

BACCALAUREATE MASS INSTRUCTIONS

Friday, May 12, 2023

Mass time: 2:00 pm

Location: Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel at Thomas More University

1. The procession will depart the administration building at 1:45 pm to arrive at the main entrance of the chapel promptly at 2:00 pm **Please arrive at the administration building early enough to be robed no later than 1:30 pm.**
2. **Robing for Board and Administrators will take place in the Sommerkamp Conference Room; Faculty will robe in the Library; and Graduates will robe in the Villa.**
3. At 1:45 pm the Marshal will form the procession. Graduates are asked to keep a space of about five (5) feet between them. The graduates will be brought to the main entrance of Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel in double file. The Faculty, the Administrators and the Board will follow in double file.
4. The Marshal will return to the head of the column to lead the procession at a solemn pace.
5. When the procession has reached the head of the aisle in the chapel, the Marshal will direct the graduates to reserved seating in the main body of the chapel. The Marshall will likewise direct board members, faculty, and staff to seating reserved for them.
6. All remain standing until the end of the Opening Prayer.
7. **Men are asked to remove their academic caps from the intonation of the "Alleluia" until The completion of communion.**
8. **The Communion Rite:** Once the communion procession has begun, remain standing until the distribution of communion is completed. As those who are receiving communion leave the row, **those who are not receiving Communion are asked to move toward the center aisle** so that those returning from Communion by the side aisle can fill in the space at the end of the row. **Following communion, when the priest returns to his chair, all sit.**
9. **All stand for the final prayer and blessing.** Following the blessing, the **Liturgical Procession (priest and ministers)** will form and the Marshal will lead it to the main floor of the chapel. **When it has passed the priest will invite the graduates in the front row to form a line for the recession; each row will follow in the same way, including faculty and board.** The procession will return to the administration building.

Following the Baccalaureate Mass, students will be invited to receive awards from their college and students earning their master's degree will be invited to be hooded by their department which is a tradition when earning a master's degree. Please go to the Saints Center.

Awards Celebration and Hooding Ceremony

Location: Saints Center, Thomas More University Campus

Time: 3:30 pm

Lite refreshments will be available after the Awards Celebration and Hooding Ceremony.