April 3, 2020

Dear Catholic School Community:

As we head into Holy Week, it is without a doubt, this is a Lent we will never forget! Truly, this has been a challenging time for all of us. As we continue this journey, we need to remember that we are in this crisis together and Jesus is with us in the midst of it all. We need to believe this and we need to trust Him.

We wanted to brief you on our campus closures. We expect campuses to remain closed through the remainder of the school year; however, schools will return to their campuses earlier if public health officers deem it safe for them to do so. We will continue to work with public health authorities, and we will keep you updated as our country’s response to COVID-19 evolves.

Rest assured that as when we started this journey, our administrators, faculty and staff remain faithful to our Catholic identity, our academic standards, and our school communities, keeping our students engaged, learning, and connected. In the weeks to come, we will share details regarding reporting, instructional objectives, grading and assessments, summer opportunities, and plans for major events, including graduations and Baccalaureate Masses. In the meantime, we hope you take comfort in knowing the following:

- Teachers will continue to deliver curriculum, with a focus on readiness for the next grade level.
- Completion of student work will be required.
- Student learning will be assessed and recorded.
- Community connection will continue to be embedded into the lives of our students and families.
- Catholic identity will continue to be central to our work together.
- Directives from higher educational institutions are being monitored to create an alignment with diocesan remote learning plans.

We also understand that there have been some questions regarding tuition, and we want to take this opportunity to remind all families that although our campuses are closed, school is still in session and faculty and principals continue to work daily to ensure our students are receiving a quality, Catholic education. As a result, tuition will continue to be applied during this period. We would also like to remind all families that Catholic schools are critical to the evangelical mission of the Church in America. We must do everything we can to keep them strong for the next 200 years. Should you have any concerns regarding your tuition account, we ask that you contact your school administrator immediately.

We continue to keep you and yours in our prayers. We ask that you keep us in yours.

In the Peace of Christ,

Most Reverend Myron J. Cotta
Bishop of Stockton

Marian DeGroot Graham
Director for Catholic Schools