Dear Parents of Graduating Seniors:

Congratulations! If your son is a senior and on schedule with his academic plans, your family can begin making plans to attend Commencement 2010.

This is the only mailing with Commencement information sent to parents of graduating SJU seniors. During the spring semester your son will receive commencement information via email with reminders about the information included in this mailing.

Important information to assist you in your Commencement planning includes:

Commencement is scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, May 9, 2010, in the Abbey Church. Commencement-related activities for Saint John’s include a Baccalaureate Eucharist at 10 a.m. and the Commencement luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Questions about Commencement Day 2010
Contact Shirley Kelly
by e-mail
SKelly@csbsju.edu
or by phone
320-363-3147
http://www.csbsju.edu/news/commencement

Make your hotel reservations early if you plan on staying overnight in the St. Cloud area.

Graduation announcements, gift ideas and information on ordering a DVD of the ceremony are included in this mailing.

Be sure to save this mailing for ordering instructions.

We wish you and your son a memorable and meaningful Commencement Day.

Sincerely,

Joseph DesJardins
Associate Provost and
Academic Dean
Grad Finale

On Thursday, March 18, 2010 the Saint John’s Bookstore will host an event called Grad Finale for all seniors to take care of final needs for graduation. Students will verify that they are eligible for commencement participation with the Registrar’s office. The student may pick up their cap and gown, order graduation announcements, class rings and have a close-up photo taken in a cap and gown at no charge or obligation. Separate information will go out to parents and students at the beginning of February regarding this event from the Bookstore.

Lodging

Information for hotels in the St. Cloud area can be found at http://www.granitecountry.com. There are other college graduations in the area that weekend and lodging fills up fast.

Commencement Ceremony Tickets

Each graduate will receive three (3) tickets for his family members and guests to attend the ceremony in the Abbey Church. The number of tickets allocated is based on the number of graduates and the seating capacity of the church. We will not have extra tickets for distribution.

Doors open and tickets will be accepted at 1:00 p.m. The Stephen B. Humphrey and Pellegrene Auditorium will also be available for general viewing of the ceremony on closed circuit, big screen viewing with no ticket required. Please let us know (skelly@csbsju.edu or 320-363-3147) if you have any one in your party who will need accessible seating at the ceremony.

Graduates will be able to pick up their Ceremony and Luncheon tickets at the SJU Bookstore on:
Friday, May 7, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Saturday, May 8, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Sunday, May 9, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

There will be a $35 commencement fee charged to each student’s account which will cover the cost of the cap and gown, diploma and meal. Students not participating in the commencement ceremonies may have the fee removed from their account by contacting the Registrar’s Office at 320-363-3396.

Distribution of Academic Regalia

Graduates may pick up their cap and gown at the Grad Finale on March 18. Those who are unable to attend the Grad Finale can pick up their cap and gown at the Bookstore May 7-9.

Commencement Luncheon Tickets

Each graduate is entitled to four (4) free tickets for the Commencement luncheon. Your son will need one of the luncheon tickets for himself. Additional luncheon tickets may be purchased for $8.00 each. Tickets are on sale beginning April 15 from the SJU Dining Services at 320-363-2240. The Commencement luncheon will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Guild Hall (Old Gym) and the Refectory.
Graduation Announcements
Graduation announcements can be ordered from Herff Jones. Representatives will be on campus to take orders March 18 at the senior Grad Finale, or you can contact Herff Jones at 1-952-447-4449. Orders may also be placed online at www.Herffjones.com/college/graduation.

Commencement Webcast
Commencement exercises will be webcast over the Internet. To view the webcast, go to the CSB/SJU Commencement Web page at “www.csbsju.edu/news/commencement” and click on the link labeled “SJU Commencement Video”. The webcast will begin one hour prior to Commencement.

Also, a few days after Commencement a video file of the ceremony will be available at the above Commencement web address.

Graduation Gifts
The SJU Bookstore carries many gifts that may interest you for graduation. Some of the items include gift cards, diploma frames, afghans, clothing, imprinted gifts, glassware, etc. There are limited quantities available in the store. Please contact our store at 1-800-420-4509 or shop online at www.csbsju.edu/bookstore.

Graduation Photos
For your convenience, Saint John’s has made arrangements for a professional photographer to record the moment your son is awarded his diploma. Your son will receive a proof on line one week after the ceremony. There is no obligation to purchase, and you will have the option of ordering several enlargement packages at very reasonable prices. www.gradimages.com.

SJU Commencement Weekend

Saturday, May 8
12 p.m. to 4 p.m. SJU Bookstore hours Sexton Commons
5:30 p.m. ROTC Officers Commissioned Stephen B Humphrey Theatre

Sunday, May 9
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. SJU Bookstore hours Sexton Commons
10 a.m. Community Mass Abbey Church
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Commencement Luncheon Refectory & Guild Hall (Old Gym)
1 p.m. Commencement seating available Abbey Church
2 p.m. Commencement Ceremony Abbey Church
3:30 p.m. Commencement Reception Abbey Church Mall

Commencement Questions
The Office of the Associate Provost and Academic Dean coordinates the activities on commencement day for Saint John’s University. Please refer to the commencement Web address at http://www.csbsju.edu/news/commencement. You may direct your questions to Shirley Kelly at 320-363-3147 or by e-mail to skelly@csbsju.edu.
TO THE PARENTS OF