



# PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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**Fr. John Merkelis, OSA, President**  
[jmerkelis@providencatholic.org](mailto:jmerkelis@providencatholic.org)

March 22, 2022

Dear Parents of the Class of 2022,

**“Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master’s joy.” Mt. 25:21**

I thought the quote from Matthew’s gospel would be a fitting way to open this letter, containing significant information regarding the concluding events of this school year. **Please read this letter carefully; I suggest you post it at home for easy reference.** The topics covered are:

## **Prom, Senior Dinner Dance, Baccalaureate Mass & Graduation**

### **PROM**

Where: Crystal Tree Golf and Country Club; 10700 W 153rd St, Orland Park, IL 60462  
When: Friday, April 29, 2022  
Time: 6:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.  
Phone: (708) 403-3000

### **SENIOR DINNER DANCE**

Where: Tuscany Falls, 9425 W. 191<sup>st</sup> St., Mokena, IL  
When: Wednesday, May 18, 2022  
Time: 6:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.  
Phone: (708) 479-1919

### **BACCALAUREATE MASS**

Where: Bishop Kaffer Stadium on the campus of Providence Catholic High School  
When: Friday, May 20, 2022  
Time: Seniors report to their 2<sup>nd</sup> hour class by 8:25 a.m.  
Mass begins at 9:00 a.m.

### **GRADUATION**

Where: Bishop Kaffer Stadium on the campus of Providence Catholic High School  
When: Saturday, May 21, 2022; Rain date Sunday, May 22, 2022  
Time: Ceremony begins at 7:00 p.m.  
Seniors arrive through the East Stadium Gate no later than 6:30 p.m.  
Stadium opens to guests at 6:00 p.m.

## **PROM**

The Providence Catholic High School Junior/Senior Prom will be held on Friday, April 29, 2022, from 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at Crystal Tree Golf and Country Club located at 10700 W 153rd St, Orland Park, IL 60462.

The theme is Midnight Masquerade and formal attire is required. Tickets will be on sale March 28<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> during lunches. Please note: There are no ticket sales on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$150.00/couple or \$75/individual. Payment must be by check made payable to Providence Catholic High School.

Per the Providence Catholic Tuition Policy (#9):

*Regarding prom: the student tuition account must be current for a student to purchase a ticket to prom and must continue to be current for the student to attend prom. Payments made the week leading up to prom must be in the form of credit card, cash, a cashier's check or money order.*

**We do not encourage freshmen and sophomores to attend the prom; however, it is our policy to allow them to be accompanied by a junior or senior member of the Providence Catholic student body if they have your permission.**

We are very concerned about allowing teenagers to enjoy all night parties with or without alcohol. We continue to be concerned about the safety of our children, especially within modern American culture, which promotes excessive celebration and directs advertising for such things toward adolescent consumers. Please consider the following points as you and your teenager make plans about your child's prom night.

1. Know and supervise your child's prom plans for the evening, including the students he/she will be with, how they will be transported to and from the prom, and their post prom plans.
2. Call the parents of the other students with whom your son/daughter will spend the evening so that there is a clear understanding of the group's plans. Working together for our children's safety is an ongoing responsibility.
3. We at Providence Catholic expect that you will not rent a hotel room for your child and that you will not host a party which provides access to alcohol and/or other drugs.
4. If your child is traveling by limousine, please call the company directly and verify departure and arrival times, the total cost of transportation with no hidden charges for mileage, etc., and make sure that the company has a policy of not allowing or providing alcohol for under-aged customers.
5. We at Providence Catholic expect that our students will behave as responsible young people who are aware of the values and teachings of their Catholic faith. Please instruct your child that you expect him/her to celebrate in a responsible manner without the use of alcohol.

6. Please remember that we will bring breathalyzers to the prom and the senior dinner dance and will randomly breathalyze students. At prom, as at any Providence Catholic event, all disciplinary policies will be enforced.
7. Set a reasonable curfew for the evening's activities. No student or group of students needs to be out all night. A reasonable schedule of activities, including prom plus a stop for food or entertainment could easily be concluded no later than 2:00 a.m. If you allow your child to remain overnight at another family's home, please call that family to confirm their presence and to verify the evening's plans.
8. Reinforce the fact that you are doing these things because you love your son/daughter and want your child to enjoy the prom evening in a safe, responsible and supervised way.

## **SENIOR DINNER DANCE**

The senior dinner dance will be held at **Tuscany Falls, 9425 West 191<sup>st</sup> Street, Mokena, Illinois, (708) 479-1919** on **Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>** from **6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.** Tickets will be sold out of the Spirit Shop. Seniors should watch the announcement for additional information. All parents and seniors are reminded that school policies are in effect at the dinner dance. Please keep in mind that the alcohol and drug policy will be enforced and that the senior dinner dance is semi-formal, which means a dressed-up occasion.

## **BACCALAUREATE MASS**

All senior parents are invited to join the graduating class, along with the faculty, staff, and student body, in the celebration of Baccalaureate Mass on **Friday, May 20, 2022, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** in Bishop Kaffer Stadium. In the case of inclement weather, the Baccalaureate Mass will be held in the Sacred Heart Gymnasium. Seniors should arrive at their second period class by 8:25 a.m. Immediately following the Mass, we will host a brief reception in the Sacred Heart Gymnasium for all guests and graduates.

Seniors must wear appropriate dress for this celebration, including their cap and gown. Shirts and ties are required for boys and no extra decorations on the caps and gowns will be allowed. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the private conferral of the diploma and ineligibility to participate in the public graduation ceremony.

## **GRADUATION**

The graduation of the Class of 2022 will be celebrated at **7:00 p.m.** on **Saturday, May 21, 2022,** in Bishop Kaffer Stadium. The stadium will open to guests at 6:00 p.m. and seniors must arrive no later than 6:30 p.m. through the East Gate of the stadium.

Admission is by ticket only. Each graduate will receive **EIGHT tickets** (two for the field and six for the bleachers) for parents and guests. These will be distributed to the graduates at graduation practice on May 19<sup>th</sup>. If you do not intend to use all eight tickets, need accessible seating or would like to request additional tickets, please email Mrs. Sallade, Administrative Assistant to

the President & Principal, at [msallade@providencethecatholic.org](mailto:msallade@providencethecatholic.org) no later than Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. Additional tickets are not guaranteed.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS**

Notification of all scholarships and awards must be turned in to the Counseling Office by **Friday, May 6, 2022**, in order to be included in the graduation program. Information turned in after this date will not be included in the program.

## **BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY**

Burns Photography will be photographing all aspects of the Providence Catholic Graduation Ceremony 2022. The graduates gather prior to the ceremony as a group and many candid moments are captured by Burns' photographers. Once the graduation ceremony begins, a photographer will photograph the diploma presentation on stage. These images may be viewed on the Burns Photography website. Images may be purchased through the website and parents and students order as they wish.

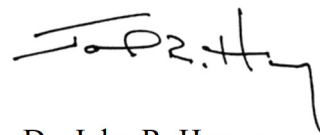
More detailed information concerning graduation pictures and the ceremony will be included in your student's graduation ticket packet.

Thank you for your work and your cooperation with us over the past four years. It has been our great pleasure to have your wonderful children as our students during their high school career at Providence Catholic High School.

In Truth, Unity & Love,



Fr. John D. Merkelis, OSA  
President



Dr. John R. Harper  
Principal

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