Foreword

In asking us to write a history of Salve Regina College, Sister Lucille's only request was that we write "a readable narrative."

With this in mind we do not presume to produce a completely detailed documented study. Rather, we are motivated to discover within the factual data their underlying significance in terms of the mission of the College as a Mercy Institution of Higher Learning dedicated to an idea rooted in the charism of Venerable Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. We also bring to the interpretation of our sources the conviction that the mysterious presence of God underlies and gives meaning to all history.

It is within this twofold context that we attempt a commentary of what follows in these pages. At the same time we hope to bring to the reader an appreciation of the sense of purpose, of the tireless efforts and creative endeavors of all those privileged to bring to each new moment the enduring endowment of the past renewed and transfigured.

In the light of these considerations, we have chosen to unify the theme of this book under the title *With Courage and Compassion* as a fitting expression of the common consistent response to whatever the circumstances, whatever the needs, whatever the cost.

We wish to thank all who in any way have contributed to the production of this history whether by words of encouragement, helpful researching of sources, or critical reading of the manuscript.

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To all of you we say that gratitude is the memory of the heart.

Sister Mary Jean Tobin, RSM
Sister Mary Eloise Tobin, RSM