



Red Bank Catholic High School

February 2023

Dear Seniors and Parents/Guardians:

We have a great deal of information to give you regarding graduation activities, and we know you must have many questions. Please read this memo, and we hope that most of your questions will be answered.

BACCALAUREATE/COMMENCEMENT

This year the Baccalaureate Mass will be held at St. Mary's Parish, 19 Cherry Tree Farm Road, Middletown Township at 7:00p.m. on May 30th, with Commencement being held the following day on May 31st at the OceanFirst Bank Center Arena at Monmouth University beginning at 10:00a.m.

TICKETS

Tickets *will provide access* for the Commencement event. There will be no tickets for Mass. Each senior will receive *8 tickets* which will be distributed to students on May 30th at graduation practice. *There are no extra tickets.* If you would like to try and gain more tickets for your group, we would suggest asking other families who do not need all of their tickets.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS OR GRANTS, SPECIAL AWARDS

Each year for Commencement we list the name of scholarship/special award recipients. This does not apply to loans. In order for the achievements to be recognized, we ask that you bring *proof of the award* to **Mrs. Brendel in the Guidance Office**. The staff will make a copy of the document and return the original to you. The **absolute** deadline for submitting proof is **Friday, May 5th** to allow for program printing deadlines. After May 5th any scholarship/special awards **will not** be recognized in the graduation ceremony program.

ATTENDANCE AT PRACTICE

May 30th is the **only** scheduled practice date for Commencement. *Practice is mandatory for all seniors, as is participation in Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement.* On May 30th, the students must report to Monmouth University at **9:30 am** for practice. *Do not schedule any appointments, college testing, or work commitments* that would interfere with the practice on May 30th or the events on May 31st.

CAPS and GOWNS

Cap and gown distribution is scheduled for May 25th. National Honor Society members will get their stole from Mrs. Carton or Mrs. Prior personally. *All debts must be paid before the cap and gown will be given to the senior.* The gowns will need to be ironed thoroughly. Please try the gown on the day you receive it. Also, double check that you have a tassel with your cap. In case of a problem, see Mr. Bowen or Mrs. Mercer as soon as possible.

Gowns *only* will be worn for Baccalaureate Mass.

DRESS FOR BACCALAUREATE/COMMENCEMENT

Boys: white dress shirt; solid tie (no stripes, pattern); dark dress trousers; dark socks; well-polished dress shoes; hair well-groomed and above shirt collar; face clean-shaven; no earrings or other piercings, no gum.

Girls: appropriate dress; light-colored heels (no flip flops); hairstyle simple because of cap; simple jewelry; no gum; no corsages or bouquets, no purses or small bags, no nose rings or other piercings other than earrings.

There will **NOT** be a secure location to leave student personal items (cell phones, keys etc. at the OceanFirst Bank Center.)

DIRECTIONS / PARKING

St. Mary's Parish is located at 19 Cherry Tree Farm Road, Middletown Township. There is ample parking available.

We suggest that you check the Monmouth University website for directions if you are not sure of Monmouth University's location. Ample parking is available in front of the MAC and is easily accessible from the Larchwood Avenue entrance. Please refer to the map provided to see exact location of parking for guests.



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ARRIVAL TIMES

- **Baccalaureate Mass: May 30th**
 - **Graduates**→ arrive at the Church at 6:15p.m.
 - **Guests**→ doors open at the Church at 6:15p.m.
- **Commencement Ceremony: May 31st**
 - **Graduates**→ arrive at the OceanFirst Bank Center at 9:15a.m.
 - **Guests**→ doors open at the OceanFirst Bank Center at 9:15a.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Please do not bring balloons into the MAC or noisemakers of any kind.**
- Traffic along the access streets to Monmouth University can be heavy at times. Please plan accordingly.
- We ask that parents discuss with their graduate and with their guests what constitutes appropriate behavior for a Commencement exercise.

Included, is an online student contract that each senior must e-sign, parents & guardians must see before the submission deadline of Friday, May 12th, 2023.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Taking good pictures at Monmouth might be very difficult. No one will be permitted to come onto the floor of the facility. All guests must remain seated in the bleachers. To help you with this important task, we have arranged for professional photographers to take a close-up picture of your graduate as he/she receives their diploma. You may also order a DVD video of the ceremonies. Information for both will be available on the Graduation Information section of the website.

HANDICAP/ DISABILITY ACCESS

To accommodate special needs for your guests as soon as possible, please fill out the online form located on the Graduation Information webpage. You will also find a map of the designated handicapped entry the MAC and where the reserved seating will be to best accommodate all of your guests.

SAVE THE DATE!

Monday May 22, 2023

7:00 p.m. Eck Center

Students selected for awards will be notified in early May. Eligible senior athletes will receive their Casey blankets that evening.

All graduation related information can be found under the Student Life section of the RBC website.

Mr. Matt Bowen & Nicole Mercer
Graduation Coordinators