

## **SMS Parent Letter-April 8, 2020**

St. Mary's School---"Putting Faith in Children Since 1913"

Hello Everyone. This is Kathy Howard-SMS Interim Principal.

### **Please pray with me...**

Lord Jesus, you are the only one who ever died on a cross and said, "I did it for you because I love you. I will stop at nothing to save you."

There is no greater love than that!

Please check out our new staff video. You can click into the E-Learning platform to view it. *Lead Me Lord* is special music. Thank you to our talented Computer/Tech teacher, Leslie Butler, for creating this video.

### **Registration for 2020-21**

Early registration with the discount for the registration fee and book fee will continue through May 15th. Please mail your registration as soon as you are able. We are very interested in projecting enrollment numbers for next year as we develop the SMS 2020-21 budget.

### **Professional Development for Teachers**

Next week on Wednesday, April 15th teachers from all four deanery elementary schools will participate in a half day of professional development with a focus on Distance Learning. This was already a regularly scheduled PD date. Ben Sondgeroth will be providing the training through Google Meets.

### **Upcoming Calendar Dates--Share with your children!**

Teachers will not assigning lessons on the following days:

- Friday, April 10th--NO SCHOOL-Good Friday
- Monday, April 13th--NO SCHOOL-Easter Monday
- Wednesday, April 15th--NO SCHOOL in the afternoon. Teacher In-Service in the afternoon

### **Speech Services**

Parents of students with an Individual Service Plan for speech therapy services were contacted by email by Mrs. Jessica Moreno who provides services to our SMS students.

She shared each student's speech progress update along with some ideas for parents to support and practice students' speech-language skills. She will be sending out additional resources for parents. Mrs. Moreno is available each remote learning day from 9:00am-2:00pm. You can reach her by email at [jmoreno@sps5.org](mailto:jmoreno@sps5.org)

### **Remote Learning Days**

The staff and I want to thank all of our parents for your assistance with assignments on these **Remote Learning Days (RLD)**. We know that this arrangement presents challenges and even barriers for some of you. We are trying to find the right balance of minutes for engagement each day. Please let me, and your child's teacher(s) know if we are achieving the right balance of minutes. The guide that I will attach comes from the Diocese of Rockford and the Illinois State Board of Instruction. Please also share your success stories, humorous happenings, or something new you learned with me. I would love to share those with other families and teachers.

### **SMS Drive-In!**

We would love to see you! On Friday, April 17th at 3:00pm, staff will be parked in the front and back parking lots, using social distancing by leaving an empty parking space between our vehicles. Please load up your family and drive through both parking lots. We hope everyone can do this. If it rains, we will postpone until April 24th.

### **Blessed Easter**

Happy Easter to all of you!