

Holy Cross Physicians Association - Distinguished Service Award - October 4, 2025

Gerard (Jerry) Doherty '82, MD



Surgeon-in-Chief, distinguished teacher, generous mentor, internationally recognized for your contributions to science, Dr. Doherty you embody the commitment to excellence in service of the common good that is at the heart of Jesuit education. We are delighted to welcome you back to campus today!

A graduate of the class of 1982 and Yale Medical School, Dr. Doherty has gone on to serve as a leader in surgical medicine and award winning teacher at some of the finest research hospitals in our country. Currently, he serves as Surgeon-in-Chief at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Mass General Brigham Cancer Institute where he holds the Crowley Family Endowed Chair in the Department of Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital; and the Moseley Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School.

As a global leader in cancer and surgical oncology, Dr. Doherty exemplifies excellence across clinical care, academic leadership, and education. His career has advanced standards of practice while shaping prestigious surgical training programs that prepare future surgeons for lives of purpose and service.

Yet his influence is felt most profoundly in the time and care he gives to individuals. As his nominators recount, when a fellow Crusader physician reached out in a cold-call email on behalf of a Holy Cross pre-medical student, Dr. Doherty responded personally. He welcomed the Holy Cross senior as a mentee and invited her to shadow him in surgery. He explained the inner workings of the surgical unit at both the micro and macro levels—demonstrating the rigorous knowledge, precision, and humility that anchor his work. Patients and families speak of his uncommon compassion and calm, hallmarks of a physician whose bedside manner inspires confidence and trust.

For his distinguished service to patients, to the profession, and to the next generation of physicians—and for embodying the values of Holy Cross in word and deed—we are honored to recognize Gerard M. Doherty, MD, with the Distinguished Service Award.