

**Marilyn M. Keough Hall**  
**Assistant Rector (AR) | Position Description**  
**Fall 2024 - Spring 2025**

There is no failure the Lord's love cannot reverse, no humiliation he cannot exchange for blessing, no anger he cannot dissolve, no routine he cannot transfigure. All is swallowed up in victory. He has nothing but gifts to offer. It remains only for us to find how even the cross can be borne as a gift.

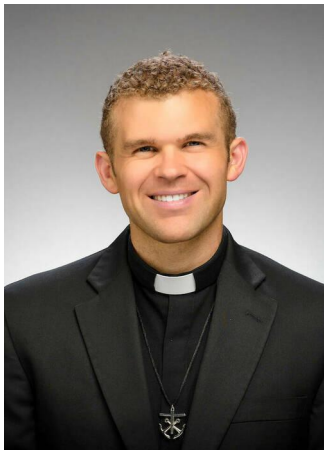
8.118, *Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross*

**Rector's Introduction:** Being a member of Keough's Hall Staff is an honor and a privilege. Those who serve in this role will share in the mission of Holy Cross — that mission of cultivating minds and hearts so that our students will be great forces for good in the world.

At the center of this mission is a deep belief in the capacity for growth which we call **transformation**. Members of Hall Staff have a front row seat in this process as well as plenty of opportunities for growth themselves.

If you are considering being an Assistant Rector (AR) at the University of Notre Dame, ***please consider joining us at Keough Hall***. We have a great Hall Staff for next year and we could use one more person to complete it.

Christ's peace,  
Fr. Gabriel Griggs, csc  
Rector of Marilyn M. Keough Hall  
[ggriggs@nd.edu](mailto:ggriggs@nd.edu) | (574) 631 - 4945



Fr. Gabriel Griggs, csc, has served as the rector of Marilyn M. Keough Hall since the Fall of 2021. Hailing from South Bend, IN, and having graduated from the University of Notre Dame twice (2014, 2021), he holds a BA from the Program of Liberal Studies and an MDiv from the Theology Department. He also studied Applied Math and Statistics and spent a year at Purdue University before entering seminary with Holy Cross.

On serving in residential life, he has this to say: "This ministry has been more rewarding than I could have imagined and I am thankful that I've had the opportunity to begin my priestly service as a rector. It is deeply fulfilling to watch and to assist in the maturation process of our students; and the vantage point of the rector is uniquely privileged in this respect. I have also loved serving with RA's and AR's and I count that as one of the greatest blessings of this role."

## Keough Hall Staff: A **Transformational** Model

**The Basic Vision:** as you discern the possibility of serving as an AR, you will notice that the basic responsibilities of the position are more-or-less the same in every dorm. These responsibilities will include: managing the dorm in the rector's stead a few nights a week, certain administrative tasks, and being the on-the-ground responder to urgent and emergent situations (e.g. floods, health issues, and pastoral situations).

In addition to these standard tasks, AR's in Keough Hall are invited into an opportunity to grow as human persons and to facilitate this growth in our students – especially among the members of our Hall Staff.

This formation happens primarily through weekly meetings with the rector and in the intentional community building that AR's are asked to do with Hall Staff. AR's in Keough, for example, are expected to maintain morale among Hall Staff and host regular social gatherings for the Resident Assistants (RA's).

The primary responsibility of Hall Staff is to make Keough Hall a home for everyone who is randomly assigned to live here: that is, Keough should be a place of rest and relaxation, a place for community and fraternity, a place of study and of worship, and ultimately a place where each member of our community is valued *precisely because they are a member of our community*.

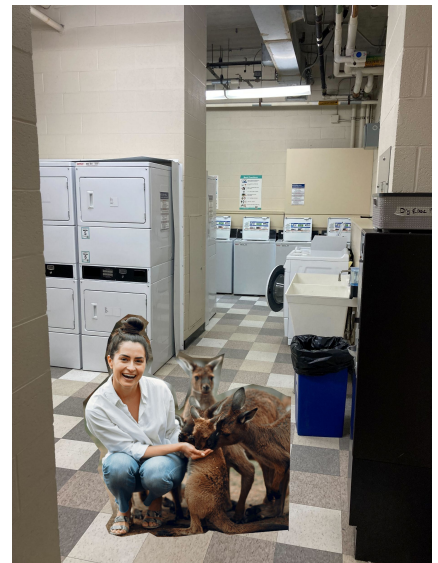
The structure of this model can be delineated in the following ways: **administration, relationships, and transformation.**

**Administration:** A clean and functional hall is an ideal living situation for our students' well-being. It is our responsibility as Hall Staff to ensure such an environment.

AR's and RA's are expected to promptly attend to facilities issues and ensure that Keough Hall is hospitable.

Common areas, such as the laundry room, present a special challenge for us as a dorm – so as members of Hall Staff we lead from the front and do our part to ensure cleanliness.

*At the right:* this lady, and these kangaroos (the mascot of Keough), love having a clean laundry room. (*Keough Clean Campaign, Fall 2022*)



## Keough Hall Staff: A **T**ransformational Model



**Relationships:** in Keough Hall, Hall Staff memorizes the names of every resident *before they even arrive to campus*.

Knowing names and faces is a top priority for us because it is the foundation of building a densely interconnected sense of community. Such a community is one of the primary goods of residential life and it is also one of the greatest tools that we can leverage in creating a vibrant, loving and welcoming culture in Keough Hall.

*Above:* Keough Roo's eating a lot of pulled pork... there's never enough! Notice AR Mitch Koppinger, a Third Year Law Student, is the only one who saw the camera!

*(Keough Men's Hall of the Year Banner Reveal, Fall 2022)*

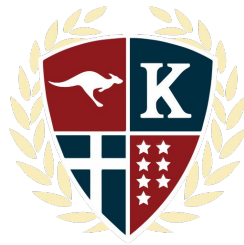


**Transformation:** big minds, bigger hearts, in the service of those in need. That's what we are striving to cultivate in our students in Keough.

Because we are about transformation, we begin each nightly round with prayer. We pray for the young men in our dorm and we ask for God's grace that we may serve them well.

AR's are expected to contribute to this culture of transformation in their own way – and don't worry, whether it is our weekly Men's Group or our Weekly Grotto Walk or something else, we'll find a way to get you involved with our students.

*At the left:* these Roos are actualizing some of their potential in the Keough Weight Room. *(Roos Lift Weights, Fall 2022)*



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It is essential to our mission that we strive to abide so attentively together that people will observe: “See how they love one another.” We will then be a sign in an alienated world: men who have, for love of their Lord, become closet neighbors, trustworthy friends, brothers.

*4.42, Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross*

**Rector’s Conclusion:** If you have made it this far in this document, there is a good chance you are seriously discerning being an AR at the University of Notre Dame and seriously discerning that position in Keough Hall.

The members of our hall staff love serving and living in Keough Hall and each of us would be delighted to share more about it with you. Hall Staff, in a special way, loves serving and living together as brothers – and I have seen directly the way in which that our joy as a hall staff rubs off on the rest of the dorm. It’s a pretty cool thing.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch. My preferred method of contact is [ggriggs@nd.edu](mailto:ggriggs@nd.edu). Similarly, at the AR meet and greet, please feel free to talk to me or one of the current AR’s.

I speak on behalf of the men of Keough in saying this: thank you for taking a look at our hall – and considering calling this place home – and thank you for discerning the AR position at the University of Notre Dame.

Christ’s peace,  
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