



*Celebration of the
Holy Mass*



Commencement Ceremony

AUGUST 26, 2023

The Class of 2023

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS

Emphasis in Advertising & Marketing

Jose Ramon Sebastian Saucedo
Cum Laude

Emphasis in Leadership & Management

Sebastian Clemente Gonzalez
Jonathan Ramirez

Emphasis in Sales & Marketing

Andrew Steven Nave

Piper Anne Boyd

Naylin Jayed Cruz
Cum Laude

John D. Ibarra

Anabella Bianca Johnson
Summa Cum Laude

Isabella Belen Johnson
Summa Cum Laude

Ryan Christopher Lo Baugh
Ryan Adrian Lopez

James Patrick Marshall

Anel Muro

Gemma Marie Ramirez
Magna Cum Laude

Lauren Esbella Ramirez
Magna Cum Laude

Joseph Gabriel Reichelt

Phoenix Karla Lynn Toney
Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HUMANITIES

Lily Ann Blando
Summa Cum Laude

The Class of 2023

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HUMANITIES

Emphasis in Creative Writing & Screenwriting

Kaylee E. Cass
Summa Cum Laude

Alyssa Marie Helsel

Audrey Marie Daniels
Cum Laude

Fabiola Mendez-Hernandez
Magna Cum Laude

Emphasis in Illustration

Cynthia Barboza
Magna Cum Laude

Keyana Therese Harrod
Summa Cum Laude

Marina Rayanne Charanza

Joshua Philip Martin
Magna Cum Laude

Emphasis in Musical Theatre

Shealeigh Johanna Rondholz
Summa Cum Laude

Emphasis in Philosophy & Theology

Mikaela Kathleen Adams

Maria Teresa De Jesus Gonzalez

Maria Teresa Quintan Plaisted

Julian Angel Rosales Cenicerros

Marlon Fransisco Munguia
Magna Cum Laude

Alec Matthew Williams
Summa Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA

Maria Frances Henze
Magna Cum Laude

Francesca D. Redington
Cum Laude

John Thomas Howard
Magna Cum Laude

Aaron Joseph Smith
Magna Cum Laude

Emily Kaye Jones

Bernadette Mary Timson
Cum Laude

Genevieve Mara Pride
Cum Laude

The Class of 2023

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA

Emphasis in Acting

Kyra Elise McAlister
Cum Laude

Paulina Denis Sandoval
Magna Cum Laude

Daniel G. Morse
Magna Cum Laude

Emphasis in Animation

Joseph George Goedtke
Magna Cum Laude

Patrick Damian Najera
Cum Laude

Nori H. Griffith
Summa Cum Laude

Grace Elizabeth Vedra
Magna Cum Laude

Reilly K. Hendrix
Cum Laude

Emphasis in Game Development

Paul Sebastian Conant Guy

Jordan Nicholas Costin

Emphasis in Graphic Design

Donna Columba Lalonde
Magna Cum Laude

Hazel Louise Pulse
Magna Cum Laude

Clauja Maru Marquez
Summa Cum Laude

Emphasis in Post-Production

Karen Barboza
Summa Cum Laude

Thomas Garreth Hartley

Anahi Gonzalez
Magna Cum Laude

Abigail Katherine Ross
Summa Cum Laude

Emphasis in Post-Production & Game Development

Leiona Yasameen Janfada
Magna Cum Laude

The Class of 2023

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA

Emphasis in Producing

Pedro Jacinto Gonzalez
Cum Laude

Emphasis in Producing & Screenwriting

Everett M. Ramirez
Summa Cum Laude

Natalia Laura Roberts
Summa Cum Laude

Emphasis in Production

Samuel John Barton

Faustina Grace Ortiz
Cum Laude

Bryce Jacob Friederick

Daniel Charles Joseph Owens

Alan Joseph Hewitt
Summa Cum Laude

Angelika Anna Sowa
Summa Cum Laude

John Lyman Maynard
Magna Cum Laude

Josue A. Vazquez Rios

Simon Joseph Michael

Mark Peter James Westin
Magna Cum Laude

Joshua Paul Morse
Cum Laude

Emphasis in Production & Screenwriting

Caterina M. Franks
Summa Cum Laude

Thomas McDonald
Cum Laude

Emphasis in Screenwriting

Isabella Monigatti Lake
Summa Cum Laude

Stephen Vincent Moore
Magna Cum Laude

Kendall James Lilley

Philomena G. Pilon
Summa Cum Laude

Isabelle Millicent Mannella
Magna Cum Laude

Nicholas Augustine Toller
Magna Cum Laude

Anna Catherine Maria McKellar
Magna Cum Laude

Commencement Program

Mass

CELEBRANT Fr. Sarfraz Alam, O.S.A.

Commencement

MASTER OF CEREMONIES Max Hulburt
Chair of Visual Arts

NATIONAL ANTHEM Paulina Sandoval
Graduate, Communications Media

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Alan Hewitt • *Valedictorian*
Graduate, Communications Media

WELCOME Dr. Derry Connolly
President

SENIOR ADDRESS Angelika Sowa
Graduate, Communications Media

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GRADUATES Max Hulburt
Chair of Visual Arts

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES George Simon
Chair of Communications Media

BENEDICTION Fr. Andrew Younan
Professor of Philosophy

CHOIR DIRECTOR John Polhamus
Professor of Music

Celebration of the Holy Mass

PRELUDES *Alleluia, Sing to Jesus • What Wonderful Love Is This • Salve Regina*

Stay seated for the

ACADEMIC PROCESSION *Instrumental: O God Beyond All Praising*

Faculty of the University
President of the University

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Business
Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Communications Media
Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Humanities

Please stand for the

LITURGICAL PROCESSION

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come Holy Ghost

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
And in our hearts take up thy rest:
Come with thy grace and heavenly aid
To fill the hearts which thou hast made.

O Comforter, to thee we cry,
Thou heav'nly gift of God most high;

Thou font of life, and fire of love.
And sweet anointing from above.

Praise we the Lord, Father and Son,
And Holy Spirit with them one;
And may the Son on us bestow
All gifts that from the Spirit flow,

GREETING • ACT OF PENANCE • COLLECT

Liturgy of the Word

Please Be Seated.

FIRST READING • *Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17*

Alec Williams



Naomi had a prominent kinsman named Boaz, of the clan of her husband Elimelech. Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go and glean ears of grain in the field of anyone who will allow me that favor." Naomi said to her, "Go, my daughter," and she went. The field she entered to glean after the harvesters happened to be the section belonging to Boaz of the clan of Elimelech.

Boaz said to Ruth, "Listen, my daughter! Do not go to glean in anyone else's field; you are not to leave here. Stay here with my women servants. Watch to see which field is to be harvested, and follow them; I have commanded the young men to do you no harm. When you are thirsty, you may go and drink from the vessels the young men have filled." Casting herself prostrate upon

the ground, Ruth said to him, "Why should I, a foreigner, be favored with your notice?" Boaz answered her: "I have had a complete account of what you have done for your mother-in-law after your husband's death; you have left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and have come to a people whom you did not know previously."

Boaz took Ruth. When they came together as man and wife, the LORD enabled her to conceive and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed is the LORD who has not failed to provide you today with an heir! May he become famous in Israel! He will be your comfort and the support of your old age, for his mother is the daughter-in-law who loves you. She is worth more to you than seven sons!" Naomi took the child, placed him on her lap, and became his nurse. And the neighbor women gave him his name, at the news that a grandson had been born to Naomi. They called him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5*

Choir

R. See how the Lord blesses those who fear him.

Blessed are you who fear the LORD,
who walk in his ways!
For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork;
blessed shall you be, and favored. **R.**

You wife shall be like a fruitful vine
in the recesses of your home;
Your children like olive plants
around your table. **R.**

Behold, thus is the man blessed
who fears the LORD. **R.**

The LORD bless you from Zion:
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life. **R.**

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION • *John 13:34*

R. Alleluia

You have but one Father in heaven;
you have but one master, the Christ. **R.**

GOSPEL • *Matthew 23: 1-12*

Fr. Sarfraz Alam, O.S.A.

Lesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, saying, "The scribes and the Pharisees have taken their seat on the chair of Moses. Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example.

For they preach but they do not practice. They tie up heavy burdens hard to carry and lay them on people's shoulders, but they will not lift a finger to move them. All their works are performed to be seen. They widen their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels. They love places of honor at banquets, seats of honor in synagogues, greetings in marketplaces, and the salutation 'Rabbi.' As for you, do not be called 'Rabbi.' You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers. Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven. Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

HOMILY

Fr. Sarfraz Alam, O.S.A.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Joshua Martin

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Please be seated.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Samuel Barton & John Maynard

OFFERTORY HYMN

BE THOU MY VISION, O LORD OF MY HEART

Translated by Mary E. Byrne

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.
Born of thy love, thy child may I be,
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Be thou my buckler, my sword for the fight.
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r.
Raise me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always.
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Ruler of heaven, my treasure thou art.

True Light of heaven, when vict'ry is won
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Please stand.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

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PREFACE

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SANCTUS

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Please kneel.

GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION
Published by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops

For Catholics • As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

For our fellow Christians • We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (Jn 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 § 4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 § 3).

For those not receiving Holy Communion • All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

For non-Christians • We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Communion Rite

Please stand.

THE LORD'S PRAYER • SIGN OF PEACE • LAMB OF GOD •

Please kneel.

COMMUNION HYMNS

GODHEAD HERE IN HIDING

Liturgy of St. Thomas Aquinas

Godhead here in hiding whom I do adore
Masked by these bare shadows, shape and nothing more.
See, Lord, at thy service low lies here a heart
Lost, all lost in wonder at the God thou art.

Seeing, touching, tasting are in thee deceived;
How says trusty hearing? that shall be believed;
What God's Son has told me, take for truth I do;
Truth himself speaks truly or there's nothing true.

On the cross thy godhead made no sign to men;
Here thy very manhood steals from human ken:
Both are my confession, both are my belief,
And I pray the prayer made by the dying thief.

I am not like Thomas, wounds I cannot see,
But I plainly call thee Lord and God as he:
This faith each day deeper be my holding of,
Daily make me harder hope and dearer love.

O thou, our reminder of the Crucified,
Living Bread, the life of us for whom he died,
Lend this life to me, then; feed and feast my mind,
There be thou the sweetness man was meant to find.

Like what tender tales tell of the Pelican,
Bathe me, Jesus Lord, in what thy bosom ran--
Blood that but one drop of has the pow'r to win
All the world forgiveness of its world of sin.

Jesus whom I look at shrouded here below,
I beseech thee, send me what I thirst for so,
Some day to gaze on thee face to face in light
And be blest forever with thy glory's sight.

Concluding Rite

FINAL BLESSING

ST. MICHAEL PRAYER

Marlon Munguia

*Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle;
be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray: and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host,
by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. AMEN.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Words by Henry Van Dyke • Music by Ludwig van Beethoven

Joyful, joyful we adore you, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, Open to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

All your works with joy surround you, Earth and heav'n reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you, Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Changing bird and flowing fountain, Praising you eternally!

ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL

*After the Liturgical Recession, please be seated in prayerful silence
as we prepare for our Commencement Ceremony.*

Commencement Ceremony

Faculty of the University
President of the University
Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Business
Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Communications Media
Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Humanities

Please stand.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Paulina Sandoval

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alan Hewitt

The Pledge of Allegiance is traditionally led by the undergraduate valedictorian.

Please be seated

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dr. Derry Connolly

SENIOR ADDRESS

Angelika Sowa

PRESENTATION OF INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS

The University President presents awards to exceptional graduates.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

The graduates are presented and certified that they have rightfully earned their degrees.

CONFERRAL OF UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

The University President confers the degrees upon the graduates.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GRADUATES

The names of the graduating students are read.

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES

George Simon

Seniors selected George Simon to deliver the final address to the graduating class.

FINAL BLESSING

Fr. Andrew Younan

The ceremony concludes with the final blessing.

ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL HYMN

O God, Beyond All Praising

*Please join us for a reception in the Parish Hall
immediately following the ceremony.*

Institutional Awards

THE BUSINESS ACUMEN AWARD

The Business Acumen Award is given annually to the graduating student, whose breadth of academic work demonstrates a strong ability to take business theory learned in the classroom and applies it to the real world.



THE CINEMATIC ARTIST AWARD

The Cinematic Artist Award is given annually to the graduating film student whose work has consistently demonstrated the hand of God providing an extraordinary talent, and an individual's profound commitment to accepting God's gift and working tirelessly to master his or her film craft.



THE VISUAL ARTS AWARD

The Visual Arts Award is given annually to the graduating Animation or Gaming student whose work has consistently demonstrated the hand of God providing an extraordinary talent, and an individual's profound commitment to accepting God's gift and working tirelessly to master his or her visual arts craft.



THE PERFORMING ARTIST AWARD

The Performing Artist Award is given annually to the graduating Acting student whose work has consistently demonstrated the hand of God providing an extraordinary talent, and an individual's profound commitment to accepting God's gift and working tirelessly to master his or her acting craft.



HUMANITIES AWARD

This inaugural Humanities Award is given to the graduating student whose engagement with intellectual and artistic traditions of the Christian West has resulted in superior academic achievement, refinement of character, and breadth of thought.



FINE ARTS AWARD

This inaugural Fine Arts Award is given annually to the graduating Illustration or Graphic Design student whose work has consistently demonstrated the hand of God providing an extraordinary talent, and an individual's profound commitment to accepting God's gift and working tirelessly to master his or her fine arts craft.

THE FOUNDERS' AWARD FOR IMPACTING CULTURE

The Founders' Award for Impacting Culture is given annually to the graduating senior whose work most exemplifies the original vision of the founders of the University, who boldly set out to impact culture to impact culture for Christ. This award recognizes the student whose work shows significant cultural engagement on and off-campus on critical issues of our time.



Academic Honors

Academic Honors are awarded based on a student's cumulative grade point average over the course of his or her undergraduate career. These will be announced from the podium as degrees are presented.

- *Cum laude*, or 'with honor': a grade point average between 3.40 and 3.59
- *Magna cum laude*, or 'with great honor': a GPA between 3.60 and 3.79
- *Summa cum laude*, or 'with highest honor': a GPA between 3.80 and 4.00

The student with the highest cumulative grade point average is honored as valedictorian. This year's valedictorian is **Alan Hewitt**.



About the University

VISION

To graduate innovative and determined students who know and love Jesus, and boldly proclaim His Gospel in culture-impacting fields.

MISSION AND CORE PURPOSE

To impact culture for Christ by forming students as creators and innovators, leaders and entrepreneurs in the Creative Arts and Business Innovation and steeped in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.

JOHAN PAUL THE GREAT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY is a unique Christ-centered creative community of artists and innovators centered on a common mission to Impact Culture for Christ. We seek to create culture by bringing together storytellers, artists, designers, leaders, and entrepreneurs in the pursuit of Truth, Beauty, and Goodness. JPCatholic is a creative hub where ideas and stories cross pollinate and where students, faculty, and alumni sharpen each other's thinking and creative imagination. With our culture quickly moving towards a post-Christian future, the need for a creative hub rooted in the truth and beauty of the faith is vital.

Board of Trustees

OFFICERS

Deacon Mark Wieczorek JD, PhD
Chair & Secretary

Derry Connolly, PhD
President

MEMBERS

Laura Badillo

Derry Connolly

Nick DiNapoli

Martin Harold

Fr. Scott Herrera

Kevin Meziere

Paul Polito

Tom Tomkins

Deacon Mark Wieczorek

Academic Regalia

Academic apparel has traditional roots that date to the Medieval European universities of the fourteenth century. Like many ceremonial costumes, academic regalia began as everyday clothing and evolved into the stylized, symbolic dress seen today. Since university students were almost always members of a religious order, the dress of a scholar resembles that of a religious, with a long, simple black gown and a hood. This practice was eventually adopted by American universities, and today the American Council on Education publishes a standard academic costume code adhered to with little exception by most universities.

Awearer's degree is indicated by the cut of the gown and in the length of the hood. Graduates with a bachelor's degree will be wearing a gown with pointed sleeves and a hood that is three feet long. Graduates and faculty members who have earned Masters' degrees wear a gown with oblong sleeves and a hood that is three and one-half feet long. Those who have earned a doctorate wear a velvet-faced gown with ample, bell-shaped sleeves and a hood that is four feet long. The doctor's gown also features three bars of velvet across the sleeve; a university's President may wear four bars across the sleeve.

The color of the hood is rich in symbolism. The lining of the hood represents the colors of the school where the degree was earned. Our graduates' hoods are lined with gold emblazoned with a red chevron. The trimming of the hood is velvet and represents the wearer's field of study. Our student's hoods are either trimmed in crimson for communications media or drab (light brown) for business. Other colors you might see include white, for arts, letters, and humanities; orange, for engineering; dark blue, for philosophy; and red, for theology and divinity.

University Seal



The University Seal was designed in 2003 at the University's founding, and redesigned in 2013 to mark our move to a permanent campus. Our original seal included a shield parted quarterly with symbols representing our different degree programs. As our offerings of programs expanded, it became impossible to represent every field of study offered. Our new seal simplifies the symbology to reinforce our University's deepest commitments: the Book represents our foundation on Sacred Scripture, and the silhouette of the crozier borne by Pope John Paul the Great emphasizes his influence on our founding and our mission. The Seal also features our name and the date of our founding.



**JOHN PAUL
THE GREAT**
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

220 W. Grand Avenue
Escondido, California 92025
WWW.JPCATHOLIC.EDU