



OUR LADY OF SORROWS  
PRE K-8 CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*"Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary School provides an atmosphere rooted in the Catholic faith, dedicated to individual academic excellence while preparing life-long learners and responsible Christian adults."*

April 3, 2020

Dear OLS Families,

We have completed our third week of remote learning, and I think I speak for all when I say – welcome to the weekend! I realize how challenging this situation is for you, and the faculty and I know that you are truly our partners in this learning continuum. Thank you for your efforts and time as you help the children maintain a schedule, interpret information, complete assignments, manage technology, and for many of you, all while trying to do your own “work from home.” We miss the physical experience of being in our school building and teaching your children, and look forward to returning to our traditional classroom experience.

Effective today the Drop Box/Pick Up Box will be removed from the outside of Door #3. It has worked well, but we have decided to adjust how work is provided and collected. Please hold onto completed work until your child’s teacher shares how it will be collected. Thank you to everyone who took care when using the box!

I offer a few gentle reminders surrounding the remote learning environment. All students must check in with their homeroom teacher every morning so we can take attendance. If there is no contact, I am required to touch base with you to confirm attendance for the day. Overall, the kids have done an awesome job of completing and returning work. Please continue to monitor that their homework and classwork assignments are submitted online as needed. Also, if you are in need of a laptop to help with workflow, I still have a few to lend out. Please email me at [mtuohy@olsschool.us](mailto:mtuohy@olsschool.us) and we will set up a time to meet so the lending agreement can be signed and you can borrow the laptop.

You may have noticed that our school firewalls make it very difficult for us to email and respond to Yahoo, AOL and Hotmail accounts. I would strongly encourage you to create a Gmail account if you currently use one of those other accounts so we can respond to you or contact you when needed. Currently our responses to those email accounts get bounced back to us, and we have to find an alternate means of

responding to you. I do not want anyone to think a question or request has gone unanswered when it is actually back in the junk/spam mailbox!

Since my last communication, Monsignor Gervasio has postponed First Holy Communion. We do not have a new date; that is dependent upon the Governor's directives for returning to school and work. Which goes along with the question I continue to get - when do we think we are returning to school? Again, it is completely dependent upon the Governor's directives. My prayer is that it is sooner than later.

There is an attachment to this email from Bishop O'Connell, who has requested that the attached letter be sent to all parents. He provides information pertaining to Church closings, confessions, and Diocesan updates.

Next week is Holy Week, a week where we spend time focusing on the events leading up to the Holy Triduum and the joy of Easter Sunday. Donovan Catholic High School Campus Ministry (located in Toms River) created a beautiful Stations of the Cross video that connects Jesus' suffering with our current Covid-19 pandemic. It would be perfect to view as a family, especially on Good Friday. Here is the link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7mynBLSUad8>.

Please remember (like you needed the reminder!) that next week is a short week - we will have three full days Monday through Wednesday, a half-day Thursday, and we are off from Friday 4/10/20 through Friday 4/17/20. No work will be assigned during Spring Break, so know there is light at the end of the tunnel!

As always, if there is anything you need from me, please let me know. Enjoy the weekend, and as I receive updates I will be sure to communicate those to you as soon as I have them. You and your family are in my daily prayers, and please tell the children I miss them!

Take care and be well,

Mrs. Tuohy