Commencement Exercises
General Graduating Student Information
May 5-6, 2023

Location:
Holy Apostles College & Seminary
33 Prospect Hill Road
Cromwell, CT 06416

Commencement Weekend Schedule
Friday, May 5, 2023
3:00 pm - Campus Tour Available for Graduating Students (Meet at St. Peter's)
4:00 pm - Mandatory Rehearsal for Graduating Students (St. John's 3 and Rec Room)

Saturday, May 6, 2023
9:00 am - Campus Tour Available for Graduating Students (Meet at St. Peter's)
9:00 am - Sacrament of Reconciliation (Queen of the Apostles Chapel)
10:00 am - Baccalaureate Mass (Queen of the Apostles Chapel)
12:00 pm - Graduates and Faculty Line Up
(St. John's 3 and Rec Room/St. Andrew's Classroom)
12:30 pm - Commencement Exercises Begin (Queen of the Apostles Chapel
- *Immediately following, group photo of the newly graduated students outside*
3:00 pm - Reception with Buffet (St. Peter's)

Sunday, May 7, 2023
7:30 am - Sunday Mass offered by Fr. Kucer, M.S.A., President-Rector
(Queen of the Apostles Chapel)

Commencement Regalia:
You are required to purchase your own cap, gown, and tassel (and hood, if a graduate student). Please purchase by the middle of April, to allow time for shipping, through this link: https://rosetherese.com/product/holy-apostles-college-seminary/

Airports:
If you are flying from out of state, the closest airport to Holy Apostles is Bradley International Airport (Hartford/Springfield) located in Windsor Locks, CT. It is about 40 minutes from campus.

Lodging:
The Holy Apostles campus cannot accommodate lodging for faculty and/or their guests. However, there are many hotels and accommodations (including Airbnbs) nearby.

The previously-reserved room blocks have returned to the general public for booking.

The hotels that these were available at are:

Springhill Suites (Hartford-Cromwell)	Residence Inn (Hartford-Rocky Hill)
76 Berlin Road Cromwell, CT 06146	680 Cromwell Avenue Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Graduation Fee & Diplomas:
All graduating students are required to pay the graduation fee of $155. For graduate MA students who completed the Current Format Comp Exam, the graduation fee was included with the fee for the exam.

On campus and online graduates: please make your payment through Populi. Seminarians: the Business Office will send out invoices to your diocese for payment.

Please take note that academic and financial obligations must be met in order to receive your diploma and transcript. Diplomas ship in early-mid June, even if you are attending Commencement.

Holy Apostles charges a graduation fee to cover the administrative costs associated with completing the graduation review, as well as printing and shipping your diploma. Eligible students are invited to participate in the annual on campus Commencement ceremony, for which the school does not charge an additional fee.

Graduation Bell Tradition:
We invite you to participate in a very special tradition here at Holy Apostles! Since the early days of the seminary (and later also the college), new alumni ring the Graduation Bell one time for each year spent as a student at Holy Apostles. This tradition signals your hard work and perseverance throughout your time as a student.

From 3:30-4:30 pm, the Holy Apostles photographer will be available to take your photo as you “ring in” your graduation by the Graduation Bell. Please note that this will take place outside during the same time as the Reception.

Video Streaming:
The Commencement Ceremony will be live-streamed. A link will be provided for you to share with family and friends.

Photography:
Students and guests are encouraged to take photos during the Commencement Exercises from their seats.

A Holy Apostles photographer will be taking photos during the Baccalaureate Mass and the Commencement Exercises. Photos will be taken as you walk across and shake hands with our President-Rector. All of these photos will be made available to alumni afterwards via an online platform for downloading. These photos will also be utilized by Holy Apostles College & Seminary for marketing and promotion purposes.

Immediately following the Commencement Exercises, please proceed outside for a group photo of the newly graduated students.

Guests:
To accommodate all those who wish to attend the Commencement Exercises, the guest count is limited to a maximum of four per graduating student. Please be sure to include your guest count when RSVP-ing to attend the Commencement Exercises.

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times, especially during the Baccalaureate Mass and the Commencement Exercises.

Parking:
When arriving to campus, you will be greeted by a parking volunteer who will direct you to a parking space. If someone in your group will require a handicapped space, please contact Dr. Rebecca Davis, Registrar, ahead of time, at rdavis@holyapostles.edu, to ensure we can set aside enough spaces for those in need.

Campus Masking Protocols:
Please note that as of January 26, 2023, there is no mask policy on campus. If this changes, you will be made aware.

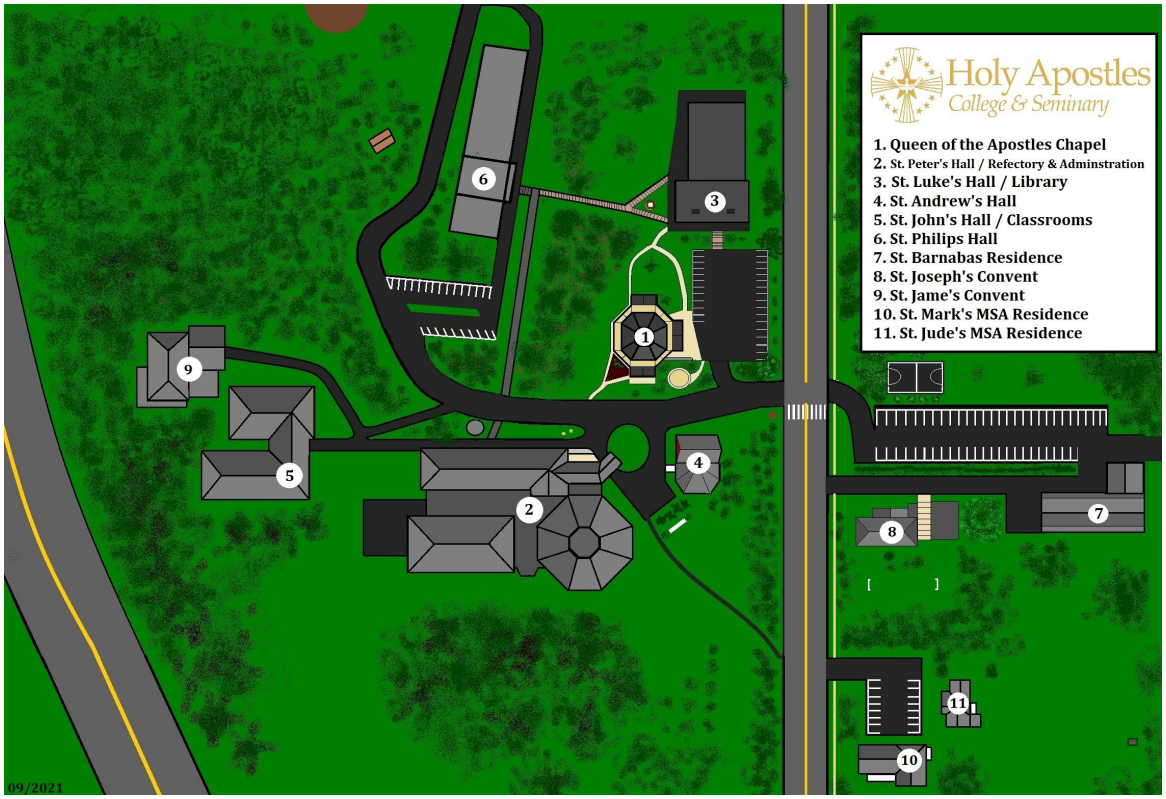
Local Attractions:
If you would like to spend more time in Connecticut, please visit www.CTvisit.com/ for tourism ideas. You may also consider visiting the following uniquely Catholic destinations:

- Padre Pio Foundation of America - Cromwell, CT (5 minutes from campus)
- St. Mary's Church - New Haven, CT; founding location of Knights of Columbus (35 minutes from campus)
- Bl. McGivney Pilgrimage Center - New Haven, CT (35 minutes from campus)
- Monastery of Our Lady of Grace - North Guilford, CT (30 minutes from campus)
- The Shrine of Lourdes - Litchfield, CT (50 minutes from campus)
- Enders Island Retreat Center - Mystic, CT (1 hour from campus)
- National Shrine of The Divine Mercy - Stockbridge, MA (1.5 hours from campus)
- St. Patrick's Parish & Oratory - Waterbury, CT; closest geographical Church to the birthplace of Bl. McGivney - ICKSP Latin Mass Parish (30 minutes from campus)

Local Dining Options:

Amici Italian Grill Italian Cuisine - $$ 280 Main Street Middletown, CT	Aroy Thai Gardens Thai Cuisine - $$ 203 Main Street Middletown, CT	Puerto Vallarta Mexican Cuisine - $$ 200 Main Metro Square Middletown, CT	Saybrook Fish House Seafood Cuisine - $$ 2165 Silas Deane Hwy Rocky Hill, CT

Campus Map



Local Catholic Parishes for Sunday Mass:

- St. John Church - 5 St. John Court, Cromwell, CT
  - 3 minutes from campus
  - Sundays at 7:30 am and 9:30 am
- St. Sebastian Church - 155 Washington Street, Middletown, CT
  - 10 minutes from campus
  - Sundays at 11:00 am and 5:00 pm
- St. Mary Parish - 5 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, CT
  - 35 minutes from campus
  - Sundays at 10:30 am and 5:00 pm
- St. Patrick's Oratory - 48 Charles Street, Waterbury, CT
  - 35 minutes from campus
  - Sundays at 8:30 am (Low Mass) and 10:30 am (High Mass)