“You don’t climb a mountain in leaps and bounds, but by taking it slowly.” This quote by Saint Gregory the Great gives us a great mental framework to approach the dramatic changes happening to our everyday lives. We are committed to helping maintain our interconnectedness during this time. Each day, we may be faced with new challenges but together we will also find the solutions. Let’s continue to help each other, support each other and live in the moment. Laughter is always healthy. Communication is critical. And above all else, our Faith will always guide us.

1. All official school wide communication will be uploaded into the Weekly Update Tab. Please visit this page on our website frequently!
2. All Suffolk County public and private schools, including Holy Angels Regional School will be closed for two weeks through Friday, March 27th.
3. Holy Angels Regional School has not had any identified cases of COVID-19 from our students or staff.
4. During the two week closure, the building will undergo additional cleaning and sanitizing.
5. **Monday, March 16th:** Holy Angels will be open for families to pick up learning packets between the hours of 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm only. Please refer to the updated guidance posted inside our weekly update tab for grade level requirements. Packets will not be available early. Please do not arrive before 1:00 pm. People will be allowed to enter the building in small groups. Please allow ample time in case we have a rush of people at once. Packets / required texts / resources will be staged on the first floor to expedite this process. Please pick up materials and exit the area efficiently. Limited staff will be present during this time.
6. **Tuesday, March 17th - Friday, March 27th:** The school building is closed. Please use our email system to communicate with us for the rest of the week rather than voicemails. Academic questions should be sent to your child’s teacher.
7. Our goal for distance learning over the next two weeks is to maintain a continuity of instruction for our students. Each family will have different challenges and we understand that these challenges may impact the completion of work during this time. At no time should the learning assignments ADD to student or family anxiety.
8. **Distance learning will begin on Tuesday, March 17th.** Children will react differently to this format. Some children will respond well, some will have difficulty. Please be patient as this is implemented. Anticipate that there may be glitches. My hope for this week is that we get started, identify problems and develop solutions. If your child becomes frustrated, please stop and communicate with your child’s teacher, so we can help.
9. Some ideas we are trying to help create new routines at home and stay connected:
   a. Starting Tuesday, morning announcements / prayers will be @ 9:00 am with google hangout meet. Since this platform only supports 100 participants, each day we are alternating odd/even grade levels beginning with odd grade levels on 3/17. A recording will be posted for those unable to attend. Please read the morning announcements document posted inside the weekly update tab for directions to access / view.
b. Distance Learning Spirit Week: (For fun, send pictures to Mrs. Stidd to post on Facebook.)
   i. Tuesday, 3/17: Dress in your favorite St. Patrick’s Day Green!
   ii. Wednesday, 3/18: Favorite / Crazy Hat Day!
   iii. Thursday, 3/19: Pajama Day!
   iv. Friday, 3/20: Favorite spirit wear or sports team day!

10. Coming Events:

**Quote of the Week:** “Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving forward.” - Albert Einstein

Let’s move forward together! I can’t wait until we are all back together at school again!