



July 24, 2020

Dear Catholic School Families,

Over the past four months, we have learned in a deeper way, the value and importance of our Catholic schools. Our Catholic faith teaches us that it is Christ who is the reason for our schools. As we seek to reopen our schools this fall, we remember once again that we teach Christ himself. It is Christ who teaches us, rescues us, saves us, redeems us, heals us, unites us, forgives us, and loves us. St Paul asks, "What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?" (Rom 8:38) His answer? Nothing. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. As we prepare to reopen our schools, let us remain focused on Christ who is the reason for our schools, the reason we teach, and the reason why we will gather, prudently and safely in the fall.

Reopening plans have been discussed at great length with all school leadership. Each school will provide families with a detailed plan specific to your child's school following the guidelines set by the Diocese of Venice Department of Education. The Diocese of Venice COVID-19 Task Force will continue to follow the guidelines of local and state health officials new updates arise, and reopening plans will be adjusted accordingly.

As we move into this school year, let us place all our fears, concerns and efforts into the hands of the Blessed Mother. May she protect and guide us as we support one another in this most important mission of Catholic education in the Diocese of Venice in Florida!

Rev. John Belmonte, S.J., Ph.D.

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Superintendent of Catholic Education
Diocese of Venice in Florida