

Department of Catholic Education

May 4, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Governor Murphy announced today that all public and private schools in New Jersey will be closed for the remainder of the academic year.

He stated: "This is a difficult decision and I know that many students, parents, and staff would like to be able to return to school. However, I have been unwavering on the message that we need to make decisions based on science, not emotion. And while New Jersey is making great strides in mitigating the spread of COVID-19, science tells us that at this point, we can't safely re-open."

New Jersey joins more than 45 states that announced school facility closures through June 2020.

Further decisions will be forthcoming regarding school-sponsored summer programs.

A steering committee will provide details regarding regulations and protocols for the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

There is much to be addressed. Our principals continue to be engaged in remote meetings to discuss the remainder of the school year. Our teachers are responsive to the learning needs of students. They are dedicated and committed to working with each child. As parents, you continue to provide the support necessary for your child – not only academic support but also the necessary emotional support as we navigate difficult times. Students are also to be congratulated for staying the course and responding to a different learning environment. As the need may arise, please contact your child's teacher during the normal school hours.

May God bless you and keep you and your loved ones safe and in good health.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Tier Superintendent of Catholic Schools

