

May 1, 2020

Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

Dear Catholic School Community,

Our Catholic schools have successfully adapted and overcome every obstacle the coronavirus crisis has put in our path. Staying true to our faith-based and future-focused education, we strive to provide each student entrusted to our care an academically excellent program. Teachers have been teaching, and students have been learning, coming together each day to pray, study, laugh and love. Our parents have contributed immeasurably to this success. Each of us is indeed blessed to be part of this larger family of faith, and we will continue to support one other as we continue to walk through this struggle together.

As directed by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's executive order, our Catholic schools **will remain closed through the end of June**, thus making home-based learning our format as we close the academic year. The Health and Safety Task Force of the Office of the Superintendent of Schools will remain proactive, we continue to adapt, and we will absolutely overcome this challenge. We along with our principals and teachers will ensure for those celebrating stepping up milestones, graduations, and other achievements are honored and recognized.

We continue to assemble resources for our families as we all confront this challenge:

- Offering our counseling program, ADAPP, which continues to be available to you and our students. You will be hearing more from them directly in the coming week with many additional resources. [We must ensure we take advantage of these resources.](#)
- Ensuring all students have access to meals, [linked here](#) are distribution sites throughout theArchdiocese.
- Expanding extended year summer learning options, both remote and in person, if feasible, will continue to be explored and offered to the widest audience possible.
- Working to ensure that if a family needs a device for learning and cannot afford one we secure one through loan by the school, donors or through government resources.
- Partnering with [Catholic Charities](#) NY myriad of offerings, download its [FindHelp App](#) today!

As always, we will continue to update our website [CatholicSchoolsNY.org](#) with additional information, resources and updates. We join our Holy Father, Cardinal Dolan, and the Bishops of the United States, placing our trust in our Mary our Mother. We know that by entrusting ourselves to her maternal care we will feel the solace of her embrace. We remain inspired by the fact that as each day passes, we are closer to a resolution and better, happier days, united, in our schools, our churches, and our community, to teach, to learn and to pray together once more.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael J. Deegan
Superintendent of Schools
Archdiocese of New York