



SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

# 43RD COMMENCEMENT

MAY 16 & 17, 2009

*Graduate and Undergraduate Schedule and Information*

# CONGRATULATIONS!

*Your years of hard work have come to fruition, and soon you will be able to celebrate your graduation with your family, classmates, and teachers: Sacred Heart University's 43rd Commencement Weekend is rapidly approaching, and all members of the University community wish it to be a memorable one for you.*

*This year Commencement Weekend will be Saturday, May 16, 2009 and Sunday, May 17, 2009. There will be separate commencement exercises for graduate and undergraduate students. **Graduate student commencement ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 16, and undergraduate ceremonies will take place on Sunday, May 17.***

*The faculty and administration of Sacred Heart University look forward to celebrating your achievements with you. We hope you will share the joy of these events with us. We welcome your active participation in Commencement Weekend activities. Together, the events of these two days will prove to be a memorable culmination and celebration of your years at Sacred Heart University.*

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

We trust that this schedule will enhance your participation and enjoyment of this wonderful event marking a significant milestone in your life.

## Commencement Ceremonies for Graduate Students

*Saturday, May 16, 1:00 p.m. • William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center • Reception to follow*

The commencement ceremony will take place in the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center. It will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. Participants must report to the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center by 11:45 a.m, dressed in cap, gown, and hood. It is very important for you to be on time since the procession will start at exactly 12:30 p.m.

Immediately following the commencement ceremony there will be a reception in the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center or on the lawn (weather permitting) for students and their guests.

Your diploma will be mailed to your home address within eight weeks of the awarding of your degree.

## Commencement Ceremonies for Undergraduate Students

*Sunday, May 17, 11:00 a.m. • Campus Field*

The commencement ceremony will take place on the Campus Field behind the William H, Pitt Health and Recreation Center. It will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. Medals for academic excellence (distributed, through the Deans' offices, prior to this ceremony) will be announced during the ceremony. Please wear them with your cap and gown. Participants must report to the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center by 9:45 a.m., dressed in cap, gown, and hood. It is very important for you to be on time since the procession will start at exactly 10:30 a.m. Tickets are required for guests to be admitted to the Campus Field area.

Your diploma will be mailed to your home address within eight weeks of the awarding of your degree.

## COMMENCEMENT MASS

Both graduate and undergraduate students and their guests are invited to participate in the Commencement Mass. As a participant, please wear your cap, gown, and hood as you march in formal procession with the faculty and staff of your college in this final community celebration of the Eucharist. For Catholics, attendance at the Commencement Mass fulfills the Sunday obligation. Robing will take place at 3:00 p.m. in the area adjacent to the lobby of the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center, with the processional lineup, by degree, at 3:30 p.m. For us to plan for seating, kindly indicate the number of guests on the attached graduation response form, or respond online at [www.sacredheart.edu/commencement.cfm](http://www.sacredheart.edu/commencement.cfm).

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

Unfortunately, it sometimes rains in May in Connecticut. To permit graduates' guests the opportunity to attend commencement, the undergraduate ceremony will be held outdoors "rain or shine." The only exception for inclement weather would be a determination of dangerous outdoor conditions, in which case the ceremony will be delayed until the danger passes. Guests are requested to prepare appropriately and are encouraged to use ponchos for rain protection to maintain maximum comfort and to reduce the visual and liquid annoyances created by umbrellas in any crowd.

In the event of dangerous, sustained inclement weather only, Undergraduate Commencement will be held in the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center. Your guests will need indoor tickets to be admitted to the commencement area inside the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center. Those without indoor tickets may view the ceremony remotely at either the Edgerton Center or University Commons. Please check our website, [www.sacredheart.edu](http://www.sacredheart.edu), for last-minute updates.

Graduate Commencement will be held indoors in the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center, rain or shine. (Please see the "Commencement Ceremonies for Graduate Students" section for more information).

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## TICKETS

**Graduate Students:** Each participating graduate will receive four tickets for the commencement ceremony. Tickets will be required for the ceremony and can be picked up during the week of April 20 in the Registrar's Office (Monday, April 20 through Thursday, April 23, 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.; Friday, April 24, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.). *If you are sending someone else to pick up your tickets, please provide signed written permission.*

**Undergraduate Students:** Tickets are required for the commencement ceremony. Each participating graduate will receive six tickets for the ceremony on Campus Field. In case of dangerous, sustained inclement weather, commencement will be moved indoors and only three indoor tickets per graduate will be honored. Tickets can be picked up during the week of April 20 in the Registrar's Office (Monday, April 20 through Thursday, April 23, 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.; Friday, April 24, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.). *If you are sending someone else to pick up your tickets please provide signed written permission.*

## ATTIRE

Cap, gown, and hood are provided for each graduate participating in the ceremonies. Commencement attire will be distributed by the Bookstore in University Commons on Wednesday, May 13, from noon to 7:00 p.m. only. Please plan accordingly. A signed note will be required for someone else to pick up your cap and gown. As commencement is a memorable day in your life and will be preserved in numerous photographs, appropriate attire and footwear is suggested.

## ALUMNI FAMILY PRESENTATIONS/SPOUSE/PARENT ALUMNI PRESENTATIONS

It has been a custom of Sacred Heart University that alumni who are also parents or spouses of graduates may assist the President in presenting the diploma to their sons, daughters, or spouses. If you are interested in sharing this experience with your family member, please indicate that on the graduation response form, or by responding online at [www.sacredheart.edu/commencement.cfm](http://www.sacredheart.edu/commencement.cfm).

## DECEMBER GRADUATES

It is our custom to invite December graduates to the May commencement ceremonies. Your name will be included in the graduation program, and you are invited to participate in the festivities.

## PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

If you require special needs parking for yourself or your guests, please contact the Public Safety Office at 203-371-7995 during the week prior to graduation. Shuttle buses will be available from all parking areas. Seating for our special needs guests is available.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Chappell Graduation Images will be on hand to photograph your day. Photos will be available for purchase online through the University webpage or directly at [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com).

# RSVP

Since the number of graduates continues to increase each year and seating is limited, it is essential that you reply in one of four ways: by mail to the Registrar's Office, 5151 Park Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06825; by fax (203-365-7509); online at [www.sacredheart.edu/commencement.cfm](http://www.sacredheart.edu/commencement.cfm); or in person *no later than Friday, April 10, 2009*.

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PERF LINE. DON'T PRINT MAGENTA

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ID Number

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First Name

Last Name

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Phonetic Pronunciation of Name

- I will attend the Graduate Commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 16, 2009.
- I will attend the Undergraduate Commencement ceremonies on Sunday, May 17, 2009.
- I will attend the Commencement Mass on Saturday, May 16, 2009. Number of guests for Mass \_\_\_\_\_
- My parent(s)  My spouse graduated from Sacred Heart University and will assist in presenting the diploma

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Name of parent(s) or spouse

Phonetic pronunciation of name(s)

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Parent's or spouse's Sacred Heart University degree and year

**DIRECTIONS TO SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY**

*For passenger vehicles only*

**From Merritt Parkway (Route 15) north or south:** Exit 47. At end of ramp turn left onto Park Avenue and proceed one block to Sacred Heart University. Entrance on Park Avenue.

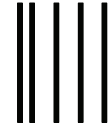
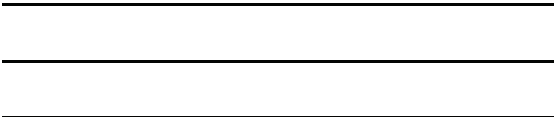
**From Connecticut Turnpike (1-95) north or south:** Exit 27A. Continue straight ahead on combined Routes 8 and 25 to fork. Bear left onto Route 25. Take Exit 7, Merritt Parkway south, and follow directions above.

*For all vehicles*

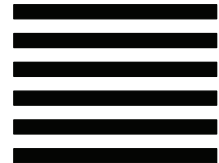
**From Connecticut Turnpike (1-95) east:** Exit 27. Continue straight ahead off exit ramp (North Frontage Road). Turn right onto Park Avenue. Five miles to Sacred Heart University.

**From Connecticut Turnpike (1-95) west:** Exit 27. Second left (Lafayette Boulevard). First left under turnpike bridge to North Frontage Road. Follow directions above.

PERF LINE. DON'T PRINT MAGENTA



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**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 116 FAIRFIELD CT

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

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FAIRFIELD CT 06825-9970

