Welcome Back!

Loyola’s Mass of the Holy Spirit was held on Tuesday, September 8th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Church of Saint Ignatius Loyola, with principal celebrant Rev. James Carr, S.J., presiding. With this liturgy, Jesuit schools throughout the world traditionally begin the year. This year, Loyola’s Mass of the Holy Spirit took on a new look in keeping with COVID-19 protocols: Only the freshman class attended, along with administration and faculty, complete with masks and six-feet social distancing. A live stream of the event went out synchronously to the rest of the Loyola Community.

Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous. Teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that I am doing your will.

St. Ignatius’s Prayer for Generosity
Welcome, Class of 2024!

All hail the Class of 2024 as you take your rightful place here at Loyola. You are ready to make your mark at Park and 83rd. But what kind of class will you be? Awesome, no doubt. But as you ascend the heights of awesomeness, beware a few pitfalls.

1. Don’t go with anyone to Loyola’s Olympic-size swimming pool. We don’t have one, so heaven knows where they’re really taking you.

2. Don’t look for the “secret elevator.” We don’t have one of those, either. We don’t. We really don’t. It isn’t at the bottom of the stairs behind that door in the corridor below the administrative wing across from the Admissions Office.

3. If someone runs up to you in the hall and asks, “Quick! What year is it?” and then when you tell them they run away screaming, “It worked! It really worked!” don’t fall for that one. It’s old. It’s tired, lame, worn out.

4. Don’t buy any tickets to next week’s school football game. Especially ones with misprints (i.e., Loyola School) that were printed on the back of an old homework sheet. You’ll arrive at Icahn Stadium (i.e., Lehn Stadium) on Randall’s Island and be input pointed. The only sports in season are virtual.

5. Guard your iPad with your life. Don’t give it to anyone, and don’t scream your log-on credentials across the room to your bff. Devious minds are writing the info down. If you log on to your iPad and find that you can’t click on your icons, it means someone screen-captured your desktop. Saved the picture somewhere you’ll never find it, and then set the picture as your desktop background. Who’s sorry now?

6. If you notice in class that Dr. Meade is wearing a scarf that looks a lot like the one you left in room 203, most likely it IS yours. You’ll have to retrieve your possessions from Mr. Joseph, who will direct you to theLost and Found.

7. If you arrive to Bio class only to find a hastily scribbled note on the door that reads, “Freshman Bio is meeting in the library,” think twice. Why would Bio meet in the library? Look for a nearby group of silly-looking sophomores demonstrating their wise foolishness.

8. The owner of the Giants football team, Wellington Mara (who passed away in 2005), actually DID go to Loyola School. Truly a man for others, he invented the concept of revenue sharing among professional football teams, and is considered the greatest football owner in sports history. The Giants are currently owned by the sons of Wellington Mara and Bob Tisch, John K. Mara and Steve Tisch. Rumors that Mr. Mara plans to send his daughter Erin to Loyola School are unfounded: Erin Mara is happily married to Avery Brooks and taught at St. Ignatius Loyola Grammar School as Ms. Erin Brooks.

9. Turnitin.com. You need it now. Log on and upload your Summer Reading test today!

10. Don’t wait until the night before the biology test to start studying. Ask any sophomore. If he or she starts twitching and stuttering at the mere mention of biology, worry not. They’ll be better in a few minutes.

11. That mask you left on the window ledge for “just a minute” that you think is yours? I wouldn’t gamble on it if I were you. Fourteen-day quarantine, anybody? So welcome, Class of 2024! Greatness awaits you.

Oh, and there’s a meeting in the Ganon Theater on the fifth floor after school today for all freshmen. Please be there promptly after the bell marking the end of 5th period. Attendance will be taken.

Thanks!

The Blazer

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The Blazer is the official newspaper of Loyola School, produced and published by the students of the school for the Loyola School Community.

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Dean of Students----------- Mr. Jacques Joseph

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Students are encouraged to contribute to the school newspaper anytime by sending their articles to:
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Students are strongly advised to attend Blazer meetings to get a sense of what articles need to be written. We are most in need of straight-reporting articles about school life. We are least in need of editorials or other opinion pieces.

Articles of general interest not specifically related to school life will also be considered but will be printed at the discretion of the staff. Such articles include, but are not limited to, movie reviews, book reviews, horoscopes, editorials, and humor. All decisions made by the staff regarding the suitability of an article are final.
Graduation 2020

Link to the Graduation Video: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-22UkV63fr1haqMF-bumq7qdELfV98V?usp=sharing

Despite fears that their graduation might be only virtual, like so many others during the Pandemic, the Class of 2020 assembled in the Church of Saint Francis Xavier (46 West 16th St., New York, NY) at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, July 31st, 2020, for its Commencement Ceremony.

As Loyola Principal Mr. James Lyness noted in his letter to parents, “This Friday, July 31, is the Feast of St. Ignatius Loyola. What a fitting date for us to celebrate the accomplishments of the class of 2020 with their graduation ceremony!”

Attendance was limited to the graduates and their parents (or two guests). The ceremony was live-streamed for those unable to attend in person (see link in the box above).

The young ladies wore white gowns and carried bouquets of red roses, while the young men sported white tuxedos with red-rose boutonnieres. After welcoming remarks by Mr. Lyness and an invocation by Ms. Susan Baber, Ms. Tara Clark ’20 gave the traditional Salutatorian Address. Ms. Clark urged her classmates to “cherish our memories of the wonderful times we’ve had together and the bonds we have strengthened along the way.” Ms. Clark closed with a quote from Winnie the Pooh: “How lucky I am to have something that makes saying good bye so hard.”

Mr. Daniel Sullivan, Dean of Students, then joined the ceremony via Zoom to congratulate the graduates on their many accomplishments and to wish them well on their many journey. Following Mr. Sullivan’s heartfelt remarks, Mr. Lyness presented the graduates to Mr. Tony Orszlany, ’87, President of Loyola School, and Ms. Mary Clarie Lagno, Chair of Loyola’s Board of Trustees, who conferred diplomas upon the graduates.

After hearing their names read, graduates approached the alter and accepted their diplomas, giving a virtual handshake or high-five to Mr. Orszlany before posing for a photograph. The congratulatory moment was immortalized by a quick flash of the camera, followed by the conferring of awards and honors, culminating in the Farewell Address by Mr. Sidney Essex, ’20. Mr. Essex observed of his classmates that “We have forged an unbreakable bond as a class through countless David’s Cookies in the Commons, tests studied for in the library, intimate conversations at Kairos...Grad at Grad talks, and so much more.”

Mr. Lyness’s closing remarks were followed by Sir Edward Algar’s “Pomp and Circumstance,” bringing graduation 2020 to a close.

Ex Fide Fortis

High school graduation ceremonies mark the end of students’ childhoods and the beginning of their young-adult lives. Commencement ceremonies typically include several traditional rituals, such as the reading of the student’s name upon conferral of the diploma, which is followed by the student’s walk to receive the diploma. Here, the Class of 2020 pauses for a class photo in the sanctuary of the Church of Saint Francis Xavier after the graduation ceremony and before they embark on new adventures. Good luck to the Class of 2020!

Sudoku Puzzle

Fill the grid with numbers 1 to 9 so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating any numbers.

Today’s puzzle courtesy of http://www.printablepuzzles.net
The Knightly News
Sports Section
Around the Building