

Br. Roy George '62 Remarks  
Stanner 125 Mass  
November 22, 2017

Good morning. Welcome family, friends, alumni, faculty, and students. We gather this morning in Thanksgiving – for it is the season to be thankful and to celebrate 125 years of what matters at St. Ann's and Molloy. As we prepare to celebrate this liturgy together, let me share some reflections on 125 years of what matters.

It all began with St. Ann's Academy, founded by the Marist Brothers 125 years ago. I never saw St. Ann's Academy, but out of curiosity I often go to the corner of 76<sup>th</sup> Street and Lexington Avenue. Now there stands a big white condo building. I have heard stories from many older brothers, about the collection of old buildings, the dorms for the resident students, the old church that was their gym, the courtyard for assemblies and play...It was a real beehive of activity – a real family spirit. We always have a reminder of St. Ann's – it's the statue that adorned the Academy, now in the courtyard of Esopus, and in our own courtyard at Molloy. But for us, what matters is here, at Molloy.

As a student, what mattered was friendship, guidance, school pride, and a good education (even though I had summer school session in my sophomore year). All the good things mattered, and it was in my senior year – especially on my senior retreat – that everything mattered. My Molloy years culminated in my decision to become a Marist Brother.

Molloy and what mattered was important to me. Fortunately for me, the things that mattered were more than my four years here as a high school student. Molloy helped me grow. I did my student teaching here. Molloy helped me to be of service while helping students, especially those in trouble. Molloy helped me develop teamwork, working with the entire faculty over the years. Molloy helped me show compassion and care, especially that awful day of September 11<sup>th</sup>. Molloy helped me develop leadership as we prepared and welcomed young women in 2000. Molloy helps me today, to share the wonder of God's creation – and to teach a little chemistry – each day.

St. Ann's / Molloy, 125 years of What Matters...this school was a gift to me and hopefully a gift to you.

It is a fact that the Church is not the building. The Church is the people.

So too – then and now – is Molloy and St. Ann's. It is not a building. It is people. It is all of us, past and present.

I recall a cheer often heard at games and competitions. "We are AM!" We are what matters!

So during this Liturgy, be thankful for the grace and gifts the Lord has given all of us, and pray for God's continued blessings of what matters.