

St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

A Catholic School in the Marianist Tradition

15 North Maple Street • Akron, Ohio 44303

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Dear Seniors and Parents/Guardians of Seniors,

The enclosed information on end of the year activities for members of the Class of 2021 is designed to help you plan ahead for the upcoming very busy time of year.

Baccalaureate liturgy is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 25, 2021** at **St. Hilary Church** at 6:00 pm. At this point, due to the pandemic, we are only allowed to have the graduates present. The ceremony will be live streamed, and a link will be sent to all parents and guardians prior to the Mass.

Graduation is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 26, 2021** at the John Cistone Football Stadium on STVM's campus. Students need to arrive at 5:00 pm. We highly advise that your child be dropped off since parking is limited. The ceremony will begin at 6:00 pm. If weather permits, the ceremony will be held outside and there will be no limitation to the number of family members who may attend. However, if the ceremony must be moved indoors due to weather, a maximum of **two** electronic tickets will be issued for each family. Please ensure STVM has the most accurate email for your family. Masks are mandatory for this event, either inside or outside.

Seating at graduation is on a first-come-first-served basis, and your family will be required to sit together in one group. The stadium will be open one hour prior to the ceremony.

Students must be in attendance at the Baccalaureate Liturgy to participate in Commencement Exercises. (See attached schedule.)

Please check the attached documents and tentative schedule for dates and times for all future senior activities and requirements for graduation, particularly those regarding appropriate dress and required practices.

We would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for allowing us to share this special time at STVM with you. We have enjoyed working with this year's senior class as their Class Advisers and Campus Minister.

If you or your student has any questions, please feel free to ask us at any time.

Sincerely,

Ms. Rebecca Petrilli and Ms. Kelly Gupta

Senior Class Co-Advisers

rpetrilli@stvm.com

kgupta@stvm.com

Mrs. Christine Spinner

Campus Minister

cspinner@stvm.com

Senior Class of 2021 Dates to Remember

Date:	Time:	Event:
May 11	1:30 pm	Senior Awards Ceremony
May 13	1:30pm	Senior Farewell Mass
May 14	3:00 pm	Last Day for Seniors!
May 24	10:00 am	Baccalaureate and Graduation Practice at STVM Football Field *MANDATORY*
May 24	12:00 pm	Senior Picnic (Cap and Gown will be distributed)
May 25	6:00 pm	Baccalaureate Mass at St. Hilary *MANDATORY*
May 26	5:00 pm	Meet at COSGROVE to line up for Graduation
May 26	6:00 pm	Graduation at the John Cistone Football Field

Parents and Students of the Class of 2021,

Here is a list of dates to put on your calendar for this school year. As we approach each event, a more detailed itinerary will be sent home. However, the dates will remain the same.

We are hosting the Senior Picnic on Monday, May 24th, at 12:00, but we will need your help! We will be providing hot dogs and water, but we are asking for families to volunteer to donate 2-3 dozen individually wrapped snacks for the students. If you are interested in donating, please fill out the attached form and submit it as soon as possible so that we can plan accordingly. Thank you in advance! You can access the form [HERE](#).

Please be advised that Baccalaureate and Graduation are formal events, so a dress or skirt for ladies and a shirt and tie for gentlemen are required. We are looking forward to finishing out this class's senior year in an amazing fashion!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Becky Petrilli and Mrs. Kelly Gupta
Senior Class Advisors

Baccalaureate and Graduation Practices

Baccalaureate: ATTENDANCE AT BOTH BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATION PRACTICE IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO TAKE PART IN BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATION EXERCISES. THOSE WHO DO NOT ATTEND THOSE PRACTICES CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN THE CEREMONIES. *IF YOU ARE ILL PLEASE HAVE A PARENT CALL THE OFFICE AND NOTIFY US OF YOUR ABSENCE.

Baccalaureate and Graduation Practice

When: Monday, May 24, 2020 at 10:00 am.

Where: STVM Football Field

Check In: When you arrive, please check in with Mrs. Petrilli and Mrs. Gupta.

Dress: Senior Picnic will follow the practice, so please dress appropriately.

Directions: We will practice the procession in and the responses for the liturgy as well as the recessional. Plan for 1 ½ hours, but we will stay until we are comfortable that you know what to do! Masks and social distancing are mandatory at all events.

Please be ON TIME for practice. The sooner we begin the sooner we will be able to finish. Thank you and Go Irish!

Baccalaureate and Graduation Ceremonies

Baccalaureate: ATTENDANCE AT BACCALAUREATE IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO TAKE PART IN GRADUATION EXERCISES.

When: Tuesday, May 25, 2021. Arrive by 5:15 pm as the ceremony will begin at 6:00

Where: St. Hilary Church, 2750 W Market St, Fairlawn, OH 44333. When you arrive, please report to the back meeting room. Remember to bring your cap and gown, and don't lose your tassel!

Check-In: When you arrive, please check in with Mrs. Petrilli and Mrs. Gupta.

Dress: Explained under the "Cap and Gown" section of this handout. Anyone dressed inappropriately will not be permitted to participate in the ceremony. Programs will be in the church pew. Masks and social distancing are mandatory at all events.



Graduation:

When: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 6:00. **Arrive at STVM by 5:00 to line up in order.**

Where: John Cistone Football Stadium

Check In: At STVM with your teachers.

Dress: Same as Baccalaureate; Anyone dressed inappropriately will not be permitted to participate in the ceremony. **Please leave phones and purses with family members.** Masks and social distancing are mandatory at all events.

Diploma Distribution: When you walk across the stage, you will receive your diploma COVER ONLY. After the ceremony, you will receive your diploma immediately after you process out IN THE COSGROVE. Once you have received your diploma you will exit to the parking lot where you will meet your family. ***Your diploma may be withheld for inappropriate behavior during the ceremony.**

How to Wear Your Cap and Gown:

You will receive your cap and gown during the Senior Picnic on **May 24, 2021**. Please read the instructions that are included inside the package. Be sure to press your gown before arriving at St. Hilary for Baccalaureate. In other words, take your gown out of the bag BEFORE you arrive at church. Be careful when pressing your gown. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE PACKAGE.

Caps for everyone should be worn flat on top of your head. The cap should not be tilted on the back of your head. Please wear the cap as it was designed to be worn.

Be sure the tassel is tightly secured around the bottom on top of the hat. The tassel should be worn on the **right** side of the mortar board throughout both ceremonies. Please do not lose your tassel!

If you are wearing a National Honor Society medallion, a Mu Alpha Theta medallion, or an ITS medal, they should be worn over the shoulders with the medallions hanging in the front. If you are wearing both the NHS and MAO medallions, the MAO medallion should hang below the NHS medallion.

Additional Dress Information for BOTH Ceremonies as well as other Senior Events:

Gentlemen: Dress pants, collared, dress **solid white** shirt (no prints or stripes), **TIE**, dress dark socks and dress dark shoes are to be worn *Do NOT wear a jacket. You must have your hair trimmed and be clean-shaven. **No earrings for gentlemen are permitted.**

Ladies: Pants, dress, skirt and top, or jumpsuits are permitted with dress shoes. Be mindful of the height of your heels, for there will be plenty of walking to do ON THE FIELD and you don't want to fall! Be mindful of the length of your skirt/dress as it should be just above the knee (approximately 2 inches).

***No facial piercings (nose, lip, eye, etc.) or visible tattoos are permitted for any students.**

Students who are not dressed according to the guidelines will not be permitted to participate in the ceremonies.

Cap and Gown Distribution

Caps and gowns will be distributed after the Capstone presentations, assuming that all of your obligations are met as described below. The package includes a gown, mortar board, and tassel. The entire ensemble is yours to keep, and is covered in your graduation fee. **Please write your name inside your cap.** If there is a problem with your gown or cap (something is missing, it doesn't fit, the zipper doesn't work) please see Mrs. Gupta immediately.

Here is a list of obligations that must be met prior to receiving your cap and gown and participating in Baccalaureate and Graduation:

1. Credits for graduation must be completed. This includes the credit for all Christian service hours.
2. All tuition and fees must be paid.
3. All library fines must be paid and/or materials returned to the LRC.
4. All textbooks loaned to you must be returned to your subject teachers. (This includes items from both first and second semester.)
5. All club responsibilities must be fulfilled. (Return of candy money, dues payment, materials returned, etc.)
6. All loaned uniforms or other apparel must be returned. (Band, cheer, athletic teams, etc.)

Other Important Information

1. Please no chewing gum during the processions and ceremonies.
2. There should be NO flash photography at the church. No one will be allowed near the altar or the stage to take pictures. A professional photographer has been hired to take pictures of each graduate receiving his or her diploma on the field. This photo is included in your graduation fee and will be mailed to you this summer.
3. Please inform your guests that seating at both St. Hilary and the Stadium is generally on a first-come, first-served basis. However, IF WE HAVE A WEATHER ISSUE, tickets will be issued for two adults per senior ONLY and will be required for entrance to The Lebron James Arena.
4. If you have a guest who needs special seating arrangements due to a disability, please inform Mrs. Gupta and we will reserve a special place for them.
5. Please be respectful of the various individuals who will be celebrating the Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement Ceremony. They are giving their time and effort to make the day special for you!
6. Finally, **silence is always appropriate during the presentation of the graduates.**

Take the time to enjoy your special day with your family and friends. It is a milestone in your life. Congratulations, and always remember to Be Your Best, Be Irish!

Acknowledgement of Dress Code, Attendance, and Behavior Policies for all Senior Activities

I have read and been informed about the content, requirements, and expectations of the dress code, attendance, and behavior policy for ALL SENIORS at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School. I have received a copy of the policy and agree to abide by the policy guidelines as a condition of my graduation from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School.

I understand that if I have questions, at any time, regarding any part of the policy, I will consult with Mrs. Petrilli or Mrs. Gupta immediately.

Please read the dress code, attendance, and behavior policy carefully to ensure that you understand the policy before signing this document.

Student Signature: _____

Student Printed Name: _____