

Candle Lighting Ceremony at Graduation Time

[Two students read the alternating verses in antiphonal style. One student lights a candle on the altar for each verse. Every graduate has a candle which is lighted from the altar candles.]

[Name of the college/university], founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph in [date of founding], is based on the tradition of holistic education. Although our degrees and our majors vary, together we form a mosaic of holistic education.

As students of [name of the institution], we learned importance of valuing and respecting all peoples for their diverse cultures, faith traditions and contributions to society.

As graduates of [name of institution], we accept our responsibility to live out these values daily.

As students of [name of institution], we explored and experienced a variety of academic opportunities, both within and outside of the college walls.

As graduates of [name of institution], immersed in the spirit of continued learning, we will witness to others through the value of lifelong learning.

As students of [name of institution], we have worked in many different capacities with classmates, faculty members and administrators.

As graduates of [name of institution], we will take this experience of collaborative learning into all the aspects of our lives and work, recognizing that collaboration enhances all that we do.

As students of [name of institution], we have learned not to exclude members of other cultures and faith traditions, but to embrace all as children of God

As graduates of [name of institution], this spirit of inclusivity will enrich our lives forever.

As students of [name of institution], we have grown in our understanding of the global community and explored service-oriented enterprises.

As graduates of [name of institution], we will recognize our place in the world and our duty to work for justice on a global scale.

As our candles are lighted, the reflection of the light shines in our eyes. May we, the class of 200_, take this light into the world so that the light of Christ may continue to shine into the lives of all those whom we meet.

Adapted from a prayer created at Chestnut Hill College