



March 12, 2020

Dear All Saints Catholic School Parents,

We are continuing to monitor the corona virus situation in Maine and the impact to All Saints Catholic School. Currently, there are now three cases of Coronavirus in Maine and we are preparing to offer distance education, while praying that we will not have to close our school for any period of time. I get daily updates and have had webinars with the CDC, the Diocese of Portland, Department of Education and met with area administrators to continue to learn, prepare and respond.

Teachers and staff are diligent about cleaning their classrooms and allowing time for hand washing. We do increase this each year during flu season to help keep all healthy. We continue to stock up on all cleaning supplies and paper goods for the school to ensure that they are readily available.

If your child becomes sick with flu-like symptoms at school, please be prepared to pick up your child and know that we will provide him/her a surgical mask to wear for safety reasons. Do not be alarmed as this is a precaution as it is to protect others. If your child is home sick, please call the school and be prepared to keep them child home until they are 24 hours without a fever without taking medicine. Staff members are also advised to stay home if sick.

If any student or staff member travels to a country with a Level Three Travel Advisory, as listed on the Maine CDC website (currently China, South Korea, Italy or Iran), we will request that student voluntarily stay home for fourteen days upon their return. We will provide remote learning for that child. Note that these countries may change as there are daily updates.

If we are mandated to stay closed because of a quarantine, we will offer a variety of remote learning opportunities for students. We are preparing to educate through work packets, backpack projects, Google Classroom, Zoom, QuickSchools and other platforms to ensure student learning is uninterrupted and of high quality.

Teachers from preK-8 and all specialists are preparing to offer age appropriate distance learning for your child. These plans will be put into place if we are physically unable to come to school. Our distance learning plan/schedule will look very different grade to grade. Our younger students will have less time on the computer and there will be time for breaks and lunch. Class work and homework can go back and forth via e-mail, Google classroom and QuickSchools. If possible, older siblings will be able to assist their younger

siblings during this process. Updated information will be coming home as plans change and updates occur.

Individual teacher letters and/or e-mails are coming home shortly and will continue to be sent home regularly. These communications from classroom teachers will better describe lesson format, online platform, daily schedule and regular times that teachers will be available to communicate with you in the event we have to close our school. Plans will also include how to return student work and how assignments will be graded. If needed, we will be providing laptops to students.

We are currently creating a home to school computer contract which will enable laptops to go home with students if necessary. If you do not have access to the internet or need a laptop computer for your child to use, if we do move to distance education, please let your classroom teacher know.

Please know that All Saints Catholic School is staying up to date on all recommendations. We will work with our superintendent, State Department of Education and the CDC to keep you informed. This situation is changing on an hourly basis. We will continue to build our emergency plan together and remain calm and prayerful.

Please call with any questions or helpful suggestions.

Have a blessed weekend and pray for those sickened by this virus.

Matthew Houghton, Principal