Exhibiting an enduring commitment to Catholic social teaching and the alleviation of poverty, the winner of the 2015 Rev. William A. Toohey, C.S.C., Award for Social Justice played a key role in organizing the “Joy & Hope” conference held on campus this spring. The three-day event celebrated the 50th anniversary of *Gaudium et Spes*, widely regarded as the most authoritative summary of Catholic social teaching. He was also instrumental in the initiation of the Indiana Catholic Poverty Summit, which convened in 2013 and ultimately led the state’s five Catholic bishops to publish a new pastoral letter calling Indiana Catholics to make the needs of the poor a priority. A faculty member in the Center for Social Concerns (CSC), he oversees the integration of Catholic social thought into the center’s courses and programming. His work at the CSC includes a summer course that allows student-athletes to give back to the greater South Bend community.

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present the 2015 Rev. William A. Toohey, C.S.C., Award for Social Justice to

**William J. Purcell**

*Associate Director for Catholic Social Tradition and Practice in the Center for Social Concerns*