Dear First-Year Parents and Families,

The upcoming weeks will most likely include a wide range of feelings for you and your son as you prepare for his arrival at Saint John’s. Along with the excitement of starting college you may also be feeling some anxiety and stress. Please be assured that experiencing this emotional roller coaster ride is perfectly normal!

Throughout summer, your son has received many mailings and information from Saint John’s. One of the best places for him to go for current information is the New Student Orientation website at www.csbsju.edu/orientation. Parents may also utilize this site and we encourage you to do so. You will also find helpful parent information at http://www.csbsju.edu/parents.htm. At this time, we take the opportunity to remind you of several happenings during move-in day so you can plan accordingly and make the most of your time while on campus.

- **Move-In Day: 8:00am – 1:00pm (August 21)**
  New students should plan to arrive to move in on Thursday, August 21, between 8:00am and 1:00pm. Most families arrive in the morning so they can get settled and attend the full-range of programs. Orientation and Residential Life staff are working hard in preparation for your arrival and look forward to welcoming you and your son.

  When you arrive on campus, you will be directed to the unloading zone for your son’s residence hall. You will be asked to unload his belongings and then move your vehicle to a parking lot so that others are able to move in. While you are parking your vehicle, Orientation staff and other student and staff volunteers will assist with moving belongings to your son’s room. Residential Life staff will be greeting new students and their families and assisting with the check-in process. Should you have any questions regarding your son’s arrival or move-in day, please contact the Residential Life Office at sjuhousing@csbsju.edu or 320-363-3512. Additional information can also be found online at http://www.csbsju.edu/SJU-Residential-Life-and-Housing.htm.

- **Class of 2018 Community Picnic: 11:00am – 1:00pm**
  A FREE informal picnic lunch will be provided for new students and their families. Please note that you can come and go as you wish during the picnic.

    Picnic On the Tundra (grass lawn behind Sexton Commons)
    11:00am – 1:00pm
    Rain location: Guild Hall
• **Parent Orientation Program: 1:00pm – 3:00pm**
  This program is an opportunity for parents to ask questions and gather information on a variety of topics and issues regarding your son’s experience at Saint John’s. A panel of administrators, staff and parents will be available to discuss and answer your questions.
  Parent Orientation Program
  1:00pm – 3:00pm
  Stephen B. Humphrey Theater

• **Resource Fair: 2:30pm – 4:00pm**
  Key service areas and departments will be available to answer questions and provide you and your son with resources for college success. This is your time to visit one-on-one regarding specific questions and/or concerns you may have.
  Resource Fair
  2:30pm – 4:00pm
  Great Hall

• **Opening Family Prayer Service: 4:30pm – 5:00pm**
  Enter into the Benedictine tradition of Community as we celebrate the arrival of our new students with our Opening Family Prayer Service in the Saint John’s Abbey and University Church. All new students and their families, regardless of religious affiliation, are welcome to attend.
  Opening Family Prayer Service
  Saint John’s Abbey and University Church
  4:30pm – 5:00pm

• **Parent Hospitality Tent: 8:00am-2:00pm**
  SJU Parent Relations welcomes you to stop by the Hospitality Tent to visit with parent volunteers and to learn about opportunities to continue your involvement in your son’s academic affairs. Parent volunteers are available throughout the day to assist you with questions, provide support and offer helpful suggestions as you prepare for your son’s first year at Saint John’s.
  Parent Hospitality Tent
  Sexton Commons Water Fountain
  8:00am – 2:00pm

We thank you for supporting your son in his decision to attend Saint John’s University and we look forward to sharing this journey with him. If I can be of any assistance to you or your son prior to your arrival, please feel free to contact me at (320) 363-3512 or mconnolly@csbsju.edu.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Connolly
Dean of Students