#### **Preparation**

- Students should wear graduation cap/gown (with stoles & honor cords) and should be well-groomed. Under the gowns, students' clothing and shoes should be appropriate for the occasion. Professional photos will be taken. For the gentlemen, we recommend dress pants and dress shoes, a shirt (an optional tie) with a collar. For the women, we recommend a dress or dress pants & top, and dress shoes.
- Each family is allowed two vehicles. No limos, RVs or buses. We encourage you to decorate your vehicles!

#### Arrival

- 1. Vehicles must enter campus from Gougar Rd., directly south of the Nicor Gas property, and head toward the gravel parking lot.
- 2. **Please arrive between 15 and 30 minutes before your scheduled graduation time**. It will be a tremendous help to have both family cars arrive together. This will expedite the lineup process for the procession.
- 3. Upon arrival, check in with staff at the tent. Follow instructions from staff and park in the area designated for your scheduled time.
- 4. Please remain in your cars while waiting and enjoy the music we have chosen especially for the day!
- 5. Graduate should sit on the passenger side of the first cars, so that he/she can exit easily.

#### **Procession**

- Listen to staff for the 5-minute warning.
- A PCHS white athletic bus will lead your procession. Be sure to keep pace with the vehicle in front of you.
- At no time during the procession should the graduate or any other person leave their vehicles.
- As you approach the graduation stage near Door 4, there will be staff guiding cars. Please follow their directions! It is important that we keep to our schedule so that families are not kept waiting.

### **Graduation Stage**

- 1. Staff will direct your family cars to the viewing location in front of the stage.
- 2. Staff will be on hand to assist the Graduate, but this is the general process for your information: When the car stops, the Graduate exits car and proceeds toward the podium, located to the right of the stage. As Graduate's name is announced, he/she continues walking toward right side of stage and climb stairs to the stage. (Graduate should NOT stop at the podium.) Family members remain in their vehicles.
- 3. On stage, Graduate picks up a diploma. Professional photo will be taken and family members cheer! In keeping with social distancing guidelines, Graduate should not shake hands (or hug) Fr. Merk or Dr. Harper on stage.
- 4. Graduate exits the stage on the opposite side, where another professional photo will be taken.
- 5. As Graduate exits stage, staff will signal drivers to proceed forward to allow the next family to pull up to stage. Once again, please be sure to follow staff direction so that we can keep on schedule.
- 6. Graduate returns to car.

### **Post-Graduation**

- Vehicles follow signs around the back of the building and proceed toward the Student Commons entrance (Door 14). Staff members will meet your car and give you your senior packet containing your diploma and other information.
- Optional Family Photo: If you would like to have a family photo taken, follow staff member directions to park your cars in the roundabout. Professional photographers will take ONE photo of your family. We have selected locations that will provide a beautiful background of the grotto and trees. So that all families have a photo opportunity, please do not request to have additional photos taken at this time.

# **Exiting**

Cars leave the roundabout and exit on the west side of campus. ESDA officers will be directing traffic; you will only be allowed to turn right onto Route 30.

## **More Photo Opportunities**

If you would like to come back to take additional photos on campus, many of the decorations will remain in place until the next day. We ask that you do not return to campus until after 7:00 PM Saturday, when the last graduate will have walked the stage!