HONORS CONVOCATION FOR UNDERGRADUATES 1 p.m., Friday, May 17, Great Upper Church, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
The Honors Convocation for Undergraduates recognizes those students who have been elected to membership in national honor societies, those who have completed the University’s honors curriculum, and those who have achieved individual honors in their specific disciplines. Students, in academic gowns, but without hoods, should be seated no later than 12:45 p.m. Family and friends are invited to attend this convocation.

BACCALAUREATE MASS 4 p.m., Friday, May 17, Great Upper Church, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
The student procession will form at 3:30 p.m. in front of McMahon Hall and move promptly at 3:40 p.m. In case of inclement weather, students should proceed directly to Memorial Hall in the lower level of the Basilica to form the procession. Students are asked to wear their academic gowns without hoods.

PRESIDENT’S RECEIPTION Immediately following the Baccalaureate Mass Friday, May 17, Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center
The President and Mrs. Garvey invite all graduating students and their families to this reception honoring the Class of 2013. The reception takes place at the Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center, both inside and on the patio outside the center.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES 10 a.m., Saturday, May 18
University Mall in front of the east entrance to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
Candidates for degree are asked to assemble no later than 9 a.m. (undergraduate arts and sciences graduates no later than 8:45 a.m.) at locations that will be communicated by the various schools (and posted on the Commencement website at commencement.cua.edu). The Convocation exercises usually begin at 9:30 a.m., and others will assist in organizing the procession. Students can verify their eligibility to partici-pate in Commencement Exercises by contacting the Office of Enrollment Services at 202-319-5300. Candidates wear caps and academic gowns and carry their hoods — tassels to the right until their degree is conferred.

DIPLOMA DISTRIBUTION Following the Commencement Exercises, diplomas will be distributed to students in individual ceremonies organized by each school. The list of the times and locations of these ceremonies can be found on the Commencement website (commencement.cua.edu) and will also be printed in the Commencement program.

RAIN PLAN In the case of severely inclement weather that precludes holding the Commencement Exercises outdoors, an announcement will be posted on the CUA website (cua.edu) by 8 a.m. If the rain plan goes into effect, graduates and their guests will proceed to the sites of diploma distributions, where degrees will be conferred according to the rain schedule.

OTHER COMMENCEMENT WEEK EVENTS There are a few other events taking place during the Commencement week that affect many but not all graduates.

School of Nursing Pinning Ceremony 9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 16, Great Room, Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center
In keeping with a long tradition in nursing, graduating senior nursing students receive their Catholic University School of Nursing pin. The Pinning Ceremony is open to graduating seniors and their guests.

Senior Athletics Awards Banquet 5 p.m., Thursday, May 16, Great Room, Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center
Senior athletes who have distinguished themselves with outstanding academic and athletic accomplishments during their time at CUA will be honored and a number of special achievement awards, including the Harris and Donley cups, will be conferred.

Phi Beta Kappa Induction Ceremony 10 a.m., Friday, May 17, Auditorium, Caldwell Hall
Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious collegiate academic honor society in the United States. Fewer than ten percent of American colleges and universities have a chapter. Founded in 1776, the society recognizes excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. CUA’s chapter was founded in 1941.

ACADEMIC ATTIRE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Academic attire is worn by all those participating in the Commencement Exercises, Honors Convocation, and Baccalaureate Mass. Students may also wear military uniforms or religious habits, as appropriate.

Graduating students order their caps and gowns through the CUA Bookstore or online at herff-jones.com. Commencement Announcements are also ordered through the herffjones.com/college.

FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES All ceremonies have designated seating areas for those with mobility disabilities, sign language interpreters, and alternate format materials.

Graduating students with physical disabilities requiring accommodations along the procession route, in the seating area, getting to/from the platform area (located at the top of the stairs), obtaining their diploma on the platform, or alternative formats of the Commencement program should contact Disability Support Services prior to Friday, May 3.

For more information about what is provided and available, please contact Disability Support Services at cua-disability@cua.edu or 202-319-5211 prior to Friday, May 3. For additional information, you may also visit dss.cua.edu/news/commencement.cfm.

CLEARING THE WAY FOR GRADUATION Commencement is a time of celebration and CUA wants every graduate, along with their family and friends, to enjoy this very special occasion. Graduates should understand that University policy states that diplomas may not be released to students with a “hold” on their student record. Degree candidates with holds due to unpaid student account balances should submit payment for their balance to the Office of Enrollment Services well in advance of the Commencement Exercises to ensure removal of the associated holds. Students with other holds (library, financial aid, etc.) should contact the office responsible for initiating the hold in order to resolve any issues in a timely manner. Students can review any holds on their account via the Holds box on the right-hand side of their Cardinal Station Student Center.

PARKING AND MAP Visitors are advised that on-campus parking is limited, especially in the center of campus and areas near the various Commencement sites. Parking is available in the outlying areas of campus, limited primarily to the Marist and O’Boyle halls parking lots, the Raymond A. DuFour Athletic Center parking lot, the University Parking Garage (that can be accessed from John McCormack Road), and street parking along both Harewood and John McCormack roads. Limited parking may also be available in the parking lot for the Basilica located at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Harewood Road, N.E. Guests may also choose to travel to Commencement activities and events via Metrorail to the Brookland/CUA stop on the Red Line.

Parking for those with disabilities is available in front of Mullen Library and in designated locations with state-issued license plate or placard.

MORE INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION For additional information about Commencement, including FAQs, visit commencement.cua.edu.

USEFUL CUA CONTACT INFORMATION Visit our website at commencement.cua.edu.

Office of Enrollment Services
202-319-3300

Department of Public Safety
202-319-2320

Disability Support Services
202-319-5211

CUA Bookstore
202-319-5232