professional career in academics and administrative positions at colleges across the U.S. and eventually became the 22nd president of Regis University in 1972. After stepping down as president after a 20-year tenure, he served as Chancellor for the University until his retirement in 2012.

Considered an educational entrepreneur, the former president of Regis was instrumental in founding the College for Professional Studies, which has brought educational opportunities to generations of adult learners. Later he formed the foundation of what is today the Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions by bringing in the nursing program from Loretto Heights College when the institution closed its doors in 1988. His innovative and successful leadership of the University changed the lives of countless students, alumni, faculty, staff and community members.

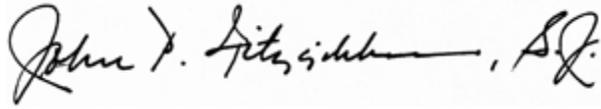
"The legacy of Father Clarke runs deep at Regis University," Father John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., president, said. "His visionary leadership pioneered Regis in adult education and his passion for education was illustrated time and again by his dedication to this institution."

In January 2013, Regis University dedicated the David M. Clarke, S.J., Hall to the visionary leader. The Regis community will always cherish the memory of Father Clarke for his devotion to the future of education at Regis University and his impact on so many people during the course of his rich and meaningful life.

Vigil and funeral services for Fr. Clarke will be held at the Gonzaga Jesuit community this Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11. Details are pending, but a memorial Mass is tentatively scheduled in the St. John Francis Regis Chapel at Regis University on Saturday, April 25 at 10 a.m. with a reception to follow.

Memorial gifts may be made to Regis University supporting the David M. Clarke, S.J., Fund, established to honor his dedication to entrepreneurship, leadership and adult student education.

Gratefully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J." The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J.  
President