Dear Graduate and Family,

It is my pleasure to send you information about your upcoming graduation.

It seems like only yesterday that I stood before you and your parents at Orientation to welcome you to Villanova. Now, in just a few short months you will be graduating and moving onto the next chapter in your lives. My hope is that each of you has been transformed in mind and heart during your time here, and that you will carry our Augustinian values of truth, unity and love throughout your personal and professional lives.

You have worked incredibly hard to get to this point, and you and your parents should be incredibly proud of your accomplishments. On behalf of the entire Villanova community, I wish you the best as your time as a student comes to a close and look forward to welcoming you, the Class of 2016, as the newest members of the Villanova alumni.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA
President
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## Commencement Weekend

### Friday, May 13

- **9 a.m.**
  - School of Law Mass
    - St. Thomas of Villanova Church
  - Naval ROTC Mass and Commissioning Ceremony
    - St. Thomas of Villanova Church

- **10:30 a.m.**
  - School of Law Commencement Ceremony
    - The Pavilion
  - University Commencement Ceremony
    - Villanova Stadium

- **1 p.m.**
  - Reception to follow
    - School of Law

- **4 p.m.**
  - President's Reception for Graduates and Guests
    - Connelly Center

### Saturday, May 14

- **9 a.m.**
  - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
    - Undergraduate Convocation
      - The Pavilion
    - Diploma Distribution
      - Villanova Room, Connelly Center

  - College of Nursing Convocation and Diploma Distribution
    - Driscoll Hall

- **10 a.m.**
  - College of Engineering Convocation
    - The Campus Green
  - School of Business Convocation
    - The Campus Green

- **2 p.m.**
  - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Studies Convocation and Diploma Distribution
    - Mendel Field

- **4 p.m.**
  - Baccalaureate Mass
    - The Campus Green
COMMENCEMENT OVERVIEW

This year, Commencement Weekend will take place May 13–14, 2016. It will be highlighted by the Class of 2016 Commencement Ceremony for all colleges and degrees on Friday, May 13 and the Baccalaureate Mass celebrated on Saturday, May 14.

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, University President, will be hosting a reception for all graduates and their guests on Friday evening following the Commencement Ceremony. Families are invited to take part in this celebratory event.

The undergraduate and graduate convocations for each college will take place on Saturday, followed by the Baccalaureate Mass. The convocations are college specific and feature the calling of each graduate’s name. More specific information about these events will be sent by each graduate’s college. Diplomas are distributed immediately after the convocation ends.

Please read this booklet and retain it for reference as commencement approaches. It contains valuable information and several action items throughout the spring semester regarding diplomas, announcements, cap and gown pickups and events during Commencement Weekend.

For this and other Commencement information, please refer to the Commencement website: www.villanova.edu/commencement.

Commencement Tickets and Seating
Graduates will be given two tickets for the Commencement Ceremony. Details regarding ticket distribution will be emailed to the graduates during the Spring semester. The graduate and his/her two guests will be seated on the Stadium field for the Commencement Ceremony. Other non-ticketed guests may be seated on a first-come, first-served basis in the bleacher seats on both sides of the field. Gates to the Stadium will open at 2:30 p.m. In the event of severe weather (thunder, lightening, very heavy rain) the Commencement ceremony will be moved indoors to The Pavilion. The same two tickets will be used for seating in The Pavilion.

Commencement Etiquette
In order to maintain the dignity of the ceremony, respectful behavior is expected of all graduates and guests. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted. Families are asked to adhere to this policy to help create an appropriately festive and celebratory environment for the graduates.

Special Needs
Guests who may be unable to manage the bleachers should alert an usher. The usher will provide direction to appropriate seating on the field. There is no registration or tickets required. 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.

Class of 2016 Commencement Ceremony
Friday, May 13
Villanova Stadium
4 p.m.
Parking
Parking for all ceremonies will be available in the Main parking lots along Lancaster Avenue, in the Spring Mill parking garage on Route 320 and within the West Campus area. Additional parking is available at the Radnor Financial Center, a short distance from campus. Please refer to the “parking” portion of the Commencement website (www.villanova.edu/commencement) for specific details regarding parking lots, shuttles and golf cart availability. No advance registration required.

Severe Weather
Graduates will be given two tickets for the Commencement Ceremony. Should severe weather conditions (thunder, lightning and heavy rain) force the movement of the University Commencement Ceremony inside to The Pavilion, the same two seating tickets are used for the indoor ceremony. Children under the age of three do not need tickets. Due to fire regulations and building capacity, additional tickets for The Pavilion are not available and requests for additional tickets will not be honored. Only those in academic attire or with tickets will be admitted into The Pavilion. Information regarding a change of location will be communicated by 2 p.m. via the Villanova University homepage (www.villanova.edu) and voice message on (610) 519-8882.

Degrees are conferred at the official Class of 2016 Commencement Ceremony on Friday, May 13. In addition, all four Colleges hold convocations for graduates. Each graduate’s name is called and special recognition is given to award winners.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Undergraduate: The Pavilion at 9 a.m.
Graduate: Mendel Field at 2 p.m.
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences holds two different events. Candidates for undergraduate degrees are expected to participate in the College’s convocation and diploma distribution at 9 a.m. on Saturday in The Pavilion. Candidates for graduate degrees are invited to participate in the Graduate convocation and diploma distribution at 2 p.m. on Mendel Field.

Doors to The Pavilion will open at 8 a.m. Seating in The Pavilion is first-come, first-served. Tickets are not required. There are several areas available to those who cannot manage bleachers and no advance reservation is required. Guests needing special assistance should see an usher upon arrival.

Undergraduate candidates are asked to report to Jake Nevin Fieldhouse to line up for the procession and should wear full academic attire. The convocation lasts approximately 90 minutes. Diplomas are handed out immediately following the ceremony at the Connelly Center in the Villanova Room.

Guests needing handicapped parking and/or drop off should enter through the Galberry entrance on Lancaster Avenue. Hangtags are not required.
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Studies

The Graduate Studies Convocation will take place under a large tent on Mendel Field. Guest seating will be available starting at 1 p.m. Tickets are not required. The Graduate Candidates will line up in front of Old Falvey beginning at 1:15 p.m. and should wear full academic attire. The ceremony lasts approximately one hour. Diplomas are distributed immediately after the ceremony on Mendel Field.

Guests requiring handicapped parking and/or drop off should enter campus through the Fedigan Gate/Spring Mill Road Entrance on Route 320/Spring Mill Road.

College of Nursing

Driscoll Hall

The College of Nursing Convocation will take place on the Driscoll Hall Lawn. Guest seating will be available starting at 8 a.m. and tickets are not required. The graduates will line up beginning at 8:15 a.m. and should wear full academic attire. The ceremony lasts approximately one hour. Diplomas are distributed immediately following the ceremony in Driscoll Hall.

Guests requiring handicapped parking and/or drop off should enter campus through the Main Entrance on Ithan Avenue.

Villanova School of Business

Mendel Field

The Villanova School of Business Convocation will take place under a large tent on Mendel Field at 10 a.m. Guest seating will start at 9 a.m. and tickets are not required. The graduates will line up in front of Old Falvey beginning at 8:15 a.m. and should wear full academic attire. The ceremony lasts approximately 90 minutes. Diplomas are distributed immediately following the ceremony at Bartley Hall.

Guests requiring handicapped parking and/or drop off should enter campus through the Fedigan Gate/Spring Mill Road Entrance on Route 320/Spring Mill Road.

College of Engineering

The Campus Green

The College of Engineering Convocation will take place outside on The Campus Green at 10 a.m. Guest seating will be available starting at 9 a.m. and tickets are not required. The graduates will line up beginning at 9:15 a.m. and should wear full academic attire. The convocation lasts approximately one hour. Diplomas are distributed immediately following the ceremony in CEER.

Guests requiring handicapped parking and/or drop off should enter campus though the Main Entrance on Ithan Avenue and will be directed to the appropriate area.

Severe Weather

Should severe weather cause a change in plans for the individual college recognition ceremonies on Saturday, a message will be placed on the Villanova University homepage, on the voicemail (610)519-8882 and via the Commencement text alert system.
Baccalaureate Mass
Saturday, May 14
The Campus Green
4 p.m.

Baccalaureate Mass for Graduates
To officially conclude the Commencement celebration, all graduates and guests are invited to attend the Baccalaureate Mass on Saturday, May 14 at 4 p.m. on The Campus Green. Seating for Mass will be available starting at 3 p.m. It is recommended that graduates wear their gowns and hoods for the Mass (no caps). Following Communion, a graduate blessing will be included in the celebration. For this reason, graduates are asked to sit with their family and friends for the Mass. This Baccalaureate Mass is a beautiful way to conclude the Commencement Weekend. We highly encourage families to attend and all faiths are welcome. In the case of severe weather, the Baccalaureate Mass will be moved to the Pavilion. The Baccalaureate Mass lasts approximately 90 minutes.

Special Needs
If there are guests who need special assistance, please alert an usher. The usher will provide direction to the appropriate seating. An indoor simulcast will be available at several indoor locations regardless of weather. Eucharist will be distributed at both the live and simulcast locations. Guests who require a sign language interpreter should contact the Office of the President at (610)519-8882 or commencement@villanova.edu.

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 a change of location will be communicated by 3 p.m. via the Villanova University homepage (www.villanova.edu) and a voice message on (610) 519-8882 and via the Commencement text alert system.

Graduate Instructions
Prospective graduates should be sure to register for any remaining coursework required for degree completion. Also, students must submit a Prospective Graduate Form indicating plans to graduate and providing instructions for the diploma engraver. All undergraduate students and graduate students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences may complete this form online via the Student tab on the MyNova portal. Graduate students in all other colleges should contact their respective Academic Dean’s offices to complete a Prospective Graduate Form/Graduation Application.

After March 1, the Registrar’s Office will email all prospective graduates with instruction to check their graduation status by choosing “Display and Verify Diploma Information” on the Student tab of the MyNova portal. Only the names listed on the Registrar’s Office Prospective Graduation List will be included on lists that permit cap and gown pickup (unless the student has received prior approval to participate in the Commencement Ceremony from his/her Academic Dean). Only graduates who have completed all of their degree requirements before May 31, 2016 will be listed in the Commencement Program and a diploma will only be released once the student is approved by their Academic Dean’s Office. Prospective graduates must meet all financial obligations before their diploma and/or final transcript are released.

Graduation Announcements
Graduation announcements, thank you notes, and other commemorative items are available to Villanova graduates from Balfour Company. Included are personalized Villanova announcements, as well as the option to print a 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. Questions should be directed to the Balfour Company directly at 1-800-433-0296.

Handicapped Parking
Dropping off disabled or elderly guests for the Baccalaureate Mass may be facilitated through the Main Gate on Ithan Ave. Drivers will be directed to park at the nearest location after dropping off passengers. There is no advance registration. For more information, please see the Parking Map at the end of this booklet or online at www.villanova.edu/commencement.

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Diploma Size
The University Shop carries a large selection of diploma frames. Diplomas measure 16” x 12”.

Baccalaureate Mass
Saturday, May 14
The Campus Green
4 p.m.

Handicapped Parking
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**GRADUATE INFORMATION**

**Senior Survey**
Each year, Villanova collects important data from its graduating full-time and part-time undergraduate students through the Senior Survey (graduate school students do not complete this survey). Students will be contacted in the spring semester to complete a two-part survey. Students also will 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 academic attire.

**Cap and Gown Pickup**
Academic attire will be available for graduates to pick up on May 10, 11 and 12 in Jake Nevin Fieldhouse. Students will be notified via email regarding cap and gown pickup times as the date approaches. There is NO FEE for academic attire and students WILL NOT NEED to be measured. Graduates will keep all academic attire at the conclusion of the ceremonies. Students who are unable to pick up their cap and gown personally may either have their cap and gown shipped to them (fees apply), or have someone else (a proxy) pick up the items. The proxy must bring with them written/email permission with the graduate’s name, height and degree indicated.

**Commencement Video Available**
Villanova University Information Technologies (UNIT) will offer video of Commencement 2016 for all to view for free on YouTube (youtube.com/VillanovaUniversity). The video will also be available for download via iTunesU (www.villanova.edu/itunes).

**Commencement Flowers**
Villanova has contracted with a vendor to sell flowers on campus throughout Commencement Weekend. Information is available on www.villanova.edu/commencement. Orders may be placed ahead of time and picked up at the ceremony location. Flowers are also available for sale on the day of the ceremonies without pre-order.

**Commencement Photos**
Villanova has contracted with a vendor to provide photography throughout the Commencement Weekend. The individual college convocation photos will be available through Legacy Photos. There will also be general weekend photos available for purchase online immediately following Commencement. Please visit (www.villanova.edu/commencement) for more information.

**Belle Air Yearbook**
Congratulatory ads are available in the 2016 edition of the Belle Air Yearbook. Each ad will be created by the university’s graphic design team to maintain consistency and professionalism.
To purchase a senior congratulatory ad or yearbook please go to www.villanova.edu/yearbook. Yearbooks will also be available for purchase in the University Shop during Commencement Weekend. The deadline to submit Senior Grad Ads is February 1, 2016.

**VU Seniors**
The VU Seniors Program is a series of social, professional, and spiritual activities designed to unify the Senior class while preparing them for life after graduation. Campus offices offer many helpful, fun and informative programs, including a senior retreat, career resources, a senior spirit basketball game and the annual Last Lecture and Senior Toast held on the Class of 2016’s last day of classes. For more information, visit www.villanova.edu/seniors.

**INFORMATION FOR SENIOR YEAR ACTIVITIES**

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Senior Week Activities
Villanova Senior Week is a series of social programs for seniors to enjoy their last week as Villanova students. Seniors can make lasting memories on and off campus during this exciting time of year. Please visit the VU Seniors website (www.villanova.edu/seniors) for updates on Senior Week programming and pricing information. Some events for this year may include the Senior Ball at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, Senior Mass celebrated in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church, a Phillies game, the Senior Picnic at the Oreo, the Senior Class Gift Donor Recognition, and more!

Senior Class Gift
Each year, the senior class shows its gratitude for their experience at Villanova and belief in the University’s future by making its first gift to the University. Seniors are asked to give a gift in honor of their senior year, and will be able to choose a specific area to support with their donation that they feel has contributed to their overall success at Villanova.

Do I need tickets for Commencement and how many guests can attend?
Each graduate will be given two tickets for the Commencement Ceremony. The graduate and his/her two guests will be seated on the stadium field. Other non-ticketed guests may be seated on a first-come, first-served basis in the bleacher seats on both sides of the field.

Gates to the Stadium will open at 2:30 p.m. In the event of severe weather (thunder, lightning, very heavy rain) the Commencement ceremony will be moved inside to The Pavilion. The same two tickets will be used for seating in The Pavilion. Unfortunately, should an indoor ceremony be necessary, additional guests cannot be accommodated.

How long will the Commencement ceremony last?
The University Commencement Ceremony on Friday will last approximately 90 minutes and the recession should conclude by 6 p.m. Following the ceremony, all are invited to the Connelly Center for the President’s Reception for Graduates and Guests.

How long are the individual College Convocations on Saturday?
Each convocation will differ in length, but typically last between 60 and 90 minutes. If your plans include lunch reservations, 1 p.m. would be a suggested time. Guests will have enough time to return to campus for the 4 p.m. Baccalaureate Mass which concludes commencement weekend.

How long is the Baccalaureate Mass on Saturday?
The Baccalaureate Mass takes place on The Campus Green at 4 p.m. on Saturday. At the conclusion of the liturgy, there is a special graduate blessing and for this reason, graduates are encouraged to sit with family and friends. Mass normally ends by 5:30 p.m. and it is recommended that any dinner reservations are made after 6 p.m.
**Where is Commencement parking?**
Parking for all ceremonies will be available in several locations on and off campus. Please refer to the parking section of the Commencement website (www.villanova.edu/commencement) for specific directions and details. These spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. No advance parking registration required.

**Are there seating and parking accommodations for those with special needs at each ceremony?**
Guests who may be unable to manage the bleachers in the Stadium and Pavilion should alert an usher at any entrance. The usher will direct you to the Special Needs Seating Areas. Please allow only 1 or 2 guests to accompany those who require Special Needs Seating so as to ensure enough seats for all guests with special needs. There is no advance registration for these seats. Guests may also view a simulcast of the Commencement Ceremony in the Jake Nevin Field House regardless of weather. All other locations have moveable seating on level ground.

**Is there a separate graduation ceremony for students who graduate in September or December?**
Villanova holds one Commencement Ceremony each year in May for all graduates. All September and December graduates (prior to the upcoming graduation year) will receive the Commencement Information Booklet and automatically will be included on the list that permits cap and gown pick up in May. September and December graduates do not need to notify the University in advance about their plans to attend Commencement.

**If I graduate in September or December, can I participate in the May Commencement Ceremony?**
September and December graduates may participate in the Commencement Ceremony in May following the completion of their degree. If September or December graduates wish to participate in the May Commencement Ceremony preceding their actual graduation, they must receive written permission from their Academic Dean. Graduates who wish to participate in commencement before degree completion must visit the Dean’s Office and complete a “Request to Participate” form (also known as “walker” form) which must be signed by the Department Chair as well as a representative from the Dean’s Office. Please note: candidates who choose this option will not have their name listed in the Commencement Ceremony Program and will not be issued a diploma until their degree requirements are completed.
VENUE, PARKING AND SHUTTLE MAP

1. Bartley Hall
2. Center for Engineering Education Research (CEER)
3. Connelly Center
4. Driscoll Hall
5. The Campus Green
6. Jake Nevin Field House
7. Mendel Field
8. The Pavilion
9. St. Thomas of Villanova Church
10. Villanova Stadium

- Shuttle Pick-up
- Graduate Parking
- Guest Parking
- Shuttle Route

Spring Mill Road/ Rt. 320 Entrance
Entrance for handicapped and those needing assistance for Mendel Field

Main Entrance
Entrance for handicapped and those needing assistance for Driscoll Hall, Connelly Center and the Campus Green

Drop-off Area for those needing assistance

Shuttle Route

To Villanova University Conference Center (approximately 1 mile)
**VILLANOVA STADIUM SEATING CHART**

**F**  
Faculty seating

**GRAD/G**  
Seating for graduate and two guests  
(Tickets needed)

**H/NA**  
Seating for handicapped and those needing assistance  
(No tickets needed)

**GGS**  
General guest seating  
(No tickets needed)

[Diagram of stadium seating chart with labels for faculty, graduate/guest, handicapped/na, and general guest sections.]

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www.villanova.edu/commencement