



SAINT JAMES SCHOOL  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Dear 8th Grader Parent,

This is an exciting time for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students! Preparations for the graduation ceremony will begin in a few short months. The students will receive more information about that at a later date. Caps and gowns have already been ordered and should arrive in April in time for May Crowning.

We would like to inform you of other directions relative to the graduation liturgy ahead of time.

1. Graduation is at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, in the Parish Center (unless we hear otherwise). Since more seating is available in the Parish Center you may bring as many guests as you would like. There are no tickets to have to deal with and you won't need to arrive before 9:30.
2. Please ask your graduate to eat before coming to graduation. We have had students faint in the past and we do not want that to happen.
3. Please have your graduate arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. and go directly to his/her homeroom.
4. Your graduate must bring the graduation cap, gown, white collar (girls only,) and sufficient hairpins to secure the cap. Do not bring brushes, combs, hairspray, makeup, etc. Grooming needs to be done at home. **Please attach the white collars to the girls' gowns with a sufficient number of safety pins** to secure them.
5. Please impress upon your student that no one is permitted to toss the caps at the end of the graduation. It is a safety issue and a violation of our insurance policy.
6. The graduation ceremony takes place after communion. The students receive their diplomas in the order in which they process (alphabetically); their names are printed in the "Order of Service." Please hold your applause until all diplomas are received.
7. As Father Matt presents the diploma, he will pose for a picture with each student. You may step into the aisle to take a picture. Once your child has received the diploma, please step away so the next family can get a picture.
8. The graduates will sing a class song after the ceremony. This is the perfect time for a group picture.
9. You are free to remain after the ceremony to take pictures.
10. NJHS students will have an additional sash to wear during the ceremony. Please be sure it is returned after all pictures have been taken, but before you leave for your celebrations.

We look forward to celebrating this happy occasion with you and your families. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Pappas

Mrs. Balogh

Mrs. Esquivel

Mr. Bilski

Mrs. Farrell