



Good evening or good morning parents/guardians,

We are in the early stages of a very challenging time ahead for our country. These are uncharted waters for all of us in many regards. Please know as we proceed forward as a Catholic school community that your child's health, overall well-being, spiritual development, and educational growth is our priority. Educating the whole person remains who we are at our core, and we welcome the opportunity to do so in a virtual environment as well.

Tomorrow we begin Virtual Learning Days at Immaculata until further notice. For the past week, school administration and others have been developing a plan to provide our students a continuation of high quality instruction and learning in a digital setting. Last Friday we changed gears and devoted our teacher in-service day to preparing them and our office staff for an extended school closure which was to include the continuation of educational programs.

Our teachers are ready. We expect a good week and anticipate becoming more sophisticated as we proceed and gain confidence in online learning. From a technology standpoint, we know our students are ready. Yet, working on a more independent basis without daily, face-to-face interaction may be new for many and may present challenges. We are here to encourage and fortify them as they adjust to the new normal for the time being. Teachers and students working together with the support of family and administration is sure to produce good results.

In so many of our conversations, we are brainstorming about how to keep the spirits of our students high, positive, focused, light-hearted, purposeful, and meaningful. Their emotional health is on our minds. We have heard ideas from Guidance, teachers, Student Council, and more. Little things will happen here and there that we hope will have a big impact. However, please let us know if your child is struggling with this situation in such a way that it causes you concern. To the extent we can help, we will do everything we can. I know you received a note from our Guidance Office. They are available for your children and eager to help.

I hope you noticed that we have created a new page on our website for coronavirus updates. Know, however, that all information will be emailed directly to you first, and then placed on our site.

Also on our website is a section entitled Prayer Requests. Please submit special intentions for remembrance in our daily prayers. We have many "prayer warriors" in our community that want to lift others up in prayer.

We ask for your patience and prayers, and be assured of ours. May we move through this pandemic together with good health and love. Let us call upon Mary, our patron, for courage and strength.

Peace and blessings,

Joan M. Silo, Ed.S.

Head of School