

Dear Parents/ Guardians of the IHM School Eighth Graders,

It is a JOY to be writing to you today, to bring you the much anticipated graduation details! While it is still weeks away, we know that these details are important to have as you begin to plan and communicate with your families. Thank you for reading through the entirety of this letter, as there are a few needed items in addition to important information to know.

First, a few schedule notes for graduation day:

Graduation will take place on Sunday, June 3rd - at the 10:15am Mass. On that day, the graduates will meet in Marian Hall before Mass (at 9:45am), and then process in behind Father for Mass. Families of the graduates can go directly to church that morning, and sit in the reserved seating. Each graduate will have their own pew -- feel free to seat as many (or as few) people as you would like from your family/friends that can fit in one pew. Everyone else that is accompanying you can sit elsewhere in the church.

At the conclusion of Mass all 8th graders (and whoever is sitting in the reserved pews) will ALL process out, following Father Chad. Eventually, the entire church should be processing out, and will follow over to Marian Hall in a Eucharistic Procession.

Once arrived at Marian Hall, there will be a brief moment of Adoration, followed by a "light reception" that the parish community is invited to. This "light reception" will contain cookies and lemonade, and will give parishioners a chance to meet the graduates and their families, and to check out the art display that will be set up in Marian Hall. This "light reception" will take place from 11:30-12:15.

At 12:15, we will ask all parishioners to make their way out of Marian Hall -- inviting just the graduates and their family/friends to take their seats for a luncheon. This luncheon will include a brief graduation program. The luncheon and program should conclude around 2:00pm.

It is with this layout that we truly feel will celebrate and honor the 8th grade students who have worked so hard to reach this accomplishment!

As a recap:

9:45 am	Graduates in Marian Hall (Families can go directly to reserved pews at the Church)
10:15 am	Graduation Mass begins
11:15am	Eucharistic Procession into Marian Hall following Mass
11:30-12:15	"Light Reception" in Marian Hall for the parish
12:30-2:00	Luncheon and Program for graduates and families in Marian Hall

Important Dates & Times:

By May 15th

- Please fill out online registration form to indicate how many people will be attending. This is included in the e-mail that this letter was sent in!
- Send \$10 cash/check for each additional person above 6 that will be attending the luncheon.
- In addition, each student is asked to provide 8-12 photos of the graduate and/or their family for a photo slide show presentation at the reception (baby to eighth grade and special activities or events.) Photos can be emailed, sent on a flash drive or a cd.

May 30th

- Last day of scheduled classes for the eighth grade.
- 2:30 Clap Out – As a tradition, the eighth grade students are honored by the entire student body, teachers and staff as they leave the school for the last time as eighth graders. Parents and families are encouraged to attend. It is truly special!

Graduation Attire

We are providing some general guidelines for “what to wear” and “what not to wear” during graduation Mass. These are based on past experiences, and to ensure the students are dressed appropriately for such a ceremony. Please remember, graduation is part of Mass and not a prom, formal dinner, or dance.

Girls:

- Knee length dresses are appropriate (really short skirts or dresses are not)
- Shoulders **must** be covered. If the dress has narrow shoulder straps, then a shawl, sweater, jacket or shrug **must be worn**. The students walk, sit, and kneel during Mass, so a tight fitting dress is not practical.
- Shoes should be such that the students feel comfortable walking on the **slippery marble floors** in the church. Extra high heels are not practical.
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Boys:

- Dress slacks, a solid color dress shirt with a tie, and dress shoes are appropriate and look nice, but nothing too wild.
- Sport coats or suits are acceptable, but not required.
- Gym/tennis shoes are not appropriate and should **not** be worn.

Academics

It is the wish of the school staff to continue to provide a quality education for your child right up

until graduation day. We are asking for your continued support in stressing the importance of school and your child's obligation to his or her studies these last few weeks. Please continue to encourage him/her to keep up his/her studies, turn in all assignments on time, and follow all school rules and guidelines including attendance. Submission of numerous late assignments on the last day is unacceptable.

School/Financial Obligations

Please make certain that all school materials, including textbooks, sports uniforms, and library books are returned to school. Please be sure your accounts are up to date prior to May 25th.

School Records to High School

Please provide the name of the high school your child will attend to the office prior to graduation or as soon as information regarding open enrollment is available. The IHM school office will forward your child's records to his/her high school. If you should change plans over the summer, please contact the school district in which your child would have been enrolled, and they will forward the records to the new school.

The students are looking forward to graduation as this is a major event in their lives. Our experience tells us that sticking to routine activities and requirements helps everyone deal with the anxiety. We hope that this letter answers/clarifies any questions that you may have. Feel free to call the school office (222-8831) with any additional questions. Mr. Reinbold can also be reached by e-mail at sreinbold@ihmparish.org

God Bless!

Mr. Shane Reinbold, Mrs. Callie Meiller, Fr. Chad Droessler