



PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Fr. John Merkelis, OSA, President
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April 3, 2023

Dear Parents of the Class of 2023,

“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, which contains important information regarding the concluding events of this school year. **Please read this letter carefully; I suggest you post it at home for easy reference.**

PROM: FRI., 4/28/23

Where: Bolingbrook Golf Club; 2001 Rodéo Dr., Bolingbrook
Time: 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.
Phone: (630) 771-9400

The prom is open to ALL JUNIORS and SENIORS ONLY. **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.** Outside guests are allowed for juniors and seniors, but students are allowed to bring only one guest.

The theme is “Dancing Through the Decades” and formal attire is required. Tickets are \$160.00/couple or \$80/individual and were on sale March 27th – 31st. Ticket charges will be added to your student’s FACTS tuition account.

Per the Providence Catholic Tuition Policy (#6):

Regarding Prom: the student tuition account must be current for a student to purchase a ticket to Prom and remain current for the student to attend Prom.

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 inappropriate celebration. Please consider the following points as you and your student make plans for 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 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 or other drugs.
4. If your child is traveling by limousine, please call the company directly and verify departure and arrival times and make sure 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 according to 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/drugs.
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 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: WED., 5/17/23

Where: Tuscan Falls, 9425 W. 191st St., Mokena
Time: 6:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.
Phone: (708) 479-1919

Tickets for the Senior Dinner Dance will be sold out of the Spirit Shop. Seniors should watch the announcements for additional information. Please remember school policies are in effect at the dinner dance and keep in mind the alcohol and drug policy will be enforced. The senior dinner dance is semi-formal, which means modest dresses & dress shoes/sandals for girls, and shirt, tie, dress pants & dress shoes for boys.

GRADUATION PRACTICE & SR. BREAKFAST: THURS., 5/18/23

Where: Brown Student Commons & Bishop Kaffer Stadium
Time: 7:55 a.m.

All seniors are to report to the Sacred Heart Gymnasium by 7:55 a.m. for attendance and class picture. Seniors- dress code shorts or pants, and shoes are required. You may wear a shirt representing the college you will be attending or a Providence Catholic spirit wear top. Seniors will be dismissed after graduation practice.

BACCALAUREATE MASS: FRI., 5/19/23

Where: Bishop Kaffer Stadium on the campus of Providence Catholic High School
When: Friday, May 19, 2023
Time: Seniors report to their 2nd hour class by 8:25 a.m.
Mass begins at 9:00 a.m.

We invite you and your family to join the graduating class, along with the faculty, staff, and student body, in the celebration of Baccalaureate Mass on **Friday, May 19, 2023, 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. No extra decorations on the caps and gowns will be allowed.

GRADUATION: SAT., 5/20/23

Where: Bishop Kaffer Stadium on the campus of Providence Catholic High School
When: Saturday, May 20, 2023; Rain date Sunday, May 21, 2023
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.

The graduation of the Class of 2023 will be celebrated at **7:00 p.m.** on **Saturday, May 20, 2023**, in Bishop Kaffer Stadium. The stadium will open to guests at 6:00 p.m. 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 18th.

If you need accessible seating or parking, would like to request additional tickets, or do not intend to use all eight tickets, please email Mrs. Sallade, Administrative Assistant to the President & Principal, at msallade@providencecatholic.org no later than Friday, April 21st. Additional tickets are not guaranteed.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

We include awards and scholarships in various publications, including the graduation program. We want to make sure that your student's awards are included! Please submit your notification of all accepted awards and scholarships to the Counseling Office no later than **Friday, May 5, 2023**.

BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

Burns Photography will be photographing all aspects of the Providence Catholic Graduation Ceremony 2023. 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 and purchased on the Burns Photography website. More detailed information concerning graduation pictures and the ceremony will be included in your student's graduation ticket packet.

Thank you for all your efforts and cooperation with us over the past four years. It has been our great pleasure to work with you and your wonderful children at Providence Catholic High School.

In Truth, Unity & Love,



Fr. John D. Merkelis, OSA
President



Mr. Paul Houston
Principal