

For Immediate Release:

AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL TRUSTEES NAME PRESIDENT

SPARKILL, NY. (May 23, 2017.) The Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, New York, the sponsors and trustees of Aquinas High School in the Bronx, announce that Ms. Anna E. Parra has been appointed President of Aquinas High School. She succeeds Sister Margaret Ryan who is retiring after a fifty-year tenure as teacher, Principal and most recently President of Aquinas High School.

As President, Ms. Parra will be responsible for the overall operation of the school with particular responsibility for institutional advancement, finances and strategic planning. She will be the school's primary spokesperson and faith leader.

Ms. Parra was appointed on May 9, 2017 by the Board of Trustees following a recommendation by a presidential search committee and the School Board of Aquinas High School. She will assume the new role on July 3, 2017.

Previously, as the Executive Director of Development at Mt. St. Ursula High School, Ms. Parra oversaw a successful advancement and public relations program as well as the school's marketing initiatives. She has served as a member of Mt. St. Ursula's administrative team, Capital Campaign Committee, Finance Committee, and Strategic Planning Committee. Prior to this she was the Acting and Assistant Director of the Annual Cardinal's Campaign for the Archdiocese of New York.

Sister Mary Murray, OP, President of the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, commented, *"Ms. Parra brings a wealth of experience. We are excited to welcome her and we have great confidence in her ability to continue developing and growing the life and mission of Aquinas High School."*

Ms. Parra received a BA in Finance, an MS in Communication Studies and an Advanced Certificate in Communications Management and Media.



Ms. Anna E. Parra, newly appointed President of Aquinas High School.

###

About the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill

As members of a ministerial, apostolic religious congregation, the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill embrace Jesus' invitation to share in his mission. Committed to ministry for justice and reverence for all creation, Sparkill Dominicans live and minister throughout the United States and abroad in Pakistan. The Sisters' ministries span a variety of fields: education, administration, health care, pastoral care and preaching, social services, senior housing and health, and advocacy for those who are economically poor and marginalized. The Dominican Sisters of Sparkill are responsible for founding and staffing numerous schools in the New York and St. Louis, Missouri metropolitan areas as well as in Pakistan. For additional information, please visit www.sparkill.org or connect with us on [Facebook](#).

About Aquinas High School

Aquinas High School is a community of faith and learning rooted in the Catholic tradition and committed to excellence in the education of young women - mind and heart, body and spirit. Since its founding by the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill in 1923, Aquinas has welcomed each new wave of New York City's population, finding the face of God in every student and forming a body of Aquinas women with a heart for the whole human family. Through a challenging curriculum with a broad spectrum of co-curricular activities and community service, Aquinas calls forth women who are confident, knowledgeable and committed to building a better world. For additional information, please visit www.aquinashs.org