

**Fei-Lin Scruggs '12**  
**Reflection**

Good morning, my name is Fei-Lin Scruggs and I am a senior here at Gibbons. Thank you all for coming today to celebrate this special day in Cardinal Gibbons History with us. Bishop Burbidge, thank you for all of your support throughout this entire process. We are very glad that you are here with us today and participating in the Ground Breaking ceremony. To all of our Honored Guests who are part of the Board of Trustees, the Building Committee, the Diocese of Raleigh, Alumni, Friends, and Supporters of our school, thank you for all of your hard work over the past six years. Our vision is now coming to life and we are all thrilled about these plans.

By now most of you have heard about all of the new facilities that are being added. I have been fortunate enough to participate in different activities around our school like Franciscan Youth International, National Honor Society, the Retreat Program, and the Dance Department. When I was asked to give this reflection I realized that all of my memories were attached to the facilities where they took place. When I think about my experience with the Dance Department, the first thing that comes into my mind is performing in the theater during our fall and spring shows. This is the time where we not only become closer as a class, but also as a department. The night of the shows is always hectic. Walking around backstage everything you see is a blur. People are excited or nervous, and sometimes a little bit of both. In the dressing rooms and the dance room you will see girls getting dressed and stretching. Before the show we always hold hands and make a circle in the Dance Room to pray. In that moment we have to give it all to God and remember why we love to dance in the first place. Right before you go on stage you stand in wings with your class and try to get a sneak peak at the audience. You notice all of your family, friends, and teachers who are sitting in theater and there to support you. When I walk on stage I

always take a deep breath and try to relax. As soon as those lights come on and I hear the music, I go into my own world. I put all of my emotions into every single step, and every single movement. It is moments like these that I will remember for the rest of my life. And it is the facilities here that make these moments possible. We have been lucky to be here in this building and it is exciting to think that the future students of Gibbons will have similar experiences as well. The new additions will give them the chance to make their own memories in high school.

I have had the privilege along with some of my classmates to serve on our Senior Class Gift Committee. We have decided to make a contribution to the new additions. By now most of you have seen the design plans and noticed our new front entrance. I want you to picture that image in your mind right now. Notice the glass walls, the giant school logo, and those three words we will never forget, "Faith, Service, and Leadership." Now look outside, and see how there is an incline on the roof that leads to the magnificent cross that is part of our school logo. We have made the decision to donate this cross as our Senior Class Gift. It has been an honor to be here these past four years and we are excited to be part of what is coming next for our school. This Gibbons cross is not only a symbol of our faith, but it is also a tangible representation of our class's legacy. We have been truly blessed by this community and this is our chance to say thank you. Cardinal Gibbons High School is not just a school, the building around us is our home and the people around us are our family. This building project is important to all of us because it will foster the next generation of Gibbons students as they create their own memoirs in these new spaces.