ST. JOHN’S UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Commencement Exercises 2021-2022

Sunday, May 22, 2022
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.

Mission Statement of St. John’s University, New York. Approved by the Board of Trustees, December 1991
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 President’s Society

University Leadership

Deans of the Schools and Colleges of the University

Provost

Board of Trustees

Honored Guests

President
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
Lisa H. Hochstein ’73GP
Associate Professor and Industry Professional
Department of Clinical Health Professions
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
St. John’s University

Opening of Ceremony
Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.
Provost and 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
Anna Fitzpatrick ‘21Ed, ‘22GEd
The School of Education

Invocation
Rev. Tri M. Duong, C.M. ‘00C
Campus Minister, Staten Island Campus
Office of University Ministry
St. John’s University
Presidential Remarks
Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., Ph.D.
President

Presentation of the Candidates for the Honorary Degrees and President’s Medal
Reading of Citations
Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Office of the Provost

Conferral of the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters
upon
Margaret La Rosa D’Angelo ’70Ed
Member, Board of Trustees
St. John’s University

Conferral of the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters
upon
Sr. Caroline Tweedy, R.S.M.
Executive Director
St. John’s Bread and Life

Presentation of the President’s Medal
to
André McKenzie, Ed.D.
Vice Provost and Interim Chief Diversity Officer
Office of the Provost
St. John’s University

Commencement Address
André McKenzie, Ed.D.
Vice Provost and Interim Chief Diversity Officer
Office of the Provost

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 Vice President for Academic Affairs
Office of the Provost

Recognition of the President’s Academic Gold Medalists
Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Office of the Provost
Presentation of the Vincentian Mission Awards

Rev. Bernard M. Tracey, C.M. ’70C
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

Kathryn T. Hutchinson, Ph.D. ’92G
Vice President for Student Affairs
Division of Student Affairs
St. John’s University

Student Address

Hajarah Dar
Candidate, Bachelor of Science
The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies
Class of 2022

Recognition of the Graduating Members of the President’s Society

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Office of the Provost

Graduating Members of the President’s Society

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

Alexis Olivia Casella
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Sarah Cullivan
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

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

Lizbeth P. Edwards
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

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

Huy N. Le
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Kyra Lewis
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Naya Regina Lipkens
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Gabriella A. Magras  
The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

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

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

Sabrina Rizzi  
St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Colin L. Robinson  
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Angela Saric  
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Matthew D. Schmeiser  
St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Gajendra A. Sookdeo  
St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Danielle Lilianna Spencer  
The School of Education

Michael Urbano  
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Alexa Williams  
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Mikesha Withanachchi  
St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Yueran Yu  
St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Certification of Candidates for Degrees Earned in Course

Simon G. Møller, Ph.D.  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Office of the Provost

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 Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Office of the Provost
Deans of the Schools and Colleges of the University

Gina M. Florio, Ph.D., Interim Dean
St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Aliya E. Holmes, Ph.D., Interim Dean
The School of Education

Norean R. Sharpe, Ph.D.
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

John M. Conry ’96P, ’98Pharm.D., Interim Dean
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Glenn Gerstner, Ed.D. ‘81SVC
The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

Faculty Marshals of the Schools and Colleges of the University

Elizabeth DeLuna, M.F.A., Professor and Chair
Department of Art and Design, St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Michael P. Downton, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education and Assessment
Department of Curriculum and Instruction, The School of Education

Niall C. Hegarty ‘92CBA, ‘94MBA, ‘10Ed.D., Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs
Department of Management, The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Aaron Muth, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Joseph G. Kenny, Esq. ‘81L, Associate Professor
Division of Administration and Economics, The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies

Student Marshals of the Schools and Colleges of the University

Andrew John Draheim, Candidate, Bachelor of Science
St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Brianna N. DeSimone, Candidate, Bachelor of Science in Education
The School of Education

Elina J. Goykhman, Candidate, Bachelor of Science
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Julia Panchenko, Candidate, Bachelor of Science
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Victoria A. DeGrezia, 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 Vice President for Academic Affairs
Office of the Provost

Benediction

Rev. Bernard M. Tracey, C.M. ’70C
Executive Vice President for Mission
Office of University Mission

St. John’s Alma Mater—“Old St. John’s”

Anna Fitzpatrick ’21Ed, ’22GEd
The School of Education

Thy children here today, galore,
Old St. John’s! Our dear St. John’s!
And true will they be ever more,
Old St. John’s! Our dear St. John’s!
Thy colors bright, the Red and White,
We’ll wave aloft from morn ’til night,
Victorious, we’ll show our might,
Old St. John’s! Our dear St. John’s!
From fervent hearts we breathe our prayer,
Old St. John’s! Our dear St. John’s!
As we commend thee to His care,
Old St. John’s! Our dear St. John’s!
That He will guard thee by His might,
And be thy shield in every fight,
Thou champion of sacred rite,
Old St. John’s! Our dear St. John’s!

Words by Rev. Carroll S. Rosensteel, C.M., and Rev. Thomas F. Ryan, C.M.

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 recession leave the area.

** To ensure that the name of each graduate is heard, the audience is requested to refrain from prolonged applause. Graduate names are 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 Commencement Exercises. In keeping with the University’s sustainability initiative, the University has produced this streamlined program for all guests of the ceremony to view online. Graduates receive a commemorative program that includes a full list of graduate names when they pick up their diplomas.

Diplomas

Diplomas can be picked up from your dean’s office beginning on Monday, July 18. Please call your dean’s office beforehand; order date determines diploma availability.

St. John’s University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, 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: Danielle Haynes, Interim Director of Equal Opportunity and Compliance and Title IX Coordinator, Office of Human Resources, University Center, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens, New York 11439, 718-990-2660; haynesd1@stjohns.edu.
“God makes use of the humblest servants for the extraordinary operation of His grace.”

—St. Vincent de Paul
Founder of the Vincentian Community