



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**Saint Kateri
Council 12229**

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Newsletter Editor's Message

Do you remember when you graduated? Was it from elementary school, high school, college, or post-degree college that you remember most? What did graduation mean to you, and how did it affect the life you lead today? My daughter just completed her post-graduate master-of-science degree. My wife and I are very proud of her achievements, and this caused me to highlight graduation in this month's message.

May is, of course, the month of the year students the world over celebrate their academic success with graduations. If you have a graduate in your family, I hope you get caught up in their enthusiasm for a new future as much as they do, and I hope you continue to support their life successes beyond graduation.

What is the essence of graduation? I read somewhere that "A **graduation** is important because it is a rite of passage to so many people. When a person **graduates**, it signifies the move from a previous form of existence to a more mature being". Well, that statement seems to be a rather appropriate way to describe what graduation means to most people, even if they do not really think about it in those terms. For most of us, we tend to become more "mature" with successive graduations. For me, I think it was merely the aging process at work. Maturity has not yet kicked in!

But let's look back at that statement for a moment: Graduation "...signifies the move from a previous form of existence to a more mature being". It states nothing about a formal graduation ceremony. We have all moved from a previous form of existence to a more mature being through all facets of our lives. We graduated from school to a working career, we married, we had children, and we became Knights. These are all moves from a previous form of existence, some marked with a ceremony, some not. As Knights, I believe we have all "graduated" to many greater rites of passage!

So, to all you graduates... Congratulations!