



March 13, 2020

Dear Parents, Faculty, and Staff Members,

With a State of Emergency declared in the Commonwealth of Virginia, The Office of Catholic Schools is working with all Diocesan offices and monitoring communications from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Virginia Department of Health, and local agencies guidelines regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19).

All of our schools will be closed for students Diocesan-wide on Monday, March 16, 2020 in order for teachers to be fully prepared to continue some level of instruction in the event of extended closures. In addition, out of an abundance of caution, all afterschool activities, athletics, events, and programs are being cancelled until March 27, 2020. However, before school and after school programs will operate as long as a school stays open. At this time, there is no adjustment being made to our scheduled Easter Break.

Because our Diocese encompasses 33,000 square miles, from the Eastern Shore to the Cumberland Gap, any future school closures or cancellations will be made in consultation with local health agencies and the local school districts where our schools are located. These individual closures will be communicated to you directly from the school.

Please continue to monitor and follow the guidelines and restrictions implemented by the CDC and the VDH. If you or anyone in your family has been exposed to the virus, please self-quarantine and notify the school and local health agencies.

I assure you all the decisions we are making are in the best interest of the health and safety of our school community, as well as the entire community.

Our continued prayers for all those affected by this illness and those helping to combat this outbreak.

Yours in Christ,

Kelly M. Lazzara  
Superintendent of Schools  
Catholic Diocese of Richmond