



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

1011 First Avenue, New York, New York 10022 Phone: (212) 371-1000 Fax: (212) 317-9236

March 12, 2020

Dear Catholic Schools Families,

Since the COVID-19 public health crisis revealed itself in our region, the Health and Safety Task Force of the Office of Superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of New York has responded with policies that are proactive, pragmatic and patient. In order to move forward our principals will continue to provide the excellent leadership they are known for in our schools to ensure our entire staff and faculty are educated not only about what the coronavirus *is*, but how to prevent its spread within our school communities. Additionally, it is important to educate our students about the virus, in the absence of factual information, children often imagine situations far worse than reality.

In the coming days, your principal, under the guidance of their regional superintendent, will announce a 12 pm dismissal. While we understand this may be an inconvenience to our families, this early dismissal serves three purposes:

1. Principals will be training their faculty using the ArchCare presentation and other resources, which can be found on our site, catholicschoolsnyc.org. This PowerPoint was created by our own healthcare organization, ArchCare, and is an overall comprehensive guide to COVID-19. They will also review the resources curated by Discovery Education Experience and The Discovery Channel. This collection of lessons and videos provides content regarding the COVID-19 at grade appropriate levels. Task force members from the Office of Teaching and Learning are creating a grade band guide for teachers that identifies the resources most appropriate for the children they teach.
2. Principals and teachers will also use this time to prepare for the possibility of remote learning in the event of an extended closing of their school by creating lessons, developing guidelines, and gathering resources for their students.
3. Maintenance staff will perform an additional cleaning and sanitization of the building according to CDC guidelines.

In order to accommodate working parents, after care programs **will not be canceled**.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we come together to do what is best for our children.

Mr. Michael J. Deegan
Superintendent of Schools
Archdiocese of New York



Our Lady Star of the Sea School

5411 Amboy Road

Staten Island, N.Y. 10312

(718) 984-5750

Fax: (347) 630-7211

Dear Parents,

As per the directives of the Superintendent of Schools, all Staten Island Catholic Schools will have a half day of school, tomorrow, March 13, 2020. We will have a 12pm dismissal. There will be school bus service and there will be after care.

The purpose of the half day is spelled out in Mr. Deegan's letter.

In the event that OLSS needs to close for any given time due to COVID-19 or any other emergency, our plan for "remote learning" is as follows:

- All students have received log-ins for the digital programs that their teachers will be using to assign work. Please make sure your child has shared these with you.
- Students will be bringing home certain books to be kept at home, in the event school is closed.
- Teachers will be posting daily assignments on their class web page by 8:30 am each day that we are closed.
- We ask that every household have a device that the students can use to access their assignments as well as a printer in case anything needs to be printed before returning to school.
- All students will be responsible for ALL work assigned. Work not completed can affect their grades.
- In the event we are closed, parents MUST check the school website and the teacher's class page DAILY.
- Grades 6 – 8 will continue to use Google Classroom on their iPads.

Please continue to pray for everyone's safety and well-being during this stressful time.

Respectfully,

Jeannine Roland

Principal

Patti Gandelman

Assistant Principal