



SAINT ROSE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Pursuing excellence in faith, knowledge, and virtue.

April 8, 2020

Parents of St. Rose Catholic School Students,

My philosophy has always been that children have the right to learn in a safe and comfortable environment that is conducive to the educational process. After gathering insight and feedback from the Diocesan principals, Bishop Danny has authorized all Diocesan school principals to communicate to their stakeholders and families that **school will continue with distance learning for the remainder of the 2019 - 2020 school year**. Educationally, remaining on a long term dismissal is not ideal; however, from a health and safety perspective, I believe that refraining from in-person instruction and maintaining social distancing is the proper course of action. **As has been the case since we began our long term dismissal on March 16, my staff will continue to provide and support distance learning through June 5, 2020, which is our official last day of school.**

In one way or another, we have all encountered various measures of disruption in our normal daily lives. Some may have lost jobs or income, while others may have lost or known someone who has lost their life or has been infected with the COVID-19 virus. Through all of this, the St. Rose Catholic School community has held steady. From faculty and staff working overtime to adjust and prepare their lessons electronically to families offering to help those that have been financially hit harder during this pandemic, our community continues to amaze me.

While I wish that we were returning to on-site education this school year, the final decision to not return this year has its advantages. For myself and teachers alike, it was tough to plan long term during the fourth quarter as we didn't know if we would or would not be spending half of the quarter from home and a half from school or all at home. Questions regarding assessment, curriculum, interactive projects, middle school finals, etc. were very

hard to answer as there were too many unknown factors. As a parent, and I'm guessing many of you feel the same way, knowing that children will remain at home will make it easier to plan childcare, will allow us to brace ourselves for another month of "helping" our children with their schoolwork, and will give clarity and finality to how the next two months will play out educationally.

With this in mind, I'm trying to anticipate questions or concerns that might arise. Some that come to mind that I hope to shed light on are as follows:

- **Kindergarten and 8th Grade Commencement ceremonies:** While I would love to be able to provide information on these, at this point, I don't know. For any group gatherings, I would need to follow state, local, and Diocesan guidelines on these.
- **Assessments/Star Testing:** Star testing will not happen this Spring. All principals and staff are currently working on developing and sharing assessment ideas and guidelines for the fourth quarter. **Please be patient in this aspect as assessment for the fourth quarter is an evolving process;** you may see changes in categories and assessment weights in middle school and grading policies in the elementary school. Additionally, changes that appear in the gradebook for the fourth quarter may also change what grades or categories looked like in the previous quarters. Please disregard the previous quarter's changes as what your children received on their report cards are the true grades for those quarters. **I encourage families to keep in mind that while students are not physically in school, instruction, learning, and assessment is taking place. Our long term dismissal is not an extended Easter Break of an early summer vacation,** which leads me to another point.
- **Curriculum:** Ideally, the educational process would not lose a step while working remotely. Realistically, this will not happen; there will be some gaps or curriculum that go missing. In a previous letter, I mentioned that SLO County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jim Brescia stated that nobody has a good answer at this point for how we will go about bridging this gap as there is no substitute for children in the seats. Fortunately, **at St. Rose Catholic School I feel we are well equipped to mitigate potential gaps** as teachers will communicate up the chain to the students' next year

teachers what went missing, what wasn't covered as well as it should have been, or where there was evidence that a gap has occurred. In the middle school, where we have content area teachers, a teacher will easily be able to weave missed curriculum from the previous year into their current curriculum during the 2020 - 2021 school year.

- **Yearbooks:** Unfortunately, students will not be able to sign yearbooks at school as they usually would. The middle school Leadership class was taking on the yearbook this year as in past years; however, the COVID-19 pandemic has put a halt on that. There is a group of 8th-grade students and families who are putting it together in place of Leadership. Information will follow when it becomes available on how to go about purchasing them.
- **Registration for the 2020 - 2021 school year:** There are so many factors to consider here. I would say the easiest way to do this would be to slip your packet through the office doors with your \$350.00 registration fee (early registration fees of \$350.00 will remain in effect through August 15, 2020) per child when you are already out and about. For those of you who are uncomfortable going out, you may mail your completed packet along with a check to cover the registration fee. Ironically, this is our last year of paper registration packets as next year; we had already planned on completing registration digitally. As a reminder, if you are planning on applying for **tuition assistance**, do so ASAP as I will begin awarding tuition assistance in early May. To start the application process, please go to FACTS Mgt. at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>.
- **Beginning of 2020 - 2021 school year:** We will start the 2020 - 2021 school year as planned on **Tuesday, August 25, 2020**. We will not be starting school early to "make up" days from the current school year. You can check our school calendar on our website as much of the year has been mapped out already.

With Holy Week being altered this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has issued a **call to prayer on Good Friday at 9:00 A.M.** To find out more information on this, or to join in on the prayer; please go to <https://lacatholics.org/sacred-heart/>. Additionally, please see the St. Rose Parish Live Streaming Mass Schedule and our priest schedule for praying three times a day following the Liturgy of the Hours:

**St. Rose of Lima Church
live-stream schedule for Holy
Week/Horario de Misas en vivo**

Palm Sunday/ Domingo de Ramos

10:00AM English Mass
12:30PM Misa en Español

Easter Vigil/Vigilia Pascual

8:00PM Bilingual Mass
Misa Bilingue

Monday and Wednesday

12:00PM Mass

Holy Thursday/Jueves Santo

7:00PM Bilingual Mass/
Misa Bilingue

Good Friday/Viernes Santo

3:00PM English
5:00PM Español

**Easter Sunday/Domingo de
Resurreccion**

10:00AM English Mass
12:30PM Misa en Español

**UNITED IN PRAYER
DURING HOLY WEEK**

Please download the app
'IBreviary' and

Pray with us through
live-stream ***"The Liturgy
of the Hours"***

(The Universal Prayer of
the Church)

Morning Prayer 8:00AM
Evening Prayer 5:00PM
Night Prayer 8:00PM

**UNIDOS EN ORACION
DURANTE SEMANA
SANTA**

Favor de descargar la
aplicacion **IBreviary Y**

Ora con nosotros a
traves de la transmision
en Vivo de la ***"Liturgia
De Las Horas"***

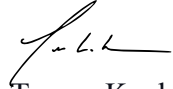
(Oracion Universal De La
Iglesia)

Laudes 8:00AM
Visperas 5:00PM
Completas 8:00PM

As always, I ask that if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask me. I know that these last few weeks have been tough on everyone and that there will be many more hard weeks ahead. My staff and I look forward to returning to our

standard school setting for the 2020 - 2021 school year, as I am sure that all of you do. **In every crisis that we face, there is also an opportunity to put our trust in the hands of God and know that we are secure despite the uncertainty that surrounds us. During this Easter season, I pray that you find time to surround yourselves with the ones that you love and remember the burden and sacrifices that Jesus bore for us and celebrate his resurrection.**

Thank you once again for your support,



Trevor Knable



Image courtesy of St. Rose Catholic School 8th-grade student Ian Stout