



PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Fr. John Merkalis, OSA, President
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March 29, 2019

Dear Parents:

“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, Baccalaureate Mass, Senior Dinner Dance & Graduation

PROM

Where: Bolingbrook Country Club, 2001 Rodeo Dr., Bolingbrook, IL
When: Friday, May 3rd, 2019
Time: 6:30 PM until 10:00 PM
Phone: (630) 771.9400

SENIOR DINNER DANCE

Where: Tuscany Falls, 9425 W. 191st St., Mokena, IL
When: Wednesday, May 15th, 2019
Time: 6:30 PM until 10:30 PM
Phone: (708) 479.1919

BACCALAUREATE MASS

Where: P.C.H.S. Gymnasium
When: Monday, May 20th, 2019
Time: Seniors report to their 2nd hour class by 8:25 AM
Mass begins at 8:50 AM

GRADUATION

Where: Rialto Square Theatre, 102 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL
When: Thursday, May 23rd, 2019
Time: 7:30 PM; Seniors arrive by 6:45 PM

PROM

The annual Providence Catholic High School Junior/Senior Prom will be held at Bolingbrook Golf Club on Friday, May 3rd, 2019. The prom will be held between **6:30 PM and 10:00 PM**. Bolingbrook Golf Club is at 2001 Rodeo Dr., Bolingbrook, IL. An emergency telephone number for the night is 630.771.9400. Tickets were \$160.00/couple or \$80/individual and were on sale March 25th & 26th. Also attached is a picture order form for your convenience.

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 be unsupervised in hotel rooms and enjoying 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 which cannot be relinquished. Please use the Providence Catholic Family Directory to assist you in contacting members of the Providence Family.
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 AM. 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 191st Street, Mokena, Illinois, 708-479-1919)** on **Wednesday, May 15th** from **6:30 PM to 10:30 PM**. Students will receive additional information in English classes in April, along with a request for students to RSVP. 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 **Monday, May 20th, 2019 beginning at 8:50 AM** in the Sacred Heart Gymnasium. Seniors should arrive at their second period class by 8:25 AM. Immediately following the Mass, we will host a brief reception in the Brown Student Commons for all guests and graduates.

Seniors must wear appropriate dress for this celebration. Shirts and ties are required for boys and no extra decorations on the caps and gowns will be allowed. Failure to comply with our 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 2019 will be celebrated on **Thursday, May 23rd, 2019** at the Rialto Square Theater in Joliet beginning at **7:30 PM**. The theater is located at 102 N. Chicago Street. Doors will be open promptly at 6:30 PM. Admission is by ticket only, but seating in each section (main floor or balcony) will be on a first arrival basis. Graduates will receive **SIX tickets** (three for the main floor and three for the balcony) for parents and guests. These will be distributed to the graduates at graduation practice on May 16th. If you do not intend to use all six tickets, please return the unused tickets to Mrs. Ball in our Pastoral Office, so that requests from other families may be accommodated. **Requests for extra tickets must be made by Thursday, May 2nd. Requests for one or two tickets will be honored in the order in which they were received. If there are still tickets available after all requests for one or two are**

filled, requests for more than two will be honored until all tickets are issued. To request extra tickets you can either call 815.717.3177 or email at kball@providencecatholic.org.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Notification of all scholarships and awards must be turned in to the Counseling Office by **Wednesday, May 1st, 2019** 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 2019.

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. This information will be distributed in their graduation packets as we get closer to the ceremony.

ATTACHMENTS

Attached with this letter is a booklet entitled, Teens, Decisions, and the Law, which is provided by our Counseling Department. Please utilize the information and discuss these issues with your children.

In addition, we have included a letter from the Dean's Office as well as the Graduation Yard Sign order form. 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.

Sincerely,

Fr. John D. Merkelis, OSA
President

Dr. John R. Harper
Principal

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Attachments