



**Belmont Abbey**  
COLLEGE

*That in all things God  
may be glorified*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Belmont Abbey College Commencement 2020

**Belmont, NC (May 14, 2020)**— On Saturday May 16, Belmont Abbey College will graduate 295 students. Sixty-three of the students finished their degree in December, and the remaining 232 finished in May. As usual, the graduating class is a mix of traditional-aged students —223 — and 72 students returning to accomplish their college degrees later in life in the college's Center for Continuing & Professional Studies.

Due to the ongoing challenges with the COVID-19 pandemic across the country and North Carolina, the event will not be held in person but rather livestreamed from the college's website at [www.belmontabbeycollege.edu/graduation2020](http://www.belmontabbeycollege.edu/graduation2020) and on the college's YouTube channel @belmontabbeycollege. The administration of Belmont Abbey College wants to ensure that the event is a memorable one for graduates despite the unexpected circumstances we all face. Belmont Abbey invited graduates to submit updated graduate photos, celebratory videos, favorite quotes, and information on their post college plans which will all be featured during the ceremony. The college also encouraged alumni, family, and friends to send congratulatory messages to our graduates which will be shown prior to the commencement ceremony.

Commencement will begin with a livestreamed Catholic Mass presided by Abbot Placid Solari, O.S.B. at 9 a.m. After a brief intermission the commencement ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Some notable graduates include the Girard's (Alyssa and Brian) who are married and have a baby and both will graduate cum laude. Several graduates have a family history of Abbey graduates (Du Sablon, Osmera, Merli, Davis & Stallings). Of note this year this is the first class to have graduates in the college's recently initiated Economics program. In addition, the college will also give honorary degrees to Dr. Patricia Skinner (Honorary Doctor of Letters) and Mr. James Miller (Honorary Doctor of Law).

**About Belmont Abbey College:** Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College is a private, Catholic, baccalaureate and liberal arts institution. Our mission is to educate students in the liberal arts and sciences so that in all things God may be glorified. Guided by the Catholic intellectual tradition and the Benedictine spirit of prayer and learning, we welcome a diverse body of students and provide them with an education that will enable them to lead lives of integrity, to succeed professionally, to become responsible citizens, and to be a blessing to themselves and to others. Our beautiful and historic campus is conveniently located just 10 miles west of Charlotte, N.C., and is currently home to more than 1500 students. For more information, visit [www.belmontabbeycollege.edu](http://www.belmontabbeycollege.edu).