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**UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH TO HONOR**

**M. CAROLYN DODD WITH**

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD**

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WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (May 2, 2016) – The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) will honor M. Carolyn Dodd ’58, M’78 of West Hartford, Conn. with a 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award on Friday, May 20, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel in Downtown Hartford. Dodd will be recognized with *The* *Mary de Lourdes Kenney Award* for her exceptional work in the field of education, marking a distinctive 50-year teaching career locally at the Kennelly School in Hartford and in various regions beyond Connecticut.

With a degree in Early Childhood Education and inspired by her professor and mentor, Sister Mary de Lourdes, Dodd launched a career in teaching young children. She has embodied the Mercy mission as an advocate, a leader, and an expert in her field. In her roles as teacher, advocate for Braille literacy in children, and volunteer tutor for adults learning English as a second language, Carolyn never stops giving.

 “Receiving this Award is such an honor, as it affords me the opportunity to pay tribute to Sr. Mary de Lourdes and to emphasize the need to serve the underserved young children in cities,” says Dodd.

“Above all, Carolyn Dodd is an educator, a master teacher, and a lifelong learner, whose students become beneficiaries of her many and varied talents. She incorporates history with current happenings in all that she undertakes to ensure student achievement. Even in retirement, Carolyn dedicates time each week to continue educating, through tutoring young students,” said Patricia Rooney, RSM. “She is a splendid choice for the University of Saint Joseph’s Distinguished Alumni Award.”

Dodd will be among seven USJ alumni honored this year for their professional achievements, exemplary leadership, and community service. The cost to attend the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner is $60. To register for the event, contact the USJ Alumni Relations Office at alumni@usj.edu or 860.231.5364.

*The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master’s and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University’s two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 25 majors and seven pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at* [*www.usj.edu*](http://www.usj.edu)*.*

OFFICE OF MARKETING, MEDIA, AND COMMUNICATIONS

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