



Loyola

HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Loyola Community,

As we approach the end of the year I think we can be extremely proud of Loyola and the strength of its community which was so evident during this very challenging year. I am so proud of our team and proud of our students. My message to the community at our closing liturgy focused on the resurrection – not as wishful thinking for what happens to us after we die, but as the firm confidence that God’s love for us is so immense that even death can be transformed into new life. In allowing God to lead us, challenges become the opportunity for God’s love to shine and spring forth that new life.

Discerning where God is leading us is, of course, the big challenge both in leading a community and in our personal lives. For me and my family, the time of reflection that Covid-19 precipitated helped lead to my decision to retire at the end of this school year. I have been at Loyola for most of my life - as a student, a volunteer coach, a teacher, and then the last 17 years in different leadership roles. I have had such a wonderful opportunity to work in such a wide variety of areas from sports to robotics and from course preparations to Supreme Court factums. I have had the privilege of meeting and working with talented colleagues, parents, community leaders, and, most especially, students. Loyola has been such an awesome community!

The decision to retire was both difficult and life-giving at the same time. The difficulty stems from my tremendous love for this community and for all of the wonderful people who have played such a central role in my life over the years - I will greatly miss seeing you every day. But there is a peace that comes from honestly seeking to follow the path that God lays out for us. While I don’t expect to stop working in some form of service, I know that I need to spend time and energy focusing on my family, resting and discerning what should be next for us. The resurrection leads to a beautiful new life but it is often not what we expect or foresee – but it does come when we trust.

I'm so grateful for the Loyola community and for the generosity and talent of all our people. I am confident that as long as we remain open to God's Spirit, Loyola will be in good hands for the years to come.

Peace and Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Donovan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Donovan" clearly legible.

Paul Donovan