



## Golden Jubilee Citation for the Class of 1966

*“We...are inheritors of a revolution. The speed of change in our times is rivalling the speed of light.” Trinilogue 1966 quoting Sr. Margaret Claydon, President, in a speech to the NCEA*

Arriving at Trinity in the fall of 1962, the Class of 1966 were truly daughters of an extraordinary revolution in American culture. During your Trinity days, you witnessed the Cold War and Space Race, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the British Invasion, the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965, the escalation of the War in Vietnam and ever-widening student protests, the civil rights and women’s rights movements growing ever louder and, at times, more violent, the evolving counterculture and stunning changes in Roman Catholic liturgy and customs. The nuns still wore habits, but the times, they were a-changin’...

With the world beyond Michigan Avenue in a time of disruption, eruption and sometimes-chaos, the Class of 1966 found great good fortune in your exceptional college president who was one of the most forward-thinking educators of her time. Sr. Margaret Claydon challenged her students at every opportunity:

*“One of the basic rights of a free person is to be informed truthfully about public events. Our students must be taught from the very beginning that this right is theirs, that they have a duty to seek the facts, the right to investigate truth freely... A student must develop enough interest in society to insure motivation to remain informed all her life. The analysis of controversial issues will around such interest, and no rigidity or timidity should interfere with such analysis. For the times in which we live, rigidity or timidity have no place. These times, these problems cry out for courage, for openness.” (Sr. Margaret Claydon)*

In your student days, the Class of 1966 lived this philosophy robustly, welcoming Father Phillip Berrigan to Social Hall, teaching students at Junior Village, and daring to challenge some of Trinity’s own rules and customs even as you enjoyed the venerable Trinity traditions with creative gusto --- huge decorations in the Well on Class Day, and well-organized songs and routines for Cap & Gown, Christmas and graduation. You still had only the landline phones on the hall but you knew a massive revolution in communication technology was on the way. You witnessed the opening of the “new” library and the blessing of Kerby Hall, and saw Sr. Margaret’s large plans for Trinity’s campus modernization and expansion --- an ongoing quest, a portion of which we realized today in the dedication of the Payden Academic Center.

From those delightful and challenging days in the mid-1960’s at Trinity, this class took Sr. Margaret’s message of courage and forthright analysis out to the world. These are women who made clear their ambition to make their mark, to blaze trails, to defy convention, to change lives for the better.

The Class of 1966 soon could claim some of the most accomplished women in positions of influence all over the country -- ambassadors, doctors, bankers, magazine publishers and restaurateurs, lawyers, professors and college presidents, journalists and ministers, counselors, CEO’s and visionary agents of change establishing hope and opportunity for migrant workers in Apopka and children in classrooms around the world. You would also proclaim loudly that your proudest accomplishments are your children, grandchildren and strong families, the steadfast foundations you have assured for succeeding generations.

Sr. Margaret challenged you to “...become leaders of the revolution... a demanding and challenging task. But with faith and trust, courage and boldness and knowledge, we can...believe and...live by the belief that indeed ‘one person can make a difference.’” You are not done making that difference, not at all, women of ’66. But you have made a good beginning, and as we celebrate your 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion today, we are so pleased to salute your courage and boldness, and we express our deep gratitude to you for the leadership and fortitude you have demonstrated across these five decades of change, challenge and commitment to Trinity’s values. For leading the revolution in the best ways possible, Trinity is pleased to bestow upon the Class of 1966 your 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee medals.

*~ Given by President Patricia McGuire, June 4, 2016*