Middle States Re-Accreditation: Self-Study Update

By Dr. Martin Kilbridge

Today, our Middle States Association (MSA) Standards Committees, composed of representatives from across our various stakeholder groups, met for a second time as part of our ongoing Self-Study. These committees are examining the state of Holy Names through the lens of six areas: Culture and Identity, Governance, Infrastructure, Program, Practice, and Charism and Faith Formation.

The work involves more than simply determining how well we meet MSA's standards. It is also an opportunity to ask ourselves a more important question: How well are we meeting the high standards we set for ourselves as a Holy Names community? We have much to celebrate, and we also recognize that there are areas where we can grow and improve. Both are important parts of an honest and meaningful process of self-reflection.

The committees are making excellent progress and are scheduled to meet once more in December. In the meantime, our Self-Study Planning Team will begin reviewing their findings and recommendations, looking for the common themes and priorities that will help shape the next seven years at Holy Names.

Ultimately, this work will lead to the identification of three to five major strategic objectives that will serve as the foundation for our next Strategic Plan. While the formal process will continue into the spring, the conversations taking place now are already helping us think more intentionally about who we are, where we want to go, and how we can continue to provide an exceptional educational experience for our young women.

We are grateful to everyone who has contributed their time, insight, and perspective to this important work. A strong school is one that takes the time to reflect honestly on its accomplishments, acknowledge its challenges, and remain committed to becoming better. That is precisely what this process invites us to do.