



Saint John's

UNIVERSITY

Collegeville, Minnesota

Doctor of Laws

Honoris Causa

to

DIETRICH REINHART, OSB

Brother Dietrich, in speaking with passion about the vitality of the liberal arts, about why a 1,500-year-old Benedictine tradition matters in a 21st-century classroom, and about how arts and culture signify the markers of human longing and aspiration, you brought clarity to purpose.

In asking the big questions and exploring the big ideas, you taught that the search for answers is an ongoing discovery of the human narrative – a quest that for each generation probes the frontiers of scientific thought and winds through the language of art, music, and poetry.

As a Benedictine monk and historian, you took the long view, with one foot planted in the past and secure in the knowledge that history, however fascinating on its own terms, is most useful as a guide to understanding the present and preparing for the future. With its direct historical link to the creation of medieval manuscripts and as a gift to future generations, *The Saint John's Bible* represents your greatest joy, rooted as it is in the Benedictine tradition of *lectio divina* but created to inspire a lively encounter with scripture in a new millennium.

With your unwavering focus on the mission of Saint John's "to renew the fabric of community from one generation to the next," you understood that the cultivation of a rich inner life will sustain our students through challenges we cannot yet imagine. To that end, you set the foundation for The Benedictine Institute at Saint John's and envisioned its success with your prescient observation, "Something wondrous is afoot."

For your unselfish devotion to generations of students, for the deep gladness of your leadership that inspired continuous commitment to a work in progress, and for your conviction that at Saint John's "the best days are yet to come," Saint John's University recognizes you with profound gratitude and affection, and posthumously confers upon you

BROTHER DIETRICH REINHART, OSB

The Doctor of Laws

honoris causa

On this seventeenth day of April, two thousand and nine