March 31, 2020

Dear Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Catholic school families,

During this time of quarantine, Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City will continue to serve our students and families.

On March 16, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City made the difficult decision to close the physical locations of all archdiocesan schools through April 5, 2020. During the week of March 23, Gov. Stitt and several city mayors ordered a mandatory shelter-in-place. Due to this new order, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is extending the closure of our physical locations until further notice. We will reconvene in person once the restrictions are lifted and it is safe to gather. Rest assured we will continue to monitor and evaluate the situation and communicate with you regularly.

It is in our students’ best interest to continue learning and developing skills remotely. Therefore, until it is safe to meet in person, we will deliver course content through the archdiocesan distance learning protocol currently underway for our high school students and, beginning this week, for our PK-8 schools.

The Catholic Schools Office is working closely with principals to ensure that schools are prepared to maintain learning by providing resources for online and distance learning. School staff will work daily to ensure your students are receiving the best instruction.

As our schools continue to provide instruction and assessment, the expectation is that families will continue to pay remaining tuition. If your family is experiencing extraordinary financial circumstances related to COVID-19, it is important to communicate with your school.

I thank all our administrators, teachers, parents and students for their resiliency and dedication given this developing situation. If you have any questions or concerns about the distance learning format, community assistance or any other issue, please reach out to your principals, teachers and local school community.

As we proceed, we are aware there are concerns about COVID-19 and we want to assure families that we are monitoring all announcements from local, state and federal officials for updates and guidance. For the latest information on COVID-19, families are encouraged to visit our archdiocesan webpage (archokc.org/health), their local county health department website and the website for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Please continue to pray for all those affected by this situation, especially for the sick, health care providers, public health officials, the unemployed and all community leaders. Through prayer, we also entrust to God our school communities as we share Mary's conviction: "Nothing will be impossible for God" (Luke 1:37). You are in my prayers daily.

In Christ,

Diane Floyd, Ed.D. *Superintendent of Catholic Schools*