



THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

March 11, 2020

Dear Catholic School Families,

Following the Governor's statement today closing public schools in the State of Ohio, and at the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus, the schools of the Diocese of Columbus will be also be closed for a 3-week period beginning on Monday, March 16.

We are taking this action this out of an abundance of caution and out of a concern for the health, safety, and well-being of all in our community. This measure will look different at each of the schools in the Diocese and will reflect local decisions made by pastors and principals for the best interests of the local communities.

Each school will be making decisions about online learning and out of classroom learning such as "blizzard bags." For many schools, this 3-week time period includes Spring Break, which will continue as scheduled as a time period with no classes. Schools will be providing additional details to local communities as soon as possible.

For parishes and schools who are participants in the Diocesan Recreation Association, all practices and games during this 3-week period are now cancelled.

We are a strong community of faith. We again ask for your prayers for those who are already impacted by this virus; those who may become infected, especially those at most risk; and for the dedication and skill of all of our health professionals working to keep us safe. We will continue to keep schools and families updated as this situation develops.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Adam J. Dufault
Episcopal Moderator for Education
Superintendent of Catholic Schools