

# VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIXTH YEAR



## COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

TWO THOUSAND NINE

# CLASS OF 2009

*Dear* GRADUATE AND FAMILY,

It is my pleasure to send you information about your upcoming graduation. You have worked hard over many years to reach Commencement Day and I am sure you feel great pride in this accomplishment. I am privileged to share some small part of that pride in your Villanova successes in and out of the classroom.

My hope for each graduate is that you have been transformed in both mind and heart during your time at Villanova University and that our Augustinian spirit of seeking truth in a community of friends has touched your life in a personal way.

On behalf of the entire University community, I wish you the best as you complete your current studies at Villanova and congratulate you on your accomplishments. I look forward to a joyful celebration with you, the Class of 2009, as your lifelong relationship with Villanova transitions from students to alumni.

Sincerely,



Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A.  
President

## COMMENCEMENT OVERVIEW:

This year, Commencement Weekend will take place May 14-17, 2009 and will be highlighted by the Baccalaureate Liturgy celebrated on Saturday, May 16 and the Commencement ceremony for all colleges and degrees on Sunday, May 17. Both events will take place in Villanova Stadium and are open to the entire University community.

It is important to note that there are some changes to the Commencement Weekend Schedule. We are excited to announce that the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will host Recognition Ceremonies for the entire college. The undergraduate and graduate ceremonies will take place on Saturday along with the School of Business, College of Nursing and College of Engineering events that take place that day. You will be receiving more specific information about those events from the individual colleges. A new tradition that started last year is back again... and the University President, Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A. will be hosting a reception for all graduates and their guests on Friday evening. We hope to see you there!

Please read this booklet and retain it for your reference as graduation approaches. It contains valuable information and several action items throughout the Spring semester regarding diplomas, announcements, and cap and gown pick-up, as well as events during Commencement weekend.

For this and other Commencement information, please refer to the Commencement web site, which can also be accessed through the parents' web site ([www.parents.villanova.edu](http://www.parents.villanova.edu)), Villanova's homepage ([www.villanova.edu](http://www.villanova.edu)), or directly at [www.villanova.edu/commencement](http://www.villanova.edu/commencement).

# COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### THURSDAY, MAY 14

1:30 p.m. – Army ROTC Commissioning, Old Main Building, Widener University

### FRIDAY, MAY 15

9:00 a.m. – Villanova School of Law Mass, St. Thomas of Villanova Church

11:00 a.m. – Villanova School of Law Ceremony, The Pavilion  
Villanova School of Law Reception to Follow, Sheehan Lawn

1:30 p.m. – Naval Commissioning Mass, St. Thomas of Villanova Church

2:30 p.m. – Naval Commissioning, Villanova Room, Connelly Center

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. – President's Reception for Graduates and Guests, Connelly Center

### SATURDAY, MAY 16

8:30 a.m. – Villanova School of Business Continental Breakfast, The Pavilion

9:00 a.m. – Villanova School of Business Recognition Ceremony, The Pavilion

9:30 a.m. – Villanova College of Nursing Convocation, St. Thomas of Villanova Church  
Villanova College of Nursing Reception to Follow, Driscoll Hall

10:00 a.m. – Villanova College of Engineering Recognition Ceremony, Mendel Field

10:00 a.m. – Villanova College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Studies Ceremony,  
Villanova Room, Connelly Center

12:30 p.m. – Villanova College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Recognition Ceremony,  
The Pavilion  
Villanova College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Reception to Follow,  
Sheehan Lawn

5:00 p.m. – Baccalaureate Mass, Villanova Stadium

### SUNDAY, MAY 17

10:00 a.m. – Commencement Ceremony, Villanova Stadium

Immediately following the Commencement Ceremony, diplomas are distributed to graduates at the following locations:

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

VILLANOVA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

COLLEGE OF NURSING

PART-TIME STUDIES

The Pavilion

Sheehan Hall Lawn

CEER (various locations)

Driscoll Hall, Lobby

Radnor/St. David's Room, Connelly Center

# COLLEGE CEREMONIES

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2009

On the Saturday of Commencement weekend, all four Colleges hold recognition ceremonies for their graduates. These ceremonies are not graduation ceremonies and diplomas are not awarded at this time. Each graduate's name is called and special recognition is given to award winners.

**The School of Business'** recognition program starts at 9:00 a.m. in the Pavilion, and recognizes each undergraduate and graduate candidate by name. The morning begins with a Continental Breakfast in the Pavilion at 8:30 a.m. Graduates report to the Butler Annex and will process into the Pavilion with other candidates in their major. Tickets are not needed for this event and the doors to the Pavilion open at 8:00 a.m.

**The College of Nursing** has a Convocation that takes place at 9:30 a.m. in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church. A reception for nursing graduates and their guests is held in Driscoll Hall afterward. The number of guests for the Convocation is limited, and additional requests for tickets cannot be honored due to space limitations.

**The College of Engineering's** Recognition Ceremony is held at 10:00 a.m. on Mendel Field. The event takes place on Mendel Field and includes all candidates for graduate and undergraduate degrees. Each candidate's name is called and their Commencement Hood is received at this event.

**The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences** holds two different events. Candidates for graduate degrees are invited to participate in the Graduate Studies ceremony that takes place at 10:00 a.m. in the Villanova Room of the Connelly Center. A reception immediately follows the ceremony. All undergraduate students are expected to participate in the College's Recognition Event at 12:30 p.m. in the Pavilion. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will recognize each candidate for graduation at this ceremony and all Medallion winners will be announced. Immediately following the ceremony, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will hold a reception at the tent on Sheehan Lawn.

While these events are not the official Commencement Ceremony, they are a wonderful opportunity to hear the candidate's name called and see the graduates celebrate within their College. Degrees are conferred at the official Villanova University Commencement Ceremony on Sunday, May 17.

For more information regarding individual college ceremonies, please contact the appropriate Dean's office.

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences	(610) 519-8104
Villanova School of Business	(610) 519-4333
College of Engineering	(610) 519-5860
College of Nursing	(610) 519-4900
Villanova School of Law	(610) 519-7066

# BACCALAUREATE MASS

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2009  
VILLANOVA STADIUM · 5:00 P.M.

## **Graduate Instructions**

All graduates and their families are invited to attend the Baccalaureate Mass. Gates to the Stadium will open at 3:30 p.m. Tickets are not required for the Baccalaureate Mass. It is recommended that graduates wear their gowns and hoods (no caps) for the Mass.

Following Communion, a graduate's blessing will be included in the celebration. For this reason, graduates are asked to sit with family and friends for the Mass. The liturgy normally concludes by 6:30 p.m.

## **Handicapped Parking**

Dropping off disabled or elderly guests for the Baccalaureate Mass may be facilitated in the Galberry Hall driveway at the east end of the Stadium on Lancaster Avenue. Drivers will be directed to park at the nearest location after dropping off passengers. Cars displaying handicapped plates or hang tags are eligible to park behind the Stadium. These spaces are available on a first come, first served basis. There is no need to register with any office in advance.

## **Special Needs**

If you have guests who may be unable to manage the bleachers, please alert an usher. The usher will direct you to appropriate seating. Guests who require a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the President at (610) 519-8882. A simulcast will be available in the Jake Nevin Field House regardless of weather. Eucharist will be distributed at both the live and simulcast liturgies.

## **Severe Weather**

In the event of severe weather (thunder, lightning and heavy rain), the Baccalaureate Mass will be moved into the Pavilion. Guest seating will be first come, first served. When capacity is reached in the Pavilion, guests will be invited to attend the simulcast in the Jake Nevin Field House. Information regarding the change of location will be communicated by 3:00pm via the Villanova University homepage ([www.villanova.edu](http://www.villanova.edu)) and a voice message on (610) 519-8882.

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2009  
VILLANOVA STADIUM · 10:00 A.M.

## Graduate Instructions

Graduates must report NO LATER THAN 9:15 a.m. to the locations listed below. All graduates should wear academic attire. The procession into the Stadium is scheduled to start promptly at 9:40 a.m. Only students receiving diplomas or who have received permission from their academic Dean may participate.

Graduate and undergraduate students please report by 9:15 a.m. as follows:

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	The Pavilion
Villanova School of Business	Butler Annex
College of Engineering	Jake Nevin Field House
College of Nursing	Jake Nevin Field House

## Guest Seating

Gates to the Stadium will open at 8:30 a.m. Guests are primarily seated in the bleacher sections of the Stadium. Chairs on the main field are for graduates and faculty only. Seating is available on a first come, first served basis. If you have guests who may be unable to manage the bleachers, please alert an usher. The usher will direct you to appropriate seating on the field. To maintain safety and the dignity of the event, parents and guests are permitted only in designated areas of the Stadium. Please ask your guests to refrain from interfering with the procession of graduates by taking photos in areas that could disrupt the procession and delay the Commencement Ceremony.

## Special Needs

Guests who require a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the President at (610) 519-8882 to secure special needs reserved seating. A simulcast will be available in the Jake Nevin Field House regardless of weather.

## Diploma Distribution

Diplomas are distributed to graduates at individual college locations immediately following the Commencement Ceremony. Please check the Commencement program for exact location details.

## Parking

Parking for all ceremonies will be available in the Main parking lots, directly across from the University on Lancaster Avenue, and in the School of Law parking garage on Route 320. Officers may direct you to alternate parking facilities. Parking conditions are extremely crowded for Commencement. We urge you and your guests to arrive early and to car pool. The Stadium will open 90 minutes before the Commencement Ceremony.

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

## **Handicapped Parking**

Dropping off disabled or elderly guests for the Commencement Ceremony may be facilitated in the Galberry Hall driveway at the east end of the Stadium on Lancaster Avenue. Drivers will be directed to park at the nearest location after dropping off passengers. Cars displaying handicapped plates or hang tags are eligible to park behind the Stadium. These spaces are available on a first come, first served basis. There is no need to register with any office in advance.

## **Severe Weather**

In the event of severe weather (thunder, lightning and heavy rain), the Commencement Ceremony will be moved in the Pavilion. Graduates WILL NOT process indoors, but will sit with their guests. Only those in academic attire or with tickets will be admitted. Graduates will be given, during Cap and Gown distribution the week of Commencement, two tickets for guest seating in the Pavilion and two tickets for guests in the Jake Nevin Field House for a live simulcast. We regret that no additional tickets are available due to fire regulations. If the ceremony is outdoors as scheduled, tickets are not required. Information regarding the change of location will be communicated by 8:00am via the Villanova University homepage ([www.villanova.edu](http://www.villanova.edu)) and a voice message on (610) 519-8882.

## **Hotels, Restaurants and Travel Accommodations**

A list of local hotels, restaurants, and travel information can be found on the Parents' Web site at [www.parents.villanova.edu](http://www.parents.villanova.edu) It is recommended that post-Commencement reservations at restaurants be made for 1:00 p.m. or later.

# GRADUATE INFORMATION

## Approval to Graduate

Graduates should be sure to have sufficient academic credits this semester to complete their graduation requirements and must submit Prospective Graduate Forms to the Registrar's Office. At the beginning of the Spring Semester, prospective graduates can verify their individual status through NOVASIS. The Registrar's Office will email all seniors to advise them that they can check their graduation status by choosing "Display and Verify Diploma Information" on the Student Menu in NOVASIS. If graduation status is not verified by the Registrar's Office Graduation List, the graduate's name will **not** be included on lists that permit cap and gown pick up (unless they have received prior approval to participate in the Commencement Ceremony from the Academic Dean of your College). Only graduates who have completed all of their degree requirements will be listed in the Commencement Program and no diploma will be produced for those who have not completed all requirements. If graduates are uncertain of their status, they should contact the Academic Dean of their College. Further, students must meet all financial obligations before their diploma & transcript are released.

## Graduation Announcements

Graduation announcements, thank you notes, and other commemorative items are available to Villanova graduates from the **BALFOUR COMPANY**. Included are personalized Villanova announcements, as well as the option to print the graduate's name, college, and degree in the text of the announcement. Information and order forms will be mailed in February to the permanent home address of all prospective graduates. If you have any questions, please call the Balfour Company at (570) 675-7471.

## Cap and Gown Pickup

Academic attire will be available for graduates to pick up on May 13, 14, and 15. Students will be notified via e-mail regarding cap and gown pick-up times as the date approaches. There is **NO FEE** for academic attire and students **WILL NOT NEED** to be measured ahead of time. Graduates will keep all academic attire at the conclusion of the ceremonies. If you are unable to pick up your cap and gown personally, you must make arrangements in advance to have someone pick up your cap and gown. Please contact the Office of the President (610) 519-8882 before May 4, 2009.

## Senior Survey

Each year, Villanova collects important data from its graduating full-time and part-time undergraduate seniors through the Senior Survey (Graduate School students need not complete this survey). Students will be contacted in the spring semester to complete a two-part survey. Students will also be able to access the survey through the Commencement website. Graduating seniors will be asked to complete both parts of the Senior Survey before receiving their academic attire.

## Commencement Video Available

The Villanova University Information Technologies (UNIT) will produce a video of the Commencement Ceremony on Sunday, May 17, 2009, that will be available for purchase. A postcard with ordering information will be mailed to all graduates' permanent addresses.

## Questions?

If you have questions regarding graduation weekend, please contact the **OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT** at (610) 519-8882 or check the commencement website at [www.villanova.edu/commencement](http://www.villanova.edu/commencement).

# STADIUM SEATING CHART

## Stadium Seating Chart

Please see the following diagram to locate where your graduate will be seated on the field during the Commencement Ceremony.



