March 26, 2018

Dear Graduates and Families of the Class of 2018,

We look forward to celebrating with you at the Undergraduate Commencement on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. We are proud of the Class of 2018 and share your high expectations for a special day that will mark the end of one important journey and the beginning of the next.

The ceremony will be an open-air, rain-or-shine event on Curran Field. Each graduate will have seven tickets and seating will be general admission on a first come, first serve basis. We are unable to allow people who arrive early to save multiple seats. The ceremony will be available for viewing via live streaming in a number of locations on campus (check www.sju.edu/commencement for details). The indoor areas are all air-conditioned, and we encourage people to consider these alternative sites for good viewing opportunities. In the event that weather poses a danger to our graduates and guests, the Commencement exercises will be moved to the Michael J. Hagan '85 Arena. Each graduate will be limited to two guests in the Hagan Arena, who must present the white barcoded tickets for entry. Additional guests may view the ceremony at one of the many livestreaming locations.

All our SJU families have made significant investments to arrive at this day and expect that the occasion will be one of dignity, meaning and significance. To ensure a positive commencement experience for all graduates and their families, we ask that you please observe the following:

Choose appropriate footwear. The procession path involves steps and the lawn areas may be wet and uneven.

Stay in line and keep pace with the procession. For the ceremony to start on time, and in order not to keep our guests waiting, the procession must move effectively. Do not stop for pictures or to talk to people along the route. Graduates will fill out seating in the order they process in.

Keep track of blue name cards. Each graduate will receive a blue card with their name on it to be handed to the announcer as you cross the stage. Failure to produce a legible blue card will result in your name not being announced.

Do not bring alcoholic beverages to Commencement. Those found with alcoholic beverages and those found to be visibly intoxicated will be removed.

Do not leave your seats to take photos. Professional photographers will take photos of each graduate, and the photographer will contact you about purchasing them.

Silence your cell phones and cooperate with the security staff.
During the ceremony, please show courtesy to the speakers. Do not engage in disruptive behavior, and do not bring inflatables to the ceremony, or you will be asked to leave. Please show respect for all the graduates who have labored long and hard to earn their degrees.

All graduates must remain for the entire ceremony. Do not leave after you are recognized. Diplomas will be mailed to your home address.

Graduates and guests are asked to leave campus by 12:30 p.m. Parking is limited and the University will host Commencement for graduate and doctoral students in the afternoon.

You are encouraged to view the commencement website (www.sju.edu/commencement) for details about other weekend events, such as Friday evening’s Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement Celebration.

With your cooperation, the Commencement ceremony will be a wonderful culmination of your time on Hawk Hill. We look forward to sharing in this special day with you and congratulate our graduates on their outstanding achievements at Saint Joseph's University.

Sincerely,

Jeanne F. Brady, Ph.D.  Cary M. Anderson, Ed.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic  Vice President for Student Life and Associate Provost
Affairs