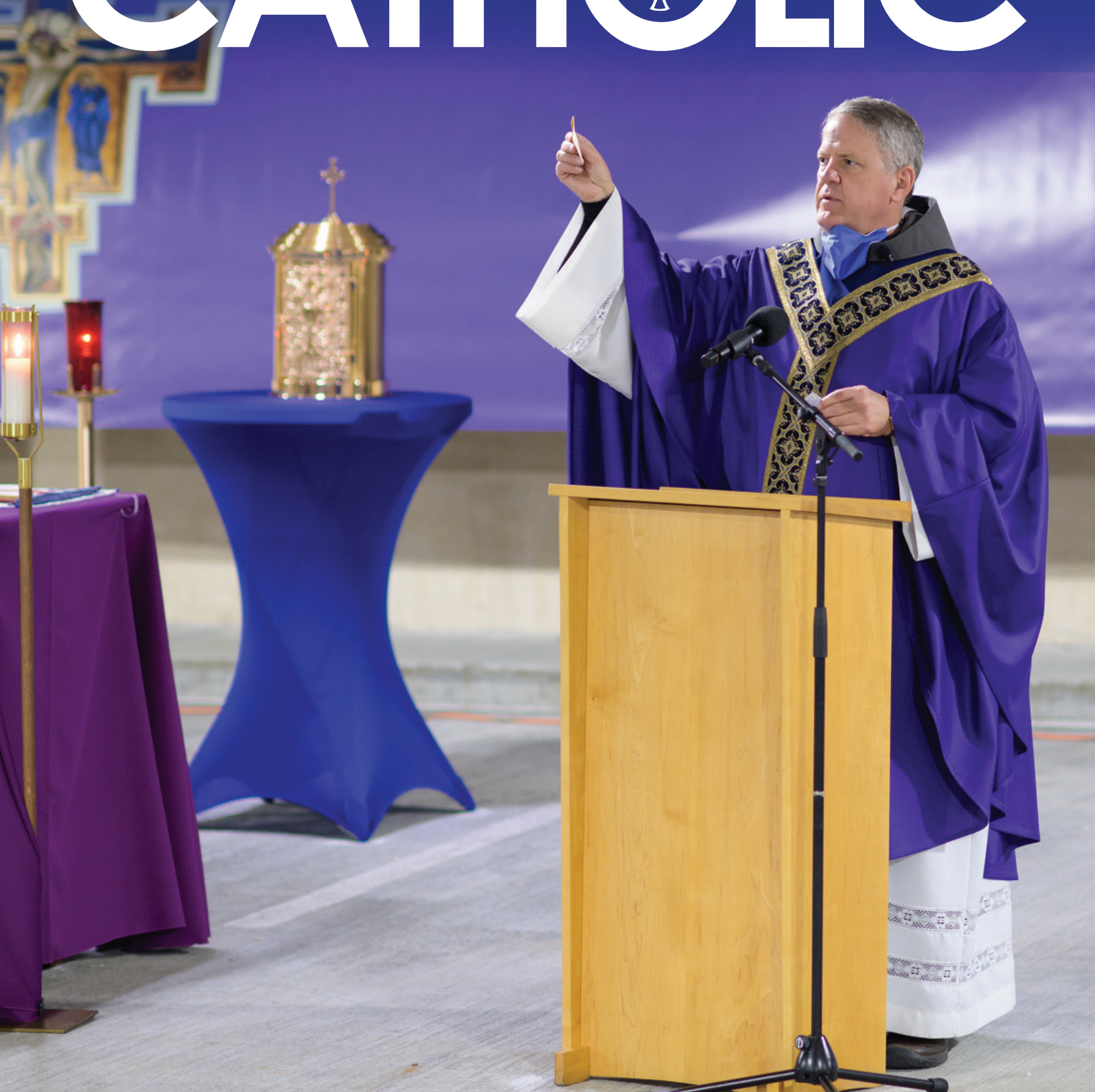


SUMMER 2021

DUKE CATHOLIC

THE DUKE CATHOLIC CENTER NEWSLETTER



A H Lent + Easter P E F U L



Duke students pick up small packets of blessed ashes to self-apply at Mass on Ash Wednesday.

With the pandemic still underway and restricting much of everyday life for Duke students, the Duke Catholic Center opted to highlight Hope as the Lenten theme this year. This message of hope amidst the pandemic was reiterated time and time again during Lent—with yard signs across campus, in the homilies at Mass, and even in the resources and encouragements given to students on Ash Wednesday and throughout the Lenten season.



Students received specially-created resources and stickers to help them navigate and remember the Lenten season.

LENT KITS

For the past several years on Ash Wednesday, the DCC has chosen Ash Wednesday as a particular moment to put physical reminders, tools, and tips into the hands of Duke students. Past years have seen wristbands imprinted with the Lenten theme, pocket-sized nails reminiscent of those in Jesus' hands and feet, and printed guides to make the most of the season of Lent.

This year, the DCC went a couple of steps further and filled 700 custom-printed zippered pouches with curated contents to help students begin their Lenten journey. In each pouch, students received a hope-themed sticker (a fan favorite item for students), cards from DCC partner Evangelical Catholic on intentional spiritual growth, an invitation to a DCC small group, a printed guide for Lent, and—a necessity for those cold garage Masses—hand warmers.

DCC staff and student ministers handed out packets to all Duke students, faculty, and staff who attended Ash

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Students in the same quarantine bubble administered ashes to one another.

Wednesday Mass or stopped by one of the DCC's newly inspired ashes stations on campus.

2 MINUTE ASHES

During a typical year, the Duke Catholic community would have three different Mass times to choose from on Ash Wednesday. But with the Duke Chapel still closed and the logistics of Mass in a parking garage to consider, only a single Ash Wednesday Mass was able to be offered this year.

Thankfully, Duke students with busy schedules were still in luck, thanks to the creativity of DCC Director, Fr. Michael Martin. Instead of additional Mass times, the DCC offered students six different opportunities to receive ashes in an abbreviated on-the-go liturgy.

2 Minute Ashes were a hit amongst Duke students on the way to and from classes. With masked volunteers, a student would approach the 2 Minute Ashes stations and participate in a short liturgy in which she would ask for God's mercy, be prayed over, join her own voice in prayer, and apply ashes to her own forehead.



Other students applied ashes to their own foreheads to maintain social distancing.

"I loved the 2 Minute Ashes!" said Paige Bartusiak '23. "Before Duke I was often able to get ashes at a Mass in the morning, which meant I could wear my ashes throughout the day as a constant reminder of stepping into my Lenten journey. The 2 Minute Ashes were the perfect chance for me to receive ashes during the day and continue this witness even though I was unable to make the evening Mass. I was so appreciative that the 2 Minute Ashes was an option!"

Over 160 Duke students stopped at a 2 Minute Ashes station to celebrate the start of their Lenten journey. And because of the more visible and available locations, many new students connected with the DCC this Ash Wednesday. Clearly a new space for evangelization, 2 Minute Ashes is sure to continue for semesters to come!



Lent Kits reminded students to have Hope during the pandemic.

DO SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FOR GOD


Thanks to the generosity of the Greg O'Sullivan family, P'21, the Duke Catholic Center purchased 500 books published by Dynamic Catholic called *Do Something Beautiful for God, 365 Daily Reflections from Mother Teresa*. As a way to celebrate Easter and to remind students to continue to keep their faith as a daily practice as Lent ended and Easter began, the DCC passed them out at the Easter Sunday liturgy. The books were a big hit because they included short-bite sized reflections that could be easily be read and reflected on everyday. 🙏

LETTER FROM FR. MIKE

There is so much conversation in church circles about how to get people back to Mass and other communal engagements of our faith. While it seems rather counterintuitive, Mass has gotten rather comfortable during the pandemic. Many chose to watch whatever time they want, while on the couch, in pajamas, with a cup of coffee, and without dealing with the weather, traffic, or parking. Not to mention the video Church shopping and the fast-forward function (you know who you are!), why on earth would we want to return from this haven of liturgical happiness to the (friendly?) confines of our local parish?

There is no way to put this toothpaste back into the tube, but if we think this is the end of the Catholic faith as we know it, then we don't know our Catholic faith! This Easter season was relished in the hope shown to us in Christ Jesus—that the stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone! Into the seeming difficulty of repositioning ourselves as a faith community is placed the immortal glory of Jesus risen from the dead. All the indicators would tell us that the Church is about to take a hit, but as people of faith we need to use this very moment as the cornerstone for a rebuilding of the Body of Christ that has perhaps been long in coming.

For too many of us the celebration of our Catholic faith has lacked a more intentional dimension that desires to see Jesus in all of life, not just Sunday morning. So much of our ministry here at Duke has been built on an engagement of students where they are and how Jesus encounters them there. That we have witnessed in these months our ability to pivot and reach out to people where they are is a foundation for hope in our ministry going forward. We simply need to continue to take this concept and make it the cornerstone. We need as a Church, and as a campus ministry, to assume less that people will come to us, and prepare more to go out and meet them where they are comfortable.

Enough hand-wringing!
Let us build upon the cornerstone of our faith that gives us hope of a “new heaven and a new earth,” built on the premise of a God who came to be with us even in the discomfort of our sin. May our ministry here at Duke empower students to take comfort more in a God who comes to be with us than in a world that rejects that very God for our own handmade comforts. 



**“THE STONE
THE BUILDERS
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THE
CORNERSTONE.”**


- PSALM 118:22

FALCONE-ARENA HOUSE: A YEAR UNDER CONSTRUCTION



A view from the back of the house, where the new, sunlit study will be a key update.

the Blessed Virgin Mary from different cultures from all over the world. The 8 beautiful Madonnas will allow our students to prayerfully reflect on the universality of our faith and the diversity that exists in our one Church. The wall will also highlight to students one of the unique aspects of the Catholic faith—the various Marian devotions that exist around the world as powerful examples of intercessory prayer.

The icons will be written by iconographer Vivian Imbruglia whose original icons can be found all over the world in homes, churches, convents, and monasteries. 



Fr. Mike gets some hands-on experience with laying bricks for the foundation.

After a year of planning and fundraising, renovations at the Falcone-Arena began in earnest last November. Videos of some of the demo and construction progress was documented throughout these last 7 months. The new space will feature a spacious study, a larger Chapel, a grotto, and much more as the DCC expands its programmatic offerings to students. As the artisans put some of the finishing touches on the Chapel furnishings, and the construction crew finishes the

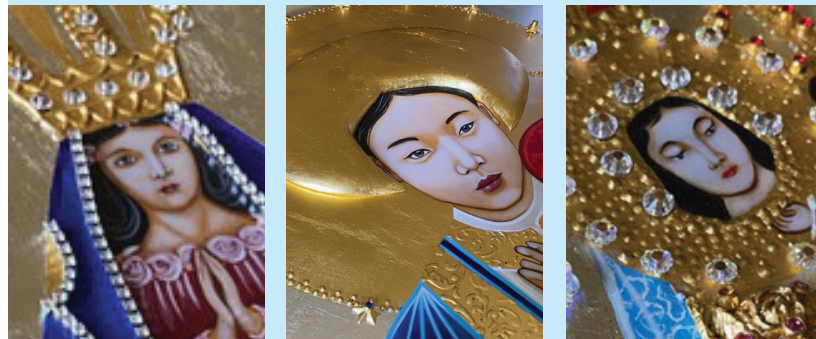
interior, the Duke Catholic Center is gearing up to open the building back up to students this upcoming Fall.



One of the exciting aspects of the renovated space will be the Our Lady of the World Wall which will feature 8 depictions of



Windows of the new chapel space will house four student-selected saints to inspire future students.

Gift Opportunities for the icons on Our Lady of the World Wall



Our Lady of Aparecida (Brazil, Latin America)	\$5,000
Our Lady of Czestochowa (Poland, Haiti)	\$5,000
Our Lady of Guadalupe (Mexico, Latin America)	\$5,000
Our Lady of Kibeho (Rwanda, Africa)	\$5,000 
Our Lady of La Vang (Vietnam)	\$5,000
Our Lady of Lourdes (France)	\$5,000 
Our Lady of (The Rosary) Manaoag (Philippines)	\$5,000
Our Lady of Vailankanni (Good Health) (India)	\$5,000

To sponsor any of these icons and for other available gift and naming opportunities, please contact Fr. Michael Martin at fr.mike@duke.edu.

 Already named

Financial Guardians: Introducing The Guardian Angel Society



Rosie Canizares '04 (center) with her classmates at a recent DCC Alumni Weekend Brunch.

In its inaugural year the Guardian Angel Society has already proven a staple as a way in which to keep benefactors of the Duke Catholic Center connected in a more intentional way to the Catholic community at Duke. The Guardian Angel Society is open to any benefactor of the DCC who gives every month by automatic payment. The Guardian Angel Society currently has 80 founding members and is growing every month. For donors, the Guardian Angel Society is a simple, convenient way to give because once signed up, the gifts occur automatically. It can be budget friendly and efficient since it cuts down on solicitation letters, postage, and paper!

Each founding member of the Guardian Angel Society received as a gift a book written by Mother Teresa, *Do Something Beautiful for God*. The book features daily quotes and reflections from Mother Teresa. Rosie Canizares, '04, DPT '07, Chair of the Guardian Angel Society, has found the book to be most useful in her spiritual life.

"I have been reading it every day and when I find something particularly motivating, I share it on social media," said Rosie. "I have been surprised to see how many of my friends and acquaintances have commented or shared these posts from Mother Teresa."

Guardian Angel Society members are all types of DCC donors including alumni, parents of current and graduated

students, friends, staff members, and students. The DCC is proud to share that two current students are founding members of the Guardian Angel Society, Ella Gunady, '23 and Kyle Campbell, '22.

"I am always in awe of the abundant ways in which God blesses and walks with me through this community," said Ella. "I am grateful for this opportunity to give back to the community that has in many ways been a guardian angel to me."

The Guardian Angel Society also sports a mother-son duo. Michaela Campbell, P'21, mother of Kyle Campbell '21, has been so grateful for the impact the DCC has had on her son's Duke experience.

"There is a plethora of worthy causes you can donate to at Duke," said Michaela. "But there is nothing more important to college students' future than their faith, which is why the DCC is always the first and foremost organization I donate to at Duke."

The Guardian Angel Society also keeps alumni connected, not just with each other, but with the DCC, even years after graduation. One such alumna, Amy Maxey, understands that the Guardian Angel Society means much more than just her regular financial support.

"My spiritual journey is not just about me," said Amy. "I've been irrevocably shaped by my experience at the DCC, and so I'm bound to this community in a unique way. My habitual support of the DCC is a testament to the bonds of fellowship I formed in college, many of which continue to impact my life."

As the Guardian Angels of our faith are thought to look after us as we are here on the Earth, so too do the Guardian Angels of the DCC look after its students, staff, and mission on Duke's campus.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Guardian Angel Society, please contact George Brunner at george.brunner@duke.edu. 

REMEMBERING & HONORING

While death may beget very real grief and sadness, for Catholics, death also brings an opportunity for remembrance and celebrating the life of the one who has passed on. Most clearly, we see this celebration each year on November 2nd, All Souls' Day or Dia de los Muertos.

With ancient roots, the Latin American celebration of Dia de los Muertos—or Day of the Dead—has blended over the centuries with Church tradition and theology. Yet the intent has remained the same: a dedicated time to stop and remember all those who have gone before us.

One particular aspect of this day that has been beautifully integrated is the practice of making an altar of remembrance, or *ofrenda*. A rich

Mexican tradition, an *ofrenda* is most often a table laden with photos of departed loved ones, bright flowers, special foods, and meaningful mementos or trinkets, alongside prayer candles, crosses, and images of Jesus and the Virgin Mary.

This past November, for the first time, the Duke Catholic Center invited students to contribute names and photos of deceased loved ones to a community *ofrenda*.

“Through the *ofrenda*, I felt connected in a deep and tangible way to the Mystical Body of Christ,” said Kyla Brezitski '21. “It was a great blessing to honor my brother alongside other cherished family and friends of the DCC community who have taught, inspired, and encouraged us throughout our lives. It was a powerful sign of unity and




remembrance during a time when we often feel so far apart from one another.”

Two DCC staff, MyLan Metzger and Sabina Marroquin, worked together to create a virtual *ofrenda*, as well as a physical *ofrenda* on the day of All Souls. While Duke’s pandemic guidelines prevented students from coming personally to the physical *ofrenda* to offer photos, food, or symbols of our faith, MyLan and Sabina meticulously printed and laid out any loved ones sent in by Duke Catholic students and community members.

“Losing a family member when in college was difficult and it weighs heavily on my whole family,” said Dominic Tanzillo '21. “The *ofrenda* on All Souls Day gave space in an especially

busy semester to slow down and properly pay my respects and honor memories. Sharing a photograph of a loved one with a whole community felt like a profound act of vulnerability, but it helped build the trust I need to bring my hardships to God, offer them up in prayer, and ask for peace.”

The All Souls remembrance culminated in a virtual Mass that evening. With the *ofrenda* placed to the side in Duke’s Goodson Chapel, DCC Director Fr. Mike was joined by about 100 online viewers as he celebrated Mass for the Duke Catholic community.

If you have been looking for a way to remember, honor, and pray for your departed family and friends, you can add your own loved ones to the Duke Catholic [virtual ofrenda here](#). 

Forgiving Murder

TIM JEFFRIES, GEMBA '03

REFLECTS ON GOD'S MERCY



Recently, Tim Jeffries GEMBA '03 and former DCC Board Member sat down for an interview with the president of the Augustine Institute, Tim Gray, to discuss forgiveness in the spirit of Easter and the Lenten season. Tim Jeffries tragically lost his brother to a violent murder as a young man and has since devoted his life to helping victims of violence and their families overcome and recover from this loss through faith in Christ and forgiveness.

In his interview, Tim advised those on a journey of forgiveness to not hold onto the hatred of loss. He shared the story of how the anger and hatred he felt in response to his brother's murder was so overwhelming that it prevented him from beginning on his path to forgiveness until decades later. The two discussed how the victims of violent crime are not only those attacked, but the entire family and web of those around them, and each go through their own path to forgiveness at different speeds and through varied manners.

Tim shared that his forgiveness was catalyzed by a powerful moment during a Palm Sunday Mass service at Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris.

"We were saying the Our Father and God just lightning-bolted me," said Tim. "Forgive our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. I was all for God forgiving my trespasses. I had never thought about the holy contingency—forgive as you are forgiven. It became clear to me that in order to receive God's mercy, I had to give God's mercy."

This enlightening moment inspired Tim to begin writing a letter yearly to his brother's killer through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Answering questions from viewers, Jeffries noted that God is on the path to forgiveness with us each step of the way, and that he can help us overcome the anger we feel towards the perpetrators of suffering. Moreover, Tim asserted that all his relationships improved once he forgave the man who murdered his brother by writing to him in prison.

This incredibly powerful interview is available on the [Augustine Institute's YouTube Channel](#). 

THE 2021 DUKE CATHOLIC CENTER STAFF

FR. MICHAEL MARTIN, OFM CONV.

Director
fr.mike@duke.edu
(919) 684-1882

MYLAN METZGER

Peer Ministry Coordinator
mylan.metzger@duke.edu
(714) 813-2062

SR. MARCIA TERNES, FSE

Director of Faith Formation
sr.marcia@duke.edu
(203) 600-8934

GEORGE BRUNNER

Assistant Director of Development
george.brunner@duke.edu
(919) 684-8959

SR. FRANCES ZAJAC, FSE

Director of Retreats and Pilgrimages
sr.frances@duke.edu
(203) 317-7788

MICHELLE SUTTON '12, CFRE

Director of Development
michelle.sutton@duke.edu
(919) 668-1472

ANDREW WITCHGER P'15

Director of Music
andrew.witchger@duke.edu
(919) 323-6902

RUTH ANNE KENNEDY

Business Manager
ruth.kennedy@duke.edu
(919) 684-3354

EMMA MILLER '11

Director of Communication
emma.miller@duke.edu
(704) 267-3439

SABINA MARROQUIN

Director of Small Groups
sabina.marroquin@duke.edu
(940) 867-6352



Duke University, Box 90976, Durham, NC 27708

