

November, 2008

Dear Parent,

Enclosed you will find important information concerning the 2009 Commencement Weekend – May 8, 9, and 10.

**COMMENCEMENT TICKETS:**

Every graduate will receive up to 7 tickets for Commencement Exercises in the Knott Arena. An auxiliary venue featuring a real-time web cast will also be available on the main campus in the Knott Auditorium. Further correspondence regarding ordering of tickets, caps, gowns, and announcements will be sent to all graduates by the end of January. Commencement tickets will be given to your son/daughter at the time of the ordering of the cap and gown. **Tickets are required for the Knott Arena. Seating for the remote broadcast in the Marion Burk Knott Auditorium will also be available.**

**OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS:**

All graduating students currently living on campus will be staying in their own rooms during graduation weekend. If you need to make arrangements for accommodations, a list of hotels in the area can be found on the University webpage (<http://www.msmary.edu/admissions/visit-campus/stay.html>).

**GRADUATION DINNER – Saturday, May 9:**

Following the Baccalaureate Mass, the University will be offering a special buffet dinner featuring London Broil, Roasted Chicken with Crawfish and Shrimp Ragout, Portabella Marinara Ravioli, Rice Pilaf, Julienne Zucchini, Dessert and Beverage, in Patriot Hall from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Adults and Graduates \$ 35.00/person.

Children (12 and under) \$15.00/person.

Tables will be reserved for your party. Cash bar with beer and wine will be available along with dinner music.

**Advanced reservations are required. Seating is limited.**

**PICTURES:**

In order to protect the dignity of the ceremony, guests **will not** be permitted close to the stage for pictures. A professional photographer will take a picture of each senior receiving a diploma. Proofs of these pictures will be sent to each senior in June.

**COMMENCEMENT DVD:**

You may order a DVD of the entire Commencement Ceremony for \$25.00 by returning the enclosed form along with your check by April 15, 2009. The DVD will be sent to you in June.

Further correspondence about Commencement (ordering of tickets, caps and gowns as well as announcements) will be sent to **students** by the end of January.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Conferences Office at [conferences@msmary.edu](mailto:conferences@msmary.edu) or you may call them at 301-447-5330.

Sincerely,



David B. Rehm  
Vice President for Academic Affairs