



Mr. Lyle Baie
Fightn' Texas Aggie Class of 1967

July 11, 2008

Howdy to all you Aggies from the Nifty 60s!

Sometimes an opportunity presents itself that enables us to really make a difference in our lives and in the lives of others. Although we have been away from daily involvement in campus life for many years now, a lot of things haven't changed at Texas A&M--Midnight Yell, Reveille, Silver Taps, Muster, and St. Mary's.

Texas A&M is known for many traditions, and as Former Students, we are lucky that we can go back to College Station, even after 40 years, and know that many of the traditions that we loved and revered as students are still being practiced today.

The Catholic community at St. Mary's is no exception. As Catholics, we remember the "feel of home" we experienced at St. Mary's and how much our faith grew under the guidance of the priests there. Let me assure you that this faith community is still alive and well, and growing fast!



St. Mary's Parish in the 1960s



St. Mary's Catholic Center in 2008

Although I attended Notre Dame as an undergraduate, my time at St. Mary's rejuvenated my faith life in a major way—and that was before the Aggie Awakening retreat program had even begun at Texas A&M! Each of our five Aggie daughters participated in this profound, Catholic-led retreat, deepening their faith way beyond that which was developed by us, their parents, and a Catholic education in grades K-12.

Aggie Awakening is only one of many ministries that serve the young Catholics at Texas A&M. As of Spring 2008, there were more than 80 organizations, activities and programs at St. Mary's, encompassing everything from student-led retreats to Sunday choirs to the booming pro-life movement. There is something for everyone to get involved with! And, as a father, I appreciated that my daughters had a "home away from

home,” with many fun and safe social activities where they could meet friends who would influence them in positive ways.

In order to help St. Mary’s to continue to be a rich environment for our children and grandchildren to grow in faith and leadership, it is up to us to help.

The concept of class gifts started with the Class of 2005, which has committed more than \$52,000 to the St. Mary’s permanent endowment. Individual students pledged at least \$1,000 to participate in this gift. Inspired by these young Ags, a member of the Classes of the 1940s helped develop the concept of decade class gifts. To date, the Classes of the 1940s have committed more than \$70,000. OVER

Now it is our turn, the members of the Classes of the 1960s, to add our commitment to a permanent endowment fund, the proceeds of which will support this significant Catholic ministry for future generations of Aggies--our grandchildren and beyond.

Please join me in making a significant gift to St. Mary’s so that St. Mary’s will be there to form the future leaders of the Church and society using the riches and wisdom of the Catholic faith.

I am, herein, committing the first \$5,000 to this great endeavor. Thank you for thinking about joining me and others in the Classes of the 1960s.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lyle F. Baie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "B".

Lyle F. Baie '67, '70

P.S Please save the date! The Classes of the 1960s Aggie Catholic Reunion will be the weekend of October 10-12. An invitation will follow. Please join your classmates for dinner and fun on Friday night and a reserved seat at Mass on Sunday! Maybe they'll get out the guitars for groovy Mass music!

