



# OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

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MR. MICHAEL J. DEEGAN, SUPERINTENDENT

March 20, 2020

Dear Catholic School Community,

As we wind down this first full week of a new routine, we are already looking forward to Monday, April 20, when, God willing, we welcome our beloved students back into our school buildings. That will be such a joyous day for us all! Until then, I am inviting you to join me in reinvigorating your faith, and that of your child(ren) starting tomorrow with a “Weekend of Prayer.”

As part of the Church universal, and especially our extended Catholic schools family, one aspect of our lives that not only remains a constant, but now ever more present is our strong foundation of Faith. Where and how we worship has certainly changed, but our beliefs -those which defines us remains.

We are blessed to have Cardinal Dolan as our wise and joyful shepherd. He has a special message from him to our students, whom we miss so much and look forward to seeing very soon. [Please click here to see the message from Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York.](#)

On [www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org](http://www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org) we will be providing resources in partnership with our pastors, principals and teachers as easily accessible opportunities for our students to pray, contemplate and learn about our relationship with Jesus Christ. As you know, parents are the primary educators of their children, especially in matters of faith.

Join with other Catholics across our city, state and nation, praying in union with the priests as they celebrate mass. May we make a spiritual communion as we consider the true presence of Christ in our hearts. We are reminded of His constant accompaniment in the gospel of Mark 18:20 “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Perhaps this simplicity in the practice of our faith, will allow us to reconnect with Christ in our fast-paced and ever more secular society.

Our brothers and sisters at the [Catholic Faith Network](#) and the leadership of the [United States Conference of Catholic Bishops](#) have gathered resources to enhance the practice of our faith. The [Archdiocese of New York](#) website also has extensive materials. My hope is that these resources will help us all grow and deepen our love and knowledge of our faith in the coming days, weeks, and months ahead.

We hope you join us as we encounter Christ during our Weekend of Prayer here in our school system, the Archdiocese of New York and around the world.

Sincerely,

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