

December 3, 2020

From the Headmaster



As announced by email last evening, we will be out of school on Friday, Dec. 4, except for kindergarten. So we are sending home Friday folders today.

Students in grades 1-12 are

bringing home books today, and they have assignments to be done at home on Friday. I will provide information about plans for next week as soon as I possibly can.

To recap the email, when I spoke with Dr. Caine of the Marion County Health Department on Sunday, she told me that she expected to relax the order requiring virtual instruction on Tuesday or Wednesday, allowing at least grade schools and middle schools to return to in-person instruction. In anticipation of that announcement, we remained in school. However, the county apparently has reversed course and the order is expected to remain unchanged until Christmas. Since our request for a waiver has not been approved, we will have to end in-person instruction at least temporarily until we can pursue the next steps.

Our primary goal is to gain approval, possibly through a waiver, to continue in-person instruction until Dec. 18, when we break for Christmas. If we cannot achieve that, we will implement the plans we shared earlier to provide opportunities for students to study together in small groups. We're told that schools will be allowed to reopen Jan. 4, but we've been disappointed before, so we can't count on it.

We are considering what legal options we have. My focus now is keeping us in school, but beyond that, I would be open to challenging the authority the government is asserting over our school, and the permanent cloud of uncertainty that we can be arbitrarily shut down at any time.

No matter what, the school will be open every day for kindergarten and pre-K, and I will be here. And of course everyone is welcome to attend 7:30 Mass at Holy Rosary. I remain committed to keeping students in school as much as possible. Thank you for your patience and support.

Novena for Lumen Christi Benefactors

Every year we pray a novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe for our Lumen Christi benefactors, leading up to the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec. 12. We began the novena on Dec. 1 and will pray it on the nine weekdays until Dec. 11. We have sent home copies of the novena and we ask students to pray the novena on any weekday (including tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 4) when we're not in school.

Thanks to Mrs. Wishik for providing once again this year the beautiful shrine to Our Lady of Guadalupe, which is in the hall outside the main office.

Advent Collection for Beggars for the Poor

Each Advent, we collect needed items for Beggars for the Poor. A list of suggested donations is in today's Friday folder. It would be unfortunate if disruption in our school schedule led to fewer donations. Even if we're not back in school, you can stop by anytime to drop off donations.

Annual Appeal Update

Our annual appeal is going gangbusters. But we have a way to go to reach our goal. The annual appeal is one of our two biggest fundraisers of the year. Remember that a generous donor is providing a 2:1 matching gift up to \$2,500 for donations made by Lumen Christi parents, faculty or staff members before Dec. 31, 2020.

Good luck to our boys' basketball team as they head into their first game on Saturday. And thanks to the coaches!