



## SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

1904 *Centennial* 2004

*Office of the President*  
February 1, 2005

Mr. Jim Sardonis  
412 Howard Hill Road  
Randolph, VT 05060

Dear Jim:

This past weekend, while walking around the campus, I passed by your striking sculpture in front of the Hoehl Welcome Center. To see Saint Michael covered with snow, yet still showing all the beauty and grace that we admired in the course of this past fall, was a gentle reminder that I really need to share with you how much this statue has been a blessing and a source of joy for the Saint Michael's College community.

Students in the hundreds walk by it every day, and all of our visiting prospective students and their parents see it on their way into the admission office. The location is perfect for this sculpture of the College's patron saint. It is uplifting and forceful, and makes manifest the protection that we seek from the archangel. It is certainly an inspiration for all of our alumni, who have repeatedly congratulated the institution for finally having a visible reminder of our heritage on campus. People love your art, and I think we will be forever grateful for the power and peace that it generates. The fact that the statue was commissioned in memory of those lost in the tragedy of September 11, 2001, has given it an even more emotional and rather touching tone. Vermont granite may be the best medium to express that one needs to remain strong in the face of adversity.

On behalf of a very large community of admirers, I wish to convey our deepest thanks and sincere congratulations. We hope that many more beautiful things may arise from this wonderful beginning.

With best wishes,

Marc A. vanderHeyden

