



Dear CtRCS Community,

As we reflect on our journey this 2019-20 school year, we are humbled and filled with gratitude for the true partnerships that have formed within our community. No one could have predicted the detour our journey would take this year, but in true Crusader spirit, each and every student, teacher, and faculty member rose to the occasion.

Thank you for trusting us through these uncharted waters. We recognize the challenges that have been put before each of you and your families, and we see the sacrifices that you have made and continue to make.

As this school year draws to a close, we look towards the 2020-21 school year and want to provide as much information as possible regarding what school will look like. We know that undoubtedly, you have questions and concerns regarding the opening of school.

Your Christ the Redeemer Catholic School staff is working closely with the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and the Catholic Schools Office. We continue to put in place measures that will allow us to continue providing an outstanding Catholic education in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At this time, we are awaiting further directives from the archdiocese as well as state and local governments regarding how we are to proceed with the opening of the new school year in the fall. It is our hope that we are able to open our doors and welcome our Crusaders back [per our current calendar](#). However, as we have all learned during this time, we must be prepared with a number of different scenarios in the case we must adjust our plan.

Below, you will find three alternative scenarios to our current calendar for the opening of our academic year. Any scenario may include staggered attendance to limit the number of students on campus.

Scenario 1: Start school after Labor Day, and adjust our calendar accordingly. This would most likely include a start date of Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2020, a shortened Thanksgiving Break, and end date of Friday, June 4, 2021.

Scenario 2: Remain in a system similar to our current Distance Learning Program but with adjustments to the current system, protocols, and requirements. One major change will be an increase in real-time classes with the teacher and classmates, known as *synchronous* learning. These classes would be recorded so those unable to attend in real-time could access them at a different time (*asynchronous* learning).

Scenario 3: Transition to an Intersessional Calendar System. An Intersessional Calendar includes longer breaks dispersed throughout the year that provide flexibility. In this scenario, the school year could be structured as such:

1. Earlier start date (**early August 2020**), a longer Winter Break and longer other breaks, and later end date (**mid-June 2021**)
2. Built-in remote learning time and staggered in-person attendance
3. Recommended six weeks of intersessional breaks in addition to the regular calendar that can be used for remediation, acceleration, and enrichment
4. Breaks required due to resurgence of COVID-19



We are not alone in the uncertainty of the opening of our 2020-21 school year. Please know that the scenarios outlined here are being discussed throughout public and parochial education systems across the nation. And despite any uncertainty that surrounds our opening, what is never uncertain is our commitment to CtRCS families. We understand distance learning creates challenges for students and families, and we want to ensure you that we are looking closely at every possible solution to help ease the burden on families while continuing to provide an exceptional and inspired Catholic education.

We encourage you to reach out to us with any questions or concerns that you might have. We promise to do the same and will provide you with updates and information as they become available. Our hope is that we can continue to work together with open lines of communication and mutual understanding. This is a journey none of us anticipated, and yet we are blessed to be your companions as we navigate through uncertainty, because together, we are Crusader strong.

In Christ and His Kingdom,

Daniel J. Courtney
Principal

Rev. Sean P. Horrigan
Pastor