

## 2024 GRADUATION REGISTRATION INFO

**Who?** 8th grade students, graduating seniors and their family and friends

**What?** The 25th annual NICHE Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement Exercise

*Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Mark Gurtner, Vicar General of the Diocese, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Pictures with Fr. Mark will be taken directly after Mass. The Commencement Ceremony, including a graduate procession, awarding of diplomas, and the tossing of caps, will follow the Mass and will take place at St. Mary Mother of God Catholic Church. Father Jake Schneider will be our commencement speaker. A potluck dinner will follow the ceremony.*

**Where?** Mass: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (1105 Calhoun St)  
Commencement: St. Mary Mother of God Catholic Church (1101 Lafayette St)  
*It is a 2 minute drive between these two locations.*

**When?** Friday, May 31, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. Commencement immediately following.

**Why?** What better way to celebrate the achievements of your student(s) and your homeschool than by attending Mass? How blessed we are as a Catholic homeschool community to be able to celebrate Mass at the hour of Divine Mercy for the past 25 years! Please join us for this memorable day.

**Cost?** \$30 per graduating senior  
\$20 per graduating 8th grader  
\$10 membership dues if not a current member

**How?**

**REGISTRATION FORM & FEES NEEDED** *due Monday, April 8 Eclipse Day!*

Registration forms can be found on the NICHE website ([www.catholichomeschoolers.org](http://www.catholichomeschoolers.org)). Click on the "Graduation Form" tab. Payments can be made using the "Payment" tab. Membership dues can also be paid via the website. The registration form takes less than 5 minutes to fill out. Registration forms are due on Monday, April 8, 2024.

**BIO NEEDED** *due Friday, April 19*

Graduating seniors must e-mail a typed, one paragraph biography no later than Friday, April 19 to Emily Mondok ([emondok6@gmail.com](mailto:emondok6@gmail.com)). The purpose of the biography is to allow those attending the ceremony to get to know the graduates a little better. The bio will be read aloud during the Commencement Ceremony and will also be printed in the program. The biography should be written in the 3rd person in paragraph form and no longer than 150-250 words.

Here are possible things to include in your student's bio:

- ◆ Hobbies, activities, and areas of interest
- ◆ Present or past jobs and positions held
- ◆ Volunteering or community service positions
- ◆ Scholastic awards, sports awards, scouting achievements
- ◆ Academic areas of interest or specialization during high school
- ◆ Classes taken. If classes were taken outside of the home, please note title and location.
- ◆ Classes the student has particularly enjoyed or personal achievements
- ◆ Extra-curricular activities (sports, dance, music, art, robotics, scouting, etc.)
- ◆ Camps attended
- ◆ Future plans such as work, technical school, school of higher education and area of study with the goal or major listed, whether the student is still discerning future plans, religious life and/or engagement/marriage.
- ◆ Favorite memory/memories of high school

**PHOTOS NEEDED** *due Friday, April 19*

NICHE will be putting together a video slideshow with images of the graduating seniors to be played during the NICHE Commencement Reception. Please send 6 quality digital or scanned photos in jpg format to **Laura Kaufman** [laura@conozo.com](mailto:laura@conozo.com) no later than Friday, April 19. Pictures will need to include a current headshot as well as photos showing the graduate's interests, families, or childhood. Please be sure that all subjects are dressed in modest clothing.

**Important Dates**

April 8: Fees and registration due

April 19: Senior Biographies due to Emily Mondok ([emondok6@gmail.com](mailto:emondok6@gmail.com)).

April 19: Senior Photographs due to Laura Kaufman ([laura@conozo.com](mailto:laura@conozo.com)).

May 30 at 1:00 Rehearsal at Cathedral/St. Mary's. Details TBD.

May 31 at 3:00 Baccalaureate Mass with Fr. Mark Gurtner followed by Graduation Ceremony.

**Questions?**

Contact Emily Mondok ([emondok6@gmail.com](mailto:emondok6@gmail.com)) or text 260-312-0694. Specific information on the Mass and Rehearsal can be found in the Graduation Mass & Rehearsal document.