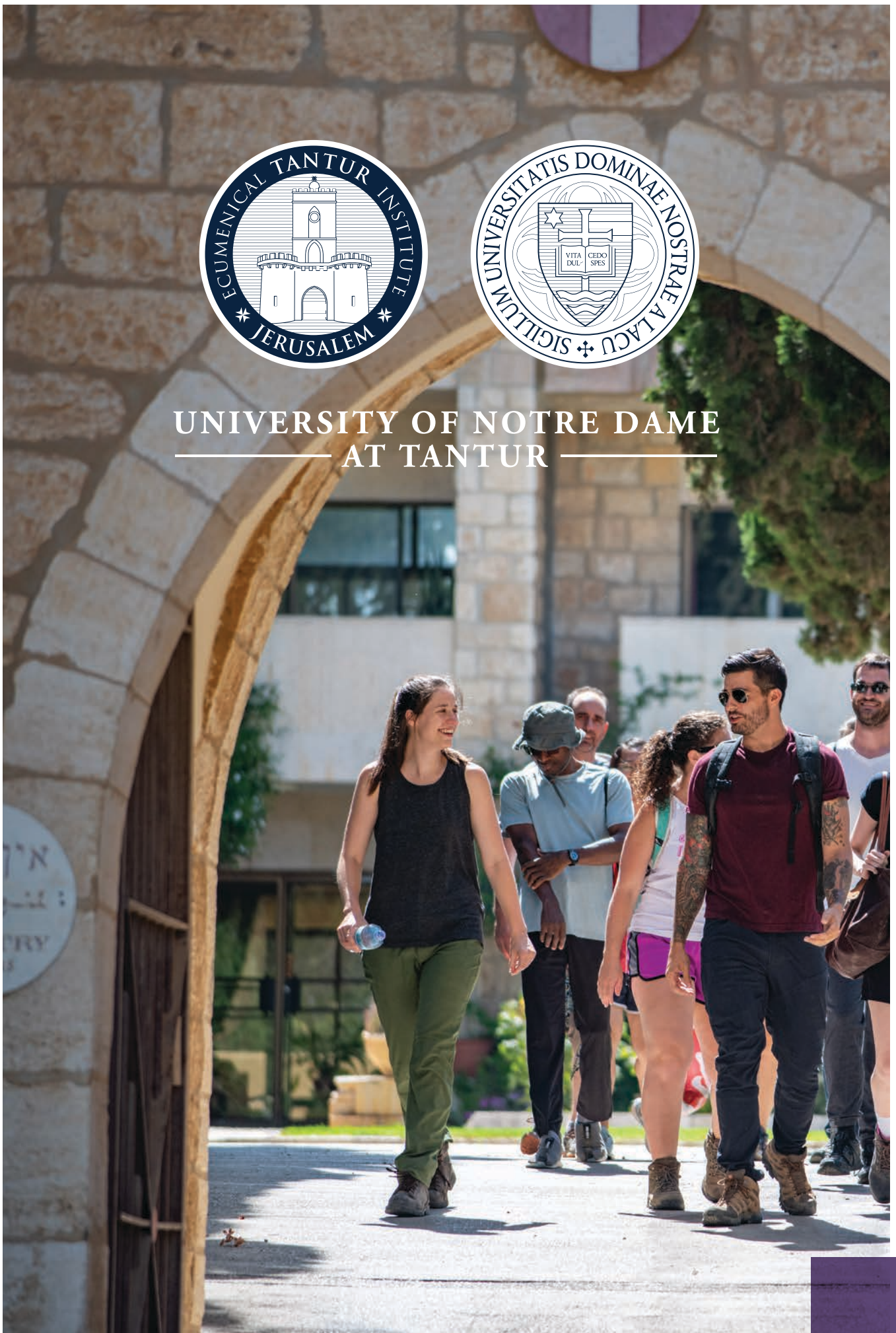




UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME  
— AT TANTUR —





# Vibrant Intellectual Spiritual





An intellectual and spiritual oasis within the region, the University of Notre Dame at Tantur is a community of students, faculty, scholars, and pilgrims who seek to deepen their worldview by experiencing firsthand the richness and complexity of life in the Middle East.

Affectionately known as Tantur, the University of Notre Dame at Tantur is located between the Old City of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, at the crossroads of diverse cultures, religions, languages, and opportunities. The University of Notre Dame at Tantur unifies and facilitates the academic

initiatives of Notre Dame International and the Tantur Ecumenical Institute on behalf of the University's efforts in the Holy Land.

Notre Dame's original presence in Jerusalem began at the request of Pope Paul VI. He envisioned a place for advanced theological studies in the area of ecumenism at the crossroads of many religions, and he tasked Notre Dame's Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C., with creating that space. The Tantur Ecumenical Institute, the fruit of that vision, officially opened in 1972, and continues as an important initiative of the Office of Mission Engagement and Church Affairs.











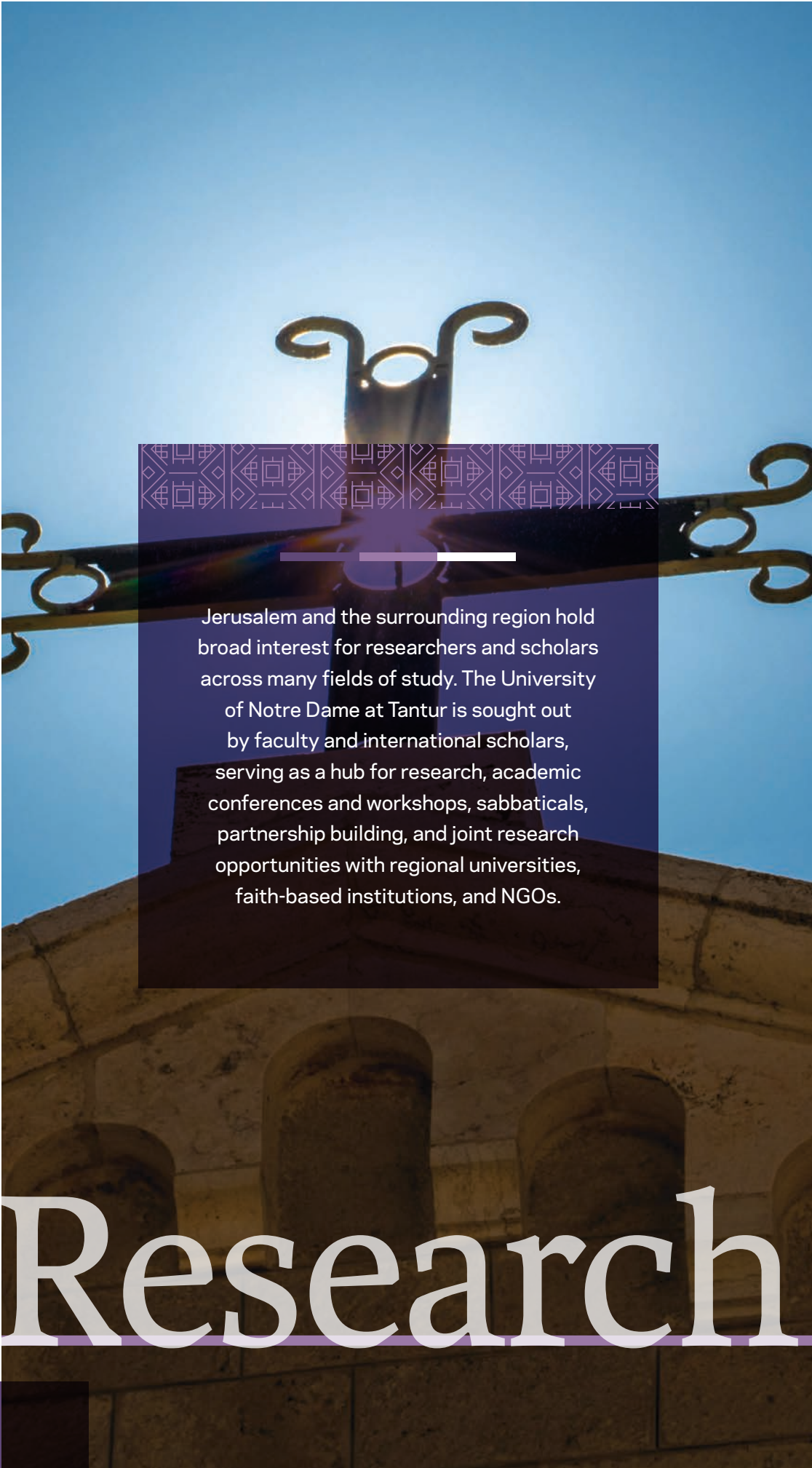
Since 1985, hundreds of undergraduate students from Notre Dame have studied in the Holy Land and lived at Tantur through semester, academic year, or summer study abroad programs. Tantur has also been home to students conducting independent research, serving in internships, and participating in the Center for Social Concerns' International Summer Service Learning Program. The undergraduate program has become a flagship program of the University of Notre Dame at Tantur, one of eleven global locations led by Notre Dame International. It is considered by many to be one of, if not the most impactful study abroad locations Notre Dame has.

Graduate and postdoctoral students from varied campus departments and institutes, including the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and the Department of Theology, also study, conduct research, engage in internships with local NGOs, and live at Tantur.

The Tantur Ecumenical Institute also welcomes summer seminar students and continuing education participants from around the world for educational and spiritual renewal.

# Students





Jerusalem and the surrounding region hold broad interest for researchers and scholars across many fields of study. The University of Notre Dame at Tantur is sought out by faculty and international scholars, serving as a hub for research, academic conferences and workshops, sabbaticals, partnership building, and joint research opportunities with regional universities, faith-based institutions, and NGOs.

# Research





◆ To the north is Mar Elias Monastery, revered as a site where the prophet Elijah rested while fleeing from Jezebel. Between it and Tantur are the ruins of the Church of the Seat of Mary, where tradition says a heavily pregnant Mary rested on her way into Bethlehem. The remains of the Byzantine church were uncovered in the 1990s during construction of a modern six-lane highway that connects Jerusalem and Bethlehem. That road forms one border of the Tantur property, and it is believed that per the biblical account, Mary and Joseph would have traveled this road en route to Bethlehem, passing by the modern site of the University of Notre Dame at Tantur.

Notre Dame professor Abraham Winitzer took a group of students to the Holy Land to embark on the first formal archaeological survey of the grounds of the University of Notre Dame at Tantur. Working in conjunction with the Israel Antiquities Authority and Tel Aviv University, the group is hoping to fill in gaps of Tantur's history as a prominently located swath of geography for the past several millennia. The program was made possible in part by a Schlindwein Family Tel Aviv University—Notre Dame Research Grant. The grant program was established by Tim Schlindwein '69, who has worked to develop collaboration between Tel Aviv University and Notre Dame.

◆ Notre Dame's Environmental Change Initiative hosted an interdisciplinary conference focused on environmental change and human health at the University of Notre Dame at Tantur. Notre Dame faculty joined scholars from the Middle East region to address topics such as water management and scarcity, water quality and quantity, public health, and water, migration, and conflict.

The group also had the chance to explore historical and contemporary realities of water use in the region. On a walking tour of ancient Jerusalem, the scholars viewed the intricate water systems that have served this crossroads

over the ages. In the Jordan River Valley, they witnessed the dramatic decline of the Dead Sea. At the site of Jesus's baptism on the Jordan River, the group learned about the significance of the river as well as its profound ecological challenges.

"It felt amazing to bridge disciplinary divides at the footsteps of Jesus," says Marc Muller, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering and earth sciences.





The University of Notre Dame at Tantur welcomes students, scholars, pastoral leaders, pilgrims, and guests from around the world and the local region to Tantur's residential community and conference center. The facility at Tantur holds 50 guest rooms, meeting facilities, a dining hall, office space, a chapel, prayer rooms, and a library.

*For more information, please email [jerusalem@nd.edu](mailto:jerusalem@nd.edu).*







The entrance is near the intersection of Rehov HaRosmarin and Hebron Road, opposite the Palestinian neighborhood of Beit Safafa. From the hilltop, guests may view the town of Bethlehem, Mar Elias Monastery, and Herodian, a colossal fortress built by King Herod the Great. Both the Old City of Jerusalem and the city center of West Jerusalem are a 20-minute bus or taxi ride away. The main entrance to Bethlehem is a five-minute walk, and from there visitors can easily find the Church of the Nativity or visit the historically Christian villages of Beit Sahour and Beit Jala.



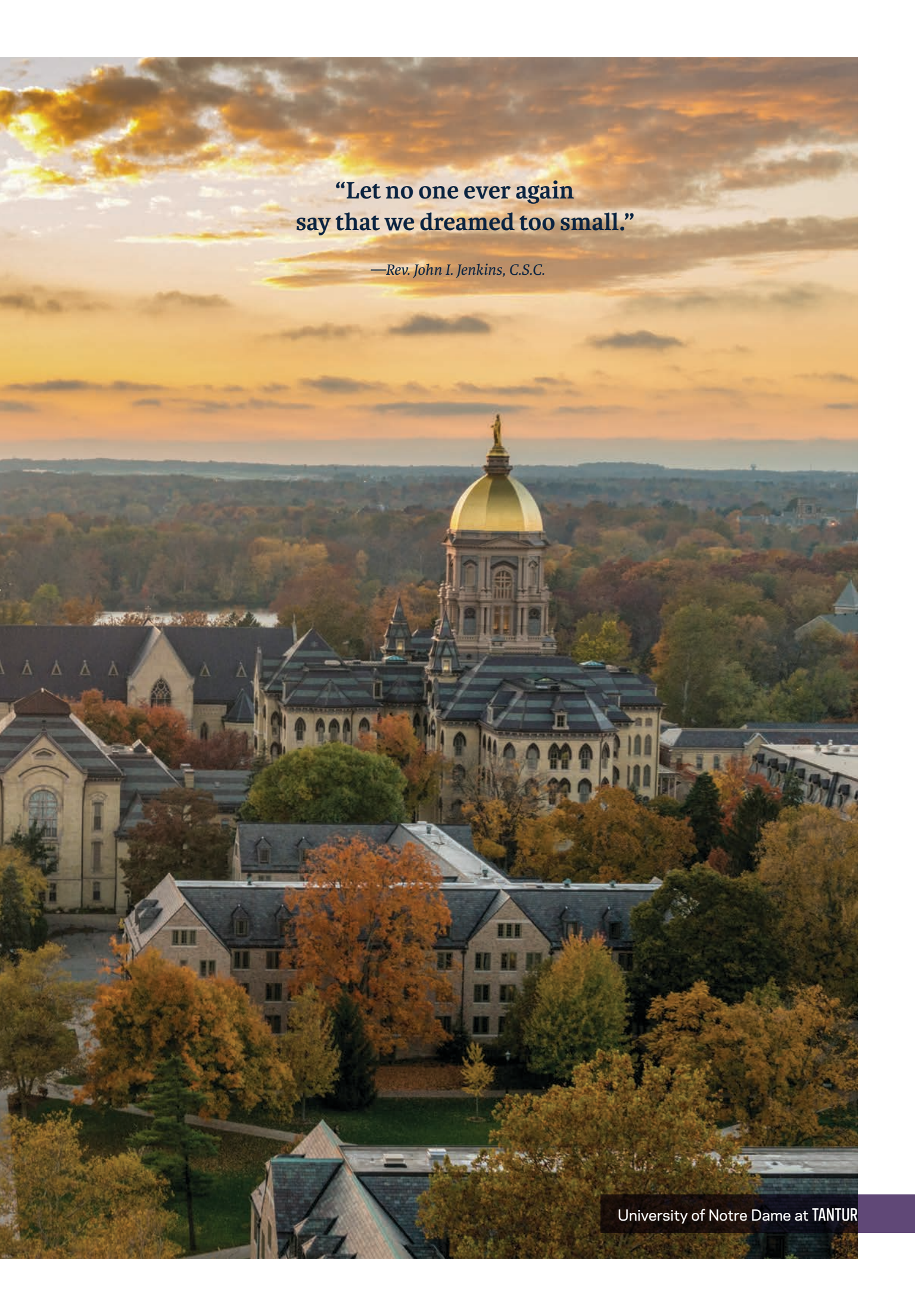


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## University of Notre Dame

The University of Notre Dame was founded in November 1842 by Rev. Edward F. Sorin, a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross, a French missionary order. It is located adjacent to South Bend, Indiana, the center of a metropolitan area with a population of more than 300,000. Notre Dame has grown from the vision of Father Sorin, who sought to establish a great Catholic university in America, and has remained faithful to both its religious and intellectual traditions. One of America's leading undergraduate teaching institutions, Notre Dame has been at the forefront in research and scholarship.





**“Let no one ever again  
say that we dreamed too small.”**

*—Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.*



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