

## 2024 Alumnus of the Year – Rev. Daniel Hendrickson, S.J., PhD '89

After graduating from Mount Michael and attending Marquette University for his BA, Rev. Hendrickson returned to Mount Michael as a residential dean, yearbook advisor, and theology teacher. While teaching at Mount Michael, it was noted that he was an exceptional young teacher who could command the attention and respect of seniors, despite not being much older than the students.

Rev. Hendrickson currently serves as the 25th president of Creighton University. His priorities since becoming president in 2015 include bolstering the role of humanities in higher education, embracing a global focus, and enlarging Creighton's health sciences educational reach.

During Hendrickson's tenure, Creighton has seen enrollment grow to more than 8,700 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students; achieved greater national recognition; and opened a \$100 million health sciences campus in Phoenix, making it one of the largest Catholic health professions educators in the U.S. Creighton has also achieved recognition for undergraduate teaching, research, and internship opportunities. With Hendrickson's leadership, Creighton recently launched its most ambitious fundraising campaign, Forward Blue, to raise \$650 million in support of scholarships, campus improvements, and mission-driven services and programs.

Hendrickson's other achievements include authoring *Jesuit Higher Education in a Secular Age: A Response to Charles Taylor and the Crisis of Fullness*, published in 2022. The book explores the history and relevance of the liberal arts and humanities and how Jesuit education aids students' self-awareness, sense of global solidarity, and aptitude for inspiration, awe, and gratitude.

Rev. Hendrickson truly embodies what it means to be a Mount Michael graduate. He has excelled academically, been a conduit for advancing the minds of the younger generations, and a passionate advocate of the Catholic faith. We are honored to recognize him as our Alumnus of the Year.

