

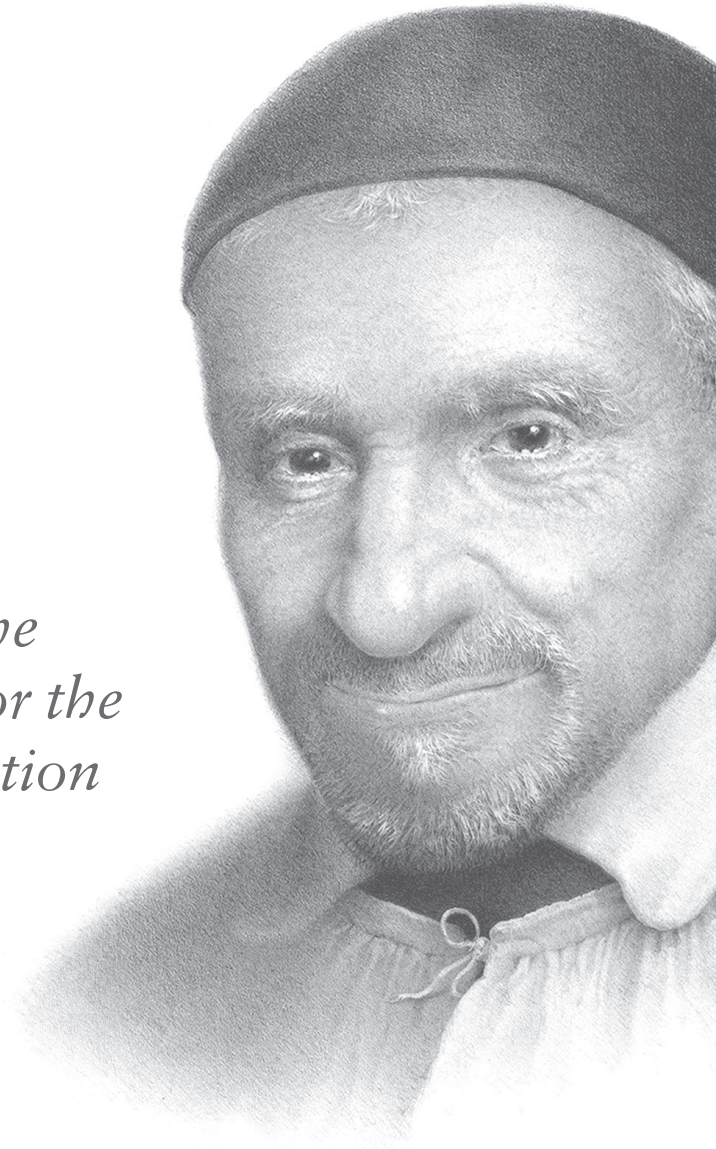
ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIXTH ACADEMIC YEAR



ST. JOHN'S
UNIVERSITY

2025-2026

*“God makes use of the
humblest servants for the
extraordinary operation
of His grace.”*



—St. Vincent de Paul
Founder of the Vincentian Community

Undergraduate-Level
Commencement Exercise

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026
10 A.M.
GREAT LAWN
QUEENS CAMPUS

St. John's University is Catholic, Vincentian, Metropolitan, and Global.

As a university, we commit ourselves to academic excellence and the pursuit of wisdom which flows from free inquiry, religious values, and human experience. We strive to preserve and enhance an atmosphere in which scholarly research, imaginative methodology, global awareness, and an enthusiastic quest for truth serve as the basis of a vital teaching-learning process and the development of lifelong learning. Our core curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences aims to enrich lives as well as professions and serves to unify the undergraduate experience. Graduate and professional schools express our commitment to research, rigorous standards, and innovative application of knowledge. We aim not only to be excellent professionals with an ability to analyze and articulate clearly what is, but also to develop the ethical and aesthetic values to imagine and help realize what might be.

St. John's is a Catholic university, founded in 1870 in response to an invitation of the first Bishop of Brooklyn, John Loughlin, to provide the youth of the city with an intellectual and moral education. We embrace the Judeo-Christian ideals of respect for the rights and dignity of every person and each individual's responsibility for the world in which we live. We commit ourselves to create a climate patterned on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ as embodied in the traditions and practices of the Roman Catholic Church. Our community, which comprises members of many faiths, strives for an openness which is "wholly directed to all that is true, all that deserves respect, all that is honest, pure, admirable, decent, virtuous, or worthy of praise" (Philippians 4:8). Thus, the university is a place where the Church reflects upon itself and the world as it engages in dialogue with other religious traditions.

St. John's is a Vincentian university, inspired by St. Vincent de Paul's compassion and zeal for service. We strive to provide excellent education for all people, especially those lacking economic, physical, or social advantages. Community service programs combine with reflective learning to enlarge the classroom experience. Wherever possible, we devote our intellectual and physical resources to search out the causes of poverty and social injustice and to encourage solutions which are adaptable, effective, and concrete. In the Vincentian tradition, we seek to foster a world view and to further efforts toward global harmony and development by creating an atmosphere in which all may imbibe and embody the spirit of compassionate concern for others so characteristic of Vincent.

St. John's is a metropolitan and global university. As a metropolitan university, we benefit from New York City's cultural diversity, its intellectual and artistic resources, and its unique professional educational opportunities. With this richness comes responsibility. We encourage the metropolitan community to use our resources to serve its needs. As a global university, we are one of our nation's most diverse institutions of higher education, enriched by a mixture of cultures, which complements an internationalized curriculum. Through collaboration with other institutions around the world, study abroad opportunities, and online courses and degrees, our outreach spans the globe. In educating students, we pledge to foster those qualities needed for our alumni to become effective leaders and responsible citizens in a vibrant city and dynamic world.

This is the Mission Statement of St. John's University, New York. It was approved by the Board of Trustees in December 1991 and modified and reapproved in March 1999, March 2008, and October 2015.

ORDER OF ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Grand Marshal and Bearer of Mace

Student and Faculty Marshals of the Schools and Colleges of the University

Degree Candidates of the Schools and Colleges of the University

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The School of Education

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

Faculty of the Schools and Colleges of the University

President's Society

Graduating Members of the President's Society

University Leadership

Deans of the Schools and Colleges of the University

Provost

Board of Trustees

Honored Guests

President

Commencement Program

PRESIDING

Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., Ph.D.

President

St. John's University

MUSICAL PRELUDE

TRUMPET ANNOUNCEMENT

PROCESSIONAL*

The Nassau Pops Wind Ensemble under the direction of Louis Panacciulli

GRAND MARSHAL

Zenu Sharma, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Economics and Finance

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

St. John's University

OPENING OF CEREMONY

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Office of the Provost

St. John's University

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

St. John's Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps Battalion

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Panagiotis C. Papastefanou

Candidate, Bachelor of Science

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Class of 2026

INVOCATION

Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan '84SJC, '24HON

Bishop

Diocese of Brooklyn

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., Ph.D.

President

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES FOR HONORARY DEGREES AND THE READING OF CITATIONS

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

CONFERRAL OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS

upon

Valerie Ackerman

Commissioner

BIG EAST Conference

CONFERRAL OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS

upon

Sr. Joanne Callahan, OSU '72ED, '80M.S.Ed.

Ursuline Sisters Province Office

CONFERRAL OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF COMMERCIAL SCIENCE

upon

Mario J. Gabelli, C.F.A.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

GAMCO Investors, Inc.

CONFERRAL OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF COMMERCIAL SCIENCE

upon

James J. Shannon '87CBA

Chief Executive Partner

Indus Capital Partners, LLC

Chair-Elect, Board of Trustees

St. John's University

CONFERRAL OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF SACRED THEOLOGY

upon

Most Reverend Richard Garth Henning, S.T.D., D.D. '86SJC, '88M.A.

Archbishop of Boston, MA

Diocese of Boston Pastoral Center

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Most Reverend Richard Garth Henning, S.T.D., D.D. '86SJC, '88M.A.

Archbishop of Boston, MA

Diocese of Boston Pastoral Center

**RECOGNITION OF THE ACADEMIC DEANS AND FACULTY AND
RECOGNITION OF THE GRADUATING MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY**

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

RECOGNITION OF THE PRESIDENT'S ACADEMIC GOLD MEDALS

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

PRESENTATION OF THE VINCENTIAN MISSION AWARDS

Rev. Aidan R. Rooney, C.M., M.Div., M.Th. '78NDC

Executive Vice President for Mission

Office of University Mission

St. John's University

**PRESENTATION OF THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT MEDALS,
SENIOR CLASS GIFT, AND STUDENT SPEAKER**

Jackie Lochrie '94ED, '99M.S.Ed., '08P.D., '24Ed.D.

Vice President of Student Affairs

Division of Student Success

St. John's University

STUDENT ADDRESS

Ashley Genao

Candidate, Bachelor of Arts

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Graduating Member of the President's Society (2025–2026)

RECOGNITION OF THE GRADUATING MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY

Nunziatina A. Manuli '97M.B.A.

Vice President, Chief of Staff to the President, and University Secretary

Coordinator, President's Society

Office of the President

St. John's University

GRADUATING MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY

Justin Berman

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Ryan Boswell

The School of Education

Anthony Brandimarte

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Sarah Brassil

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Angela Cheng

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Brianna Cristello

The School of Education

Dakera Edwards

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Katherine Garlisi

The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

Ashley Genao

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Yechao Li

The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

Alina Malakhova

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Anthony P. Mammana

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Harrison Noel

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Sarah M. Rao

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Molly Richardson

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Leilani Anastasia Robinson

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Layla Victoria Santana

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Justin Charles Sealey

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Jaya A. Singh

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Ezgi Yasar

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Ludovica Zola

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

CERTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES EARNED IN COURSE

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., Ph.D.

President

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES FOR DEGREES EARNED IN COURSE

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

DEANS OF THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Teresa Delgado, Ph.D.

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

James D. Wolfinger, Ph.D.

The School of Education

Maciek Nowak, Ph.D.

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Anne Y. F. Lin '84CPHS, '86Pharm.D., FNAP

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Luca Iandoli, Ph.D.

The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

FACULTY MARSHALS OF THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Philip S. Lukeman, Ph.D.

Professor and Assistant Chair

Department of Chemistry

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Elizabeth Chase, Ed.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Curriculum and Instruction

The School of Education

Catherine R. Bell, DNP, R.N.

Assistant Professor/Industry Professional

Department of Nursing

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Cynthia R. Phillips '88M.B.A., '06P.D., '10Ed.D.

Professor

Department of Accountancy

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Kathleen K. Marks, Ph.D.

Chair and Associate Professor

Division of English and Speech

The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

STUDENT MARSHALS OF THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Zuzanna Kromczyk, *Candidate, Bachelor of Arts*

St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Emily A. Florea, *Candidate, Bachelor of Science in Education*

The School of Education

Emma Louise DerGarabedian, *Candidate, Bachelor of Science*

College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Jean-Luc Andrew Daniel Hinds, *Candidate, Bachelor of Science*

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Markella Kiriakes, *Candidate, Bachelor of Science*

The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

READING OF GRADUATE NAMES**

CLOSING OF CEREMONY

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

BENEDICTION

Rev. Tri M. Duong, C.M. '00SJC

University Chaplain

St. John's University

CELEBRATORY CONFETTI AND RECESSIONAL

The Nassau Pops Wind Ensemble

* The audience is requested to stand during the academic procession and to remain in place until all participants in the academic recessional have left the area.

** To ensure that the name of each graduate is heard, the audience is requested to refrain from prolonged applause. Graduate names will be scrolled on the large viewing screens as a graduate's name is announced.



COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM

Thank you for attending the St. John's University Undergraduate-Level Commencement Exercise. In keeping with the University's sustainability initiative, this streamlined program has been produced for all guests of the ceremony to view online.

A digital commemorative program that includes a full list of graduate names will be available for graduates and their families and friends to view, print, or download by visiting the Commencement section of the University's website starting on Monday, June 22.

DIPLOMAS

Diplomas will be available the week of July 13, depending on the order date. Students should contact their dean's office for more information.

St. John's University does not discriminate on the basis of race; color; national origin; sex; actual or potential parental, family, or marital status; pregnancy and related conditions; disability; age; or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Esther Hutchinson, Director of Equal Opportunity and Compliance and Title IX and Title VI Coordinator, Office of Human Resources, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens, NY 11439, 718-990-1488, press 4; hutchine@stjohns.edu.