



Citation for the Class of 1972

Golden Jubilee Medal Ceremony, Reunion 2022



“If the young are silent, who will speak?”

Father Vincent Mathews knew his audience quite well when he gave the invocation at the Class of 1972 graduation. The Women of '72 were not silent! Growing up through the dramatic cultural changes of the 1960's, by the time they arrived at Trinity in the Fall of 1968 they had recently witnessed the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Bobby Kennedy, the riots in Washington and chaos in Chicago. During their college days they would come to know the place names: Woodstock and Kent State, Hanoi and Saigon, Cambodia. Witnesses to change and even revolution at every turn: Nixon in China, women in the Boston Marathon, and a third rate burglary at the Watergate apartment building.

Galvanized by the revolutionary fervor in the world beyond Michigan Avenue, they spent countless hours over meals in Alumnae or meetings in Social Hall or the Rat or amid the clattering typewriters and smoke-filled haze of the *trinity times* office debating, plotting, pursuing ideas about the need for change at Trinity --- more student self-governance, more modern rules, a more liberal and liberating environment where women could flourish in a rapidly changing society.

The Class of 1972 took their loud and proud voices into their communities beyond graduation day, advocates and activists for a more peaceful world, a more just and fair society. In their work and service they have borne witness to the most profound values of Trinity: intellectual rigor, honor and integrity, service to others, knowledge as the servant of faith. Teachers and writers, lawyers and health care professionals, artists and business executives and scholars and world travelers, mothers and wives and partners in creating families for a new century of so many new and previously unknown challenges.

Today you come home to Trinity, raising your voices once more to let *alma mater* know all that you have seen and heard and learned on your journeys across half a century. You are far from done, and you will not fade to silence.

On this, the joyful celebration of your Golden Jubilee, we present the Class of 1972 with your 50th reunion medals with pride and gratitude for all that you have achieved, and with still-large expectations for all that you will still accomplish as women who are unafraid to speak, who know that you still have the power, the wisdom, and the fire of the spirit to change the world a little bit more each day.

Congratulations, 1972!