

*Remarks by Mr. Keavy, Head of School
National Honor Society Induction, April 29, 2010*

The figure of Our Lady, Star of the Sea is a figure of Mary's guidance and support throughout the calm and storms on the seas of life. This figure of Mary has, for centuries, encouraged mariners to put their trust in her intercession with the Divine Son. So when considering today's event, our newly-established Chapter, and the accomplishments of the students soon to be inducted, I'm thinking about what really guides us.

To students in the assembly and those to be inducted today today, I tell you that no one of us accomplishes alone. You have received guidance enabling you to achieve successes in your academic and personal lives. You have been guided by parents and other family members, many here today, who have dedicated themselves to your success, and are deserving of your appreciation and gratitude. You have received guidance from those of us at Pope John Paul II High School whether in matters of the subjunctive mood or *The Scarlet Letter*, DBQ's or DNA, probability or Punnett squares. Your teachers take seriously the task to guide you in the little habits of success and the deepest mysteries of human existence.

That you've been guided by your parents and teachers is pretty obvious. But there are two additional sources of guidance that may be less fully appreciated yet still important and even essential. First, you have received guidance from you. In one sense that's obvious and not very meaningful: Of course you guide yourself because you decide what you will do and say. But in another, deeper sense, genuine success means allowing your voice to guide you in the path of your lives. The task here is in finding your real voice, amongst the cacophony of family, teachers, friends, Hollywood fiction and Facebook. Let your real voice guide you from conviction, from values, from prayer and from passion. Listen to yourself. Know yourself. Trust yourself. Guide yourself.

Second, the Holy Spirit guides you, often gently, also sometimes with a little urgency. I have learned that in cooperating with the Holy Spirit things tend to work out better. The Holy Spirit will guide you well, in God's own plan and time, and genuine happiness and peace is found in our cooperation with Him. The Holy Spirit comes in the image of wind and fire. Let the Spirit light a fire within you – Let the Spirit push you. Let the Spirit guide you

From your parents, your teachers, your God, and yourselves, you have been guided well. You have made something out of nothing at Pope John Paul II High School. You have accomplished, you have grown, you have struggled, and you have shown courage. You are here, you are ours, and I am proud of you. Congratulations.