

Mike Fay's Invocation from the Class Gift Dedication Ceremony:

Holy and Most Gracious God, we are gathered here to commemorate, to remember and to dedicate. We commemorate the effort by so many in the Class of 1968 to support and fund the rotunda of this amazing new library. We remember those of our class who gave the last full measure of devotion to their men, their friends, their country and their God. In a few minutes we will dedicate this rotunda and the incredible statue of Thomas Jefferson, a statue that, like this class, has been refined by fire and through fire, come out toasted, marked, scarred and made whole through your grace. Yes, the statue suffered as we have suffered and bears scars as we bear them, purified like the sons of Levi. Holy Father, you remind us that in our difficulties and in our suffering, you are present; your constant love is how you share our pain. Today, we are witnesses to our success. Those successful men who have given much to this Academy have given more for the future, and this hall, this rotunda, serves as a reminder of their gifts, their sacrifice and their love. May we always remember You, O God, as the source, creator, redeemer and sanctifier. In Your name we pray, Amen.