

Opening Convocation, Fall 2005
Firestone Fieldhouse
August 31, 2005

Blessed father, God of mercy and compassion, we come to you as your children asking a blessing for our school year. But before we pray for ourselves, we pause in our busy schedules to lay before you the needs of all who have been affected by the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. We pray all who have lost loved ones, for all who have been displaced, for all who mourn this day in the face of such widespread loss and destruction. We pray also for the relief and rescue workers, sustain them by your grace and give them strength for their task. We pray for generous hearts to respond to unimaginable need. In particular give comfort to our students who come from areas torn apart by this hurricane.

And for our school year, O God, may we give glory to you for all that transpires. Give us hearts of compassion and fill us with joy. Grant us joy in our learning, joy in our serving, and joy in our relationships with you and those around us.

In the name of your blessed son we pray, Amen

D'Esta Love
University Chaplain