The Rev. William A. Toohey, C.S.C., Award for Preaching is given to a Holy Cross priest who has made significant contributions to the University of Notre Dame in many different ways, but in particular as a homilist. In his ability to move between archbishops and sophomores, the Basilica and a residence hall chapel, Rev. Gerard Olinger, C.S.C., shows remarkable sensitivity to the particular way the people around him need to hear the Good News of the Gospel. Students, faculty, and staff alike notice the care with which he connects the Scriptures and the liturgy to the joys and sorrows of our campus and world today. A beloved priest in residence in Alumni Hall, he was a source of hope in this year of the pandemic. Whether he was preaching to a livestream camera, a socially distanced congregation in the Basilica, or the men of Alumni spread throughout an auditorium in DeBartolo Hall, his homilies brought insight and inspiration to all who heard them.

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present the 2021 Rev. William A. Toohey, C.S.C., Award for Preaching to

Rev. Gerard J. Olinger, C.S.C.
Vice President for Mission Engagement and Church Affairs