



Branching out and
standing
strong

Arlagh Tracy

To the Leaving Certificate and the Leaving Certificate Applied Class of 2025

I am delighted to write this brief foreword for your graduation booklet and to extend my heartiest congratulations to you all on reaching this important milestone in your life. I, along with the Board of Management, staff and students of St. Louis are privileged to celebrate this special occasion with you, as you graduate from our school after five or six years.

I want to thank you all for being a pleasure to work with and for leaving us all with lovely memories of you. Believe it or not, we are going to miss you, you have been a huge part of the St. Louis family and it will take us a while to adjust to not having you around anymore. I hope your St. Louis experience has been one of great achievements, self-discovery and transformations, whether it was time spent amongst friends and classmates who encouraged you, or teachers and special needs assistants who prepared you for exams and guided you through projects and assignments, I have faith that these are memories which you will cherish for a lifetime.

It is now time for you to leave the familiar environment of St. Louis and pursue your dreams, I have no doubt that you will make a positive impact to society no matter what career path you follow. I hope all the skills and knowledge that you acquired in our school will serve you well in your future endeavours and St. Louis will always remain close to your heart.

I want to thank all the people who played important roles in getting you to this stage of your education,

Your parents or guardians, who supported, encouraged and guided you throughout your post primary years and provided you with all the educational resources you required.

Your deputy principals, teachers and year heads who have worked hard to prepare you for your exams and in doing so taught you life skills and inspired and mentored you along the way.

Your special needs assistants who have been like a school mother to you since the first day you stepped into St. Louis, their genuine interest in you, has helped you to reach your full potential.

All the non-teaching staff who do so much behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of our school, from finding the missing black ridge school bag to ringing home about numerous sore tummies, their kindness and dedication to you over the past number of years hasn't gone unnoticed.

The Board of Management who volunteer their time to ensure good school governance and the development and progression of our school.

Wishing you all a successful career and a fun filled future, full of good health and happiness,

I am so proud of all of you!

Ms. Anderson
Principal

Introducing the Theme: Read by **Cara Higgins**

Good evening and welcome to the Graduation Mass and Ceremony for the Class of 2025. We welcome in particular members of our families, staff, members of the Board of Management and the priests of our parishes who have made a very special effort to be with us this evening.

The theme of our Graduation is Branching Out, Standing Strong. Six years ago we had planted ourselves into this school, many of us arriving timidly through the gate not knowing what would lie ahead. Now, we have grown tall in wisdom, friendship, understanding, faith and gratitude. We are ready to branch out and see what life holds for us beyond the shelter of St Louis.

Nestled into the branches of St Louis Community School we were well cared for and protected. From the staff at the office, to our Big Brothers and Big Sisters in First Year, all the way up to our gifted teachers, deputy principals and principal. We really were very lucky students. However here we all are on the cusp of yet another beginning, about to leave the shelter of those branches and embark on an uncharted journey into the next chapter of the book of life.

This evening we hope to celebrate the very best of who we are and who we have become since that beginning six years ago. We will celebrate the Class of 2025 in song, prayer, art and reflection, followed later by food and conversations that will revisit some of the moments down memory lane.

We welcome all of you to join with us as we begin our final steps as the Graduating Class of 2025.

Entrance Procession: Instrumental ♪ **Caríosa Burke & Alannah O'Dea**

Opening Hymn: Shout to the Lord ♪ **Meadbh Reilly**

Penitential Rite: Read by **Cáit Burke**

For the times we could have been active but opted to laze around and waste the day.
Lord have mercy.

For the times we recognised the right way to go but still refused to take that path.
Christ have mercy.

For the times we used words to destroy rather than build up .
Lord have mercy.

Opening Prayer— Read by **Benas Gudas**

Lord, our God, we gather here tonight to give you thanks for your many blessings as we come to the end of another stage our lives. Now as we make a new beginning, we pray that you will watch over us always. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Read by **Tara Ward**

A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

The Lord God has this to say to you today: I have loved you with an everlasting love and I am constant in my affection for you. I will build you up and I will protect you in good times and in bad. So be happy and go forth in the dancing of the merry-makers. I have plans in my heart for you: plans for peace, not disaster, plans to give you a future and a reason to hope. And remember, when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. You will seek me and find me: when you seek me with all your heart, I will be found by you.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Lift the Wings ♪ **Maeve Toughey**

Second Reading: Read by Nathan Casey

Our second reading is a prayer of St Paul for people he taught. He prays that we grow strong in different areas of our lives. We make this prayer our own today.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

This then is what I pray, kneeling before the Father: In the abundance of his glory may he, through his Spirit, enable your inner selves to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love, with all God's holy people you will have the strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth: so that, knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you may be filled with the utter fullness of God. Glory be to him whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; glory be to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Hallelujah

This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.

Gospel : John 15:6 - 12

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in you, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love,

If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Homily Ceremony Of Light

Fr. Michael:

This evening marks a special time for the Sixth-Year students here in St. Louis CS It is an ending, but it is also a beginning. We tell that story of ending and beginning now using light, the symbol of Christ, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

(Teacher - *Mr. Dunleavy*)

(Light your candle from the main candle and hold it while you say ...)

"On behalf of the staff of the school, I offer you the light of Wisdom." (Hand the candle to *Muirenn Bigley*)

(1st Year student - *Megan Lucey*)

(Light your candle from the main candle and hold it while you say ...)

On behalf of the pupils that you leave behind, I offer you the light of memory. (Hand the candle to *Seán Gilmartin*)

(Member of the Faithful - *Fr. Pat*)

(Light your candle from the main candle and hold it while you say ...)

On behalf of all faithful people, I offer you the light of faith. (Hand the candle to *Chloe Caulfield*)

(Past students - *Chloe Hughes & Deacon Casey*)

(Light your candle from the main candle and hold it while you say ...)

***Chloe*: On behalf of all here, we offer you the light of Hope. (Hand the candle to *Darragh McGovern*)**

(Parent - *Karen Burke*)

(Light your candle from the main candle and hold it while you say ...)

On behalf of all parents and guardians gathered here this evening I offer you the light of love. (Hand the candle to *Rachel Gallagher*)

Fr. Michael:

Our prayer for you is that you will always be held in the embrace of our loving God. We make this this prayer through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Prayers of the Faithful

(Our prayers will be read by [Amy](#), [Éanna](#), [Amber](#), [Isabella](#), [Emma](#), & [John](#).)

[Amy Breslin](#)

Dear Lord

We thank you for the support of our parents and guardians throughout the years. We hope that they know how much we appreciate them. Although sometimes we may have difficulty showing it. We pray that they know how important they are to us.

We pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

[Éanna Byrne](#)

Lord,

Tonight we think of all the friends we have made during our years in St. Louis Community School. We remember our laughter and our tears. Lord, as we reach this stage of our life's journey may we continue to be blessed with good friends. May we always carry with us good memories of our school friends.

We pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

[Amber Noone](#)

Dear Lord

We pray for the staff of St Louis Community School. We thank them for their guidance and support throughout these memorable years. We also pray for the students of the school, may they be ambitious in their work, happy in everything they do and always have hope in their future.

We pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

[Isabella Jennings](#)

Dear Lord,

We pray for all of us who are graduating today. We have shared some of the most important years of our lives with each other. We pray for the wisdom to choose the right path so that we can achieve our dreams.

We pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

[Emma Boland](#)

Dear Lord,

We remember in a special way parents, siblings, grandparents and family members who have gone before us. They are all people with whom we would have

liked to share this special evening. Our lives are better for having known them and we are grateful for that. Lord, may they rest eternally in your loving arms. We pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

John Forde-McCarthy

Dear Lord

Tonight, we also pray for all in our wider community. We think especially of the many people who have supported us on our journey through life so far, coaches, youth leaders, our parishes and neighbours who have always been there to encourage us and bring out the best in us. May we continue to appreciate all that is done for us by others in our communities.

We pray to the Lord. **Lord Hear Our Prayer**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory: Instrumental: **Holly Groarke & Jack Morley**

(**Catherine Trench, T.J. McNicholas & Abbie Walsh** will bring the gifts of bread and wine to the altar)

*This evening, newly commissioned Eucharistic ministers **Cara Higgins & Isabella Jennings** will minister Holy Communion.*

Communion: ♪ The Swan - **Boroka & Robert Sólyom**

♪ I Will Magnify You - **Emma Boland**

♪ Instrumental - **Jack Morley & Holly Groarke**

Student Reflection - Read by Siobhán Raftery

A Friendship Blessing

Parents Reflection: Read by **Anne Breslin**

Closing Prayer & Blessing:

Closing Hymn: Hallelujah ♪ Accompanied by **Cillian Lee Farrell & Cáit Burke**



Graduation Ceremony

Address given by Ms Anderson

Awarding Certificates & Medals

Commendation of Head Prefects
& Prefects

Address given by

Caríosa Burke & Jack Morley



Graduation Song 2025: From Now On & Dreams

Signing: Clodagh Towey



St. Louis C.S.
Leaving Cert. and Leaving Cert Applied
2024 - 2025

