

Graduation Welcome 2024

Good evening families, friends, and most importantly, members of the Class of 2024! Welcome to the 148th commencement celebration of Christian Brothers High School. My name is Dr. Crystal LeRoy and I am honored to serve as President of this incredible school.

Class of 2024, I have had the privilege of watching you these past four years and it is an understatement to say that your high school years have been anything but normal. You began your journey as Falcons when life as we knew it looked NOTHING like a typical first year at CB.

You navigated

- remote learning,
- hybrid classes,
- cohorts,
- social distancing,
- weekly testing,
- quarantines,
- isolation,
- a SOPHOMORE Lock-In, and so much more.

I am in awe of your perseverance through the MANY challenges put before you and I am grateful for the joy and blessings you have brought to our campus. Now, as we prepare to send you off into the world, I want to leave you with a brief history lesson and a little bit of wisdom.

Back on June 25th, 1967, the world experienced the first ever global satellite television broadcast. The show was aptly named “Our World” and it was watched by 400 million people in 26 countries. The most famous band in the world at that time, The Beatles, were invited to close out the show with a final song. Keep in mind, this was a very difficult time in our country and in the world. The Vietnam War was raging, the Six-Day War had broken out in the Middle East. Race riots had erupted in Atlanta, Boston, Cincinnati, and Tampa. The ***Long Hot Summer*** was upon us.

Sadly, this all sounds all too familiar.

So, what did the Beatles do with this unprecedented platform? They delivered a simple, profound, and much-needed message as they debuted a song that is still around and just as relevant as it was back then ...**All You Need is Love!**

Class of 2024 – that is my message to you...All You Need is Love!

The dictionary says love is an intense feeling of deep affection.

The urban dictionary takes it a step further...in a good way...Love is the act of caring and giving to someone else. Having someone’s best interest and wellbeing as a priority in your life. To truly love is a selfless act.

In the bible, the book of Corinthians tells us “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Put simply, LOVE is an action word.

The motto on the tower of Christian Brothers reads ENTER TO LEARN, LEAVE TO SERVE. My hope and prayer for each of you as you begin this next chapter of your lives is that you hold this simple phrase close to your hearts and put your love into action.

Love God

Love one another

Love yourself

Be patient

Be kind

Do not envy

Honor others

Be slow to anger

Be quick to forgive

Protect others

Trust

Hope

And always persevere!

Our world will be a much better place as you do. Class of 2024, it is our honor to celebrate you tonight. And please remember, **All You Need is Love!**

Live Jesus in our hearts...