

March 12, 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

The <u>coronavirus COVID-19</u> has created an unprecedented set of circumstances for communities across the country. On a daily basis, archdiocesan and school leaders have been preparing for the possibility of school closure and have been taking necessary steps to ensure proper safety protocols. Our primary consideration has always been and will continue to be the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

Consistent with the guidelines established by the <u>Centers for Disease Control</u>, the <u>Indiana Health Department</u>, and colleagues in other school corporations, we recommend that all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis close through at least April 5 with the plan to reopen on April 6. All CYO events and activities are also cancelled until further notice. Knowing that the impact of the coronavirus is causing daily adjustments, we request your flexibility and patience if plans change once again. We will keep you informed of any such changes.

While this decision certainly requires shifts in family practices, please know that these decisions have been made with great care and consideration for the health and safety of our community.

Though this is a challenge, it's far from the first time our world has dealt with an epidemic/pandemic. We must trust in the Lord as we do our part to maintain the health and safety of students, staff, and community members. While we do not have a confirmed case of coronavirus at any of our Catholic schools to date, we have an individual and global responsibility to contain the spread of the coronavirus. We are asking our students and families to practice **social distancing**, as recommended by the <u>World Health Organization</u>. We ask that our students refrain from large social gatherings/parties for the foreseeable future.

Please join me in praying for all whose health is compromised, their caretakers, healthcare professionals, and our world.

May God bless you,

Gina Kuntz Fleming
Superintendent of Cathol

Superintendent of Catholic Schools

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Archdiocese of Indianapolis