



Breakfast with 2010 Commencement speaker, Tom Brokaw

May 23, 2010

9:00 a.m.

Fr. Niehoff's Remarks and Introduction of Tom Brokaw

- Thank you, Dave
- Good morning and welcome.
- Thank you again for joining us as we celebrate one of our own—Tim Russert—with our special guests Maureen Orth and Tom Brokaw.
- My thanks to them and to our Fellowship supporters and friends of the University.

- Tim was such an inspiration to us all—especially to us here at John Carroll.
- As I reflect about Tim, I am reminded of how he was “a true man for others.”
- He gave everything he had to his family, and used his talents to make a positive difference to society.

- I am grateful that Maureen could be with us today. *Thank you so much* for all of your support, and for Luke's support.
- Having you and Tom with us for this event is significant and deeply meaningful to me—and for the John Carroll community.
- When we announced the scholarship, the renaming of the Department, and the fellowship with *Meet The Press*, we did it with the hope that we were starting something great for the University, and that these initiatives would serve as a lasting tribute to Tim.
- It brings me great pleasure to see that one year later—largely thanks to the support of the people in this room—these efforts are succeeding.

- I am delighted at this time to announce the next recipient of the NBC/John Carroll University *Meet The Press* Fellowship.
 - **Joseph Toohey** will follow Andrew Rafferty as our 2nd Russert fellow, and he is here with family today...
 - **Joe**, if you would stand and be recognized please... **[lead applause]**

- Thank you, Joe.
- Joe will graduate today with a degree in Communication and Theatre Arts and a minor in Political Science.
- He is from Mount Pleasant, PA, outside of Pittsburgh, and has had an impressive collegiate career.
 - For example, Joe earned the James Breslin Broadcasting Excellence Scholarship Award in 2009.
- So you can clearly see that we have firmly established a new tradition, that your investment in the fellowship is paying off, and that the future is bright for this program.
- And now it is my pleasure to introduce Tom Brokaw— who’s experiences and insights from nearly half a century of reporting have touched our lives and will provide a wonderful perspective for our graduates and our University community this afternoon.
- In December of 2004, Mr. Brokaw stepped down after 21 years as the anchor and managing editor of “NBC Nightly News.”
- He has received numerous honors, including the Edward R. Murrow Lifetime Achievement Award and the Emmy Award for Lifetime Achievement.
- He has interviewed every president since Lyndon Johnson, and has covered every presidential election since 1968.
- In addition, Mr. Brokaw is a best-selling author. His works include:
 - The Greatest Generation
 - and, BOOM! Voices of the Sixties.
- Mr. Brokaw was a great friend of Tim Russert, and I consider him a great friend of John Carroll University.
- Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming Tom Brokaw. [lead applause]