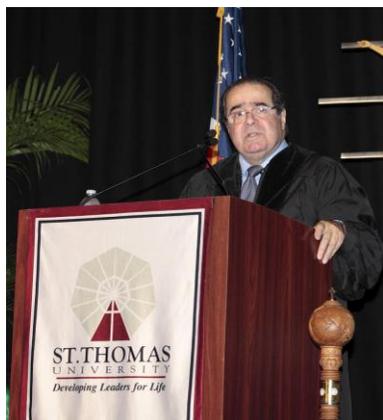


## SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA DELIVERS 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONVOCATION ADDRESS AT ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY, RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE



Celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, St. Thomas University held a special academic convocation on November 15, 2011. The Honorable Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, delivered the keynote address before a capacity-sized crowd of students and alumni, faculty and staff, members of the judiciary, and various South Florida community leaders at the University's Fernandez Center for Leadership & Wellness. Marking a personal milestone himself – Justice Scalia is in his 25<sup>th</sup> year on the Supreme Court and is the longest-serving member of the nation's highest court – the Justice praised the University for its role as a Catholic university, and spoke generally about the importance of a

Catholic law school in today's current higher education and judicial systems.

Before the Justice delivered his remarks, Monsignor Franklyn M. Casale, President of St. Thomas University, conferred upon Justice Scalia an honorary doctor of laws, *honoris causa*, in honor of the Justice's years of service to the nation and commitment to justice. After the academic convocation, Justice Scalia attended a luncheon with University trustees and vice presidents, deans and law professors, distinguished alumni and members of the judiciary. Also in attendance was Mayor Shirley Gibson, the Mayor of Miami Gardens and a St. Thomas University alumna, who presented to Justice Scalia,



**"A Conversation with Justice Scalia" -- Dean Ray conducted this session for the law school community, and students were given the opportunity to ask Justice Scalia questions directly.**



**Justice Scalia receives the honorary degree from (L-R) Dean Douglas E. Ray; Msgr. Franklyn M. Casale, President; Fr. Patrick O'Neill, former President of St. Thomas University and member of the Dean's Advisory Council at St. Thomas Law; and Dr. Gregory Chan, University Provost.**

"the first Supreme Court Justice to visit Miami Gardens," a key to the city.

After the luncheon, Douglas E. Ray, Dean of St. Thomas University School of Law, conducted a question-and-answer "Conversation with Justice Scalia" for the St. Thomas Law community. The one-hour session, during which the Dean as well as students had the opportunity to ask Justice Scalia questions on a variety of topics, provided the 400+ students a rare opportunity to hear a Supreme Court Justice speak in a more casual, intimate setting.

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