



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

Department of Education

March 16, 2020

Dear Diocesan School Families:

Thank you for your patience and prayers as we all work together to respond to the Coronavirus and its impact on our schools and families. Shortly after our communication on Friday, Governor Desantis closed all public schools through March 30. Because the state's closure is extending public school spring breaks, there will be no instruction during this time. We sent a brief letter on March 14th extending our school closures through that same date.

What does that mean for us?

- We will take one week of Spring Break and one week with classes suspended. There will be no instruction during this time.
- Our Easter Break of April 13 -17 has been eliminated.
- Holy Thursday (April 9) and Good Friday (April 10) will be school holidays with no instruction.
- Students should take this time to rest, to pray, and to rejuvenate so that we can be refreshed and centered in Christ;
- During March 23-27, each school will specify a day for parents or students to pick up necessary items in the event we do not return on March 31st and need to begin distance learning.

As mentioned above, if we remain closed after March 30th, teachers will begin delivering distance learning tailored by your child's school. We will evaluate the process as it unfolds, but this is the plan as we begin. In order to create attendance tracking after March 30th, teachers will provide daily lessons that must be completed by students each day. The completion of those assignments will be proof of attendance. More details will be forthcoming.

I know that we cannot anticipate everything that may come, but there is a plan in place; our schools' faculties, staffs, and students are talented and creative; and the rest we place into God's hands. We will keep you updated as this unfolds, but in the meantime, we will move forward with this current plan.

Let us pray for all those who are working to keep us safe, for those who are ill, for those who have died, and for the scientists that they may find a way to prevent further illness.

Yours in Christ,

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