



**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
DEPARTMENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

April 2, 2020

**VIA E-MAIL**

Dear Catholic School Parents and Guardians,

Today, Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued [Executive Order 2020-35](#), which extended the closure of all K-12 school buildings – public, private, and boarding – to all students for the remainder of the school year. Like her prior executive orders, this was done to help combat the spread of Coronavirus.

As I shared in my [letter](#) and [video](#) with you last week, all 87 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Detroit are prepared to complete this academic year via distance learning instruction. As well, all [distance learning instruction will count](#) toward our instructional requirements and the education of our students will continue unabated.

In addition, and in recognition of the unique needs of each community, as Superintendent of Catholic Schools I am permitting chief administrators at each of our schools to shorten their respective academic year if and when called for by the local situation. Any decision by a school to take this action will be communicated by your school's chief administrator in the coming weeks.

Archbishop Vigneron and I appreciate your patience and understanding. If and when additional developments occur, the Archdiocese of Detroit and your local school will communicate those with you in a timely way.

Invoking Blessed Solanus Casey's famous phrase, "we thank God ahead of time" for a successful end to the Coronavirus situation. In addition to exercising prudent judgment during these times, I ask that you [join the faithful around the archdiocese in prayer](#) for an end to Coronavirus. As Archbishop Vigneron has said, "people of prayer are never helpless – never hopeless."

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Kevin D. Kijewski, J.D.  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Cc: The Most Reverend Allen Vigneron, Ph.D.  
The Very Reverend Jeffrey Day, V.G.  
The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer

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