



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Diocese of Wilmington

Catholic Charities to honor Dr. Patrick Harker at Annual Tribute Dinner in March 2012

September 6, 2011 --- (Wilmington, DE) --- Dr. Patrick Harker, 26th president of the University of Delaware, will receive the Msgr. Thomas J. Reese Award at Catholic Charities Annual Tribute Dinner on Wednesday, March 28, 2012.

The Most Reverend W. Francis Malooly, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Wilmington, will present the award at the dinner to be held at the Chase Center on the Riverfront.

The Award, created in 1989 in memory of Msgr. Thomas J. Reese, community activist and longtime director of Catholic Social Services, the forerunner of Catholic Charities, recognizes exemplary individuals who have demonstrated a deep commitment to promoting and restoring the well-being of people – Catholic Charities' mission.

"We are privileged to recognize Patrick Harker for his commitment to community service. Dr. Harker is an accomplished man and has a busy professional life, but has found the time, and the passion, to devote his talents to those less fortunate. He is a true reflection of the spirit of Monsignor Reese, and is a deserving recipient of this award."

Dr. Harker assumed the presidency of the University of Delaware in July 2007, and also is professor of Business Administration in the Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics and a professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering in UD's College of Engineering. He has established a number of new research centers to support the goals of UD's strategic plan Path to Prominence™, including the Delaware Environmental Institute and the UD Energy Institute, and the Office of Economic Innovation and Partnerships.

Dr. Harker's nonprofit leadership includes services as a member of the boards of Catholic Relief Services, Christiana Care Health Systems, First State Innovation, and Easter Seals of Delaware. He is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management, a member of the Regional Leadership Initiative Steering Committee at the Council on Competitiveness and a trustee of Howard University.

A parishioner of St. Thomas More Oratory in Newark, Dr. Harker and his wife, Emily Saaty Harker, have three children.

To learn more about Catholic Charities Annual Tribute Dinner or to support the Tribute Dinner through sponsorships or ticket purchases, visit the Catholic Charities webpage for the dinner at <http://www.cdow.org/tribute.html>.