Class of 2015
Parent/Student Guide to Senior End-of-Year Events

Important Dates

AP/IB Exams (refer to school master calendar) May 4-22
Cap & Gown Distribution May 13
End-of-Year Mass (caps & gowns)/Senior Class Picture May 14
End of Q4 for Seniors Only May 15
Last Day for Seniors May 15
Locker Cleanout May 15
Senior Exams* May 18-20
Spring Sports Banquet May 21
Academic Awards Ceremony May 26
Baccalaureate/Graduation Practice May 28
Baccalaureate Mass May 28
Commencement May 30

*All tuition, fees, and other debts must be paid before seniors can take exams. Exam withholding notifications will be given out in the beginning of May. Fees or fines should be paid to the person indicated on the withholding. That person should give the student a release to present to the business office to get the exam permit. Exam permits will be distributed the week of exams.

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

To wear academic attire is a privilege as it represents your accomplishment of obtaining an education. There are standards of etiquette for wearing cap and gown correctly:

Boys: Wear white dress shirt, solid-colored dark tie, dark dress pants (black, navy, brown, or charcoal), and dress shoes. No jewelry besides a ring and watch should be worn. Earrings are not permitted. Boys must be clean shaven.

Girls: Wear the gown over a dress. Wear appropriate shoes. No flip flops. No jewelry except a ring, watch, and small simple earrings may be worn.

No medals, awards or pins may be worn on your graduation gown.

For both boys and girls, the mortarboard should be flat on top of the head. Hair should be brushed off the forehead away from the face.
CAP & GOWN DISTRIBUTION

Caps and gowns will be distributed on May 15th. Try them on immediately to make sure they fit, and that there are no marks, tears, etc.

END OF THE YEAR MASS/SENIOR CLASS PHOTO

Our all-school end-of-the-year Mass is Thursday, May 14 in the James B. White Performing Arts Theater. Seniors are to bring their caps and gown to school that day. Seniors will meet in the cafeteria and process in as a group. Boys should bring a white shirt and tie. Girls should wear their uniform shirt. Gowns should be pressed. Iron the gown with a cool iron (do not melt it!). Parents are most welcome and encouraged to attend. Please arrive at 12:45 p.m. for Mass.

The class picture and graduation photos will be taken immediately following Mass. Boys should bring a white shirt and tie. No senior boy will be in the picture without a cap, gown, shirt and tie.

The class picture and graduation photo proofs will be mailed to your home by Vernon Photography. The cost of the class picture is covered by your Graduation Fee. There is a separate cost for the optional graduation photos.

LOCKERS

Students should clean out their lockers on May 15 and leave them open to be checked. Do NOT leave lockers open until all belongings have been removed. Students are responsible for the lockers assigned to them at the beginning of the year (even if they have not used them). All posters, stickers, writing, and markings must be removed by 2:30 p.m. on May 15.

TICKETS

Tickets are NOT required for Baccalaureate. Tickets ARE required for admission to the church for Graduation.

Tickets will be distributed to the graduate at the practice at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle on Thursday, May 28th. Each graduate will receive six (6) tickets for Graduation. This does not mean that other family members are not able to attend the graduation. The purpose of the tickets is to ensure that parents, grandparents, and other close relatives have a seat in the church. Family members are not permitted to block out rows of seating.

Ushers will admit only ticket-holders before the Line of March. After the graduates have entered the church, all other guests will be admitted.

Guests without tickets usually take pictures of the graduates entering the church and then find available seating once the graduates have processed into the church.

This is not the kind of ceremony that young children enjoy. It might be wiser to leave them with a baby-sitter for the morning.

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Please note: The Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle is located in St. Petersburg (not too far from the Tyrone Square Mall). We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the location of the Cathedral and plan your route early to allow for enough travel time to be punctual for the events listed below.

The Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church
5815 5th Ave N
St Petersburg, FL 33710

MANDATORY BACCALAUREATE & COMMENCEMENT PRACTICE
Thursday, May 28, 2015 – The Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

There will be only one practice. Attendance at this practice is mandatory. Do not make other plans for this day. This dress rehearsal is for both Baccalaureate and Graduation. You do not need to bring your cap and gown to this practice. Please dress appropriately for Church. Any senior who misses this practice will not be permitted to participate in Baccalaureate Mass or walk with their class at the Graduation Ceremony.

BACCALAUREATE MASS
Thursday, May 28, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.
MANDATORY ATTENDANCE

Seniors are to arrive at The Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church by 6:30 p.m. follow the signs and report to the Marian Room in the Parish Center to dress in academic attire and form the Line of March.

CLASS OF 2015 COMMENCEMENT
Saturday, May 30, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

Seniors are to arrive at The Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church no later than 9:00 a.m. and report to the Marian Room in the Parish Center to dress in academic attire and form the Line of March. The ceremony lasts approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes.

This year’s commencement will also be available via live stream video. The link is https://livestream.com/DOSP/events/3973478

Please note: No flash photography will be permitted in the church. Families may not leave their places to take pictures as this is a distraction to other guests. Families are requested to hold all applause until the last name has been read so that all families are able to hear the name of their graduate being announced.

GRADUATES MUST RETURN TO THE MARIAN ROOM IN THE PARISH CENTER TO PICK UP THEIR GRADUATION PACKETS AND OTHER BELONGINGS AFTER THE GRADUATION CEREMONY. THIS PACKET CONTAINS YOUR ACTUAL DIPLOMA AND FINAL REPORT CARD.

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