

Dear St. Augustine School Family,

Our teachers and students and parents are to be commended for how well our school has transitioned to a virtual style of learning.

Teachers—thank you for your creativity and tireless hard work to implement our remote learning plans. Your dedication to your students shows in your diligence in caring for our students.

Students—Thank you for working hard to follow all the new lesson plans, for being nimble and tech savvy and mostly for helping your parents by keeping up with your schoolwork.

Parents—Thank you for your patience in adjusting to this new world with us! Together, with patience and a little humor, we will make it through these difficult times.

Our lives in some ways have changed beyond what we could have ever imagined. I know each family is doing what they can to follow the new way of living during the Corona Virus.

I know that many members of our school community are on the front lines fighting this disease. Healthcare Providers are working bravely every day to take care of sick patients. Volunteers are shopping for elderly neighbors. Police Officers, Firefighters and EMS workers are working constantly to keep us safe.

Many of our St. Augustine family members work in these essential professions and are showing incredible courage every day!

We are praying especially for you, for your safety and well being.

Here at the St. Augustine Convent, I am trying to live some semblance of what used to be "normal". Conducting school, along with Mrs. Fessman, doing so from her home, has presented good days and challenging days. We reflect on our faith and draw strength from that, finding new ways to move forward.

The estimates vary as to when we will be returning to ordinary life in the school building. The next date given is April 30th. I am sure many of you have questions regarding the plan beyond that, but I do not have the answers at this time. I will continue to keep you informed as soon as I know the directives from our officials, as safety, for all, is our paramount concern.

So, in the meantime, let us continue living the Lenten experience in a new and perhaps different way. Let us approach the holiest day of the year with our lives filled with thoughts, words and actions taught to us by our Savior.

Please know that Mrs. Fessman and I and your faculty are here for you and your children. Social distancing should not become spiritual or communal isolation for anyone in our school's community. Remember that we are only a phone call or an email away.

Mrs. Fessman and I pray each day that Easter teems with abundant graces for you and your families.

Sister Mary Elizabeth, O.P.
Principal