



Interim President Dr. Matthew Giordano

Welcome message to faculty, staff and students, Delivered August 27, 2018

Dear faculty, staff, and students,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 academic year! We've been preparing all summer for this day and are thrilled to have you on campus as part of the Villa community.

Our core value this year is transformation. Villa currently is experiencing significant transformation, including me serving as Interim President in the wake of Sr. Marcella Marie Garus's retirement. Returning students, rest assured that, despite a number of personnel changes, our commitment to your education and to your needs is unwavering. More information about some of the changes will be coming shortly, but again, if you need help or clarification about anything, just ask.

To our students, I look forward to getting to know more of you and to witnessing and hearing about your transformation throughout this year. Education can change your life in many ways, and an education rooted in Villa's mission and core values truly has the power to transform your mind, heart, and spirit. Take advantage of all of the opportunities on campus to allow yourself to learn, be challenged, find inspiration, and grow.

You are the reason Villa Maria College exists. I wish you all the best as we start this academic year and pray that you achieve all of your goals.

If you get a chance, stop by my office and say hi. Let's have a great year together.

To the faculty and staff, I want to express my appreciation to all of you for your work over the last several months to prepare for this day, particularly during this period of institutional transition, and wish you luck as we kick off the new year. These first few days will continue to be hectic, bustling, and stressful. I hope that they are also energizing and fun, especially as we get to know our new students and reconnect with our returning students. Please continue to do what we do best at Villa—making sure that each individual student receives the resources, support, and attention to succeed. If we all work together and focus on serving our students with our trademark spirit of professionalism, compassion, empathy, and positivity, everyone—faculty, staff, and of course, students themselves—will emerge from these first few days poised to have a rewarding semester.

Sincerely,

Dr. Matthew Giordano,
Interim President