

March 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians of Prospective Graduates:

I know that it may seem early to be receiving a letter regarding graduation...but believe it or not, the time will be here before you know it. The purpose of this letter is to answer some of the questions you may have regarding the many activities and "traditions" that are associated with graduation. Please feel free to call me at school with any questions.

Exams

School exams for seniors are held on May 27th, 28th, 29th and June 1st. Regents Exams will be held on June 16th-24th. It is imperative for all of us to place strong emphasis on the importance of these exams since graduation this year will take place before Regents exams. If a student is scheduled to take a Regents exam, they **MUST** come to school after graduation to take that exam. Each exam is 1/5th of the student's final average. It is possible that a student can pass each quarter, not take a Regents exam and fail a course required for graduation. If that does happen, your student will be required to take and pass the course in summer school before receiving his/her diploma.

Graduation Announcements

Graduation Announcements will be delivered to students the first week of April.

Graduation Attire

Students will be wearing their caps and gowns (Ladies-gold and Gentlemen-burgundy) at the Gradation Ceremonies on June 6th.

It is expected that students will be dressed and groomed appropriately for our graduation ceremonies. Students are **NOT** to wear rubber flip-flops, sneakers, boots, jeans or shorts. Gentlemen need to be clean-shaven.

Graduation Fee

There is a graduation fee of \$175.00 for each student. This fee covers items such as flowers, programs, music, etc. and must be paid by May 1, 2009.

Graduation Rehearsal

There is one (1) rehearsal scheduled for graduation and attendance is **MANDATORY**. The date is June 3rd at St. John The Evangelist Church on Union Street in Schenectady. Rehearsal begins promptly at 10:00 am and concludes when the students are completely prepared for the ceremony. It is important for students to be on time for this rehearsal so that we can finish in a timely manner. Students who do not attend this rehearsal **WILL NOT** be allowed to receive his/her diploma from Bishop Hubbard at the altar steps.

Baccalaureate Liturgy and Awards Ceremony

Class Night for seniors is a very special ceremony. This will be the last time that the Class of 2009 will celebrate Mass as a class. Class Night will be held this year on June 5, 2009 at St. Paul's Church. Mass begins at 7:00 pm and is followed by the awards ceremony. During the awards ceremony, all scholarships and awards from colleges are announced for each senior who has given this information to the Guidance Department by May 28th. The school also announces the recipients of several awards and students are inducted into the Alumni Association. All parents, family and friends are invited to attend this ceremony. It is expected that students will be dressed and groomed appropriately for our graduation ceremonies. Students are **NOT** to wear rubber flip-flops, sneakers, boots, jeans or shorts. Gentlemen need to be clean-shaven. All graduating seniors will be wearing their graduation gown but not their caps at St. Paul the Apostle Church.

Graduation

Graduation will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at St. John the Evangelist Church at 1:00 pm with students arriving at 12:00 pm. The church doors for guests will open at **NOON** and no tickets are required. Please feel free to invite as many people as you would like. Graduation will last approximately one hour.

Prom

The Junior/Senior Prom will be held on May 15th. The cost of the Prom and After Prom is a total of \$50.00. Tickets will go on sale starting April 21st. The Prom will be a dinner cruise and dance aboard the "Adirondack" on Lake George. The "walk out" will be held at ND-BG prior to leaving for Lake George. Again, students are expected to be dressed appropriately for a Catholic High School Dance.

The After Prom will be held at the YMCA in Clifton Park from 12:00-3:30 am. Students will be transported directly from Lake George to the YMCA. At 3:30 am students will be transported back to ND-BG for a pick-up at 4:00 am. You do not have to attend the Prom to go to the After Prom.

Last Day of Regular Classes

The last day of regular classes for seniors is June 2nd. The senior BBQ will also be held on June 2nd at 6:00 pm.

Senior Trip

The senior trip to Six Flags will be on June 4th with departure from the school at 7:30 am.

If you aren't exhausted yet, wait until June 7th! I think everything has been covered...but I am sure I have missed something. Again, if you have any questions, please call me at school at 393-3131 ext. 100.

Yours in peace,

Michael Piatek
Principal