



Office of the Diocese of Knoxville Catholic Schools  
805 S. Northshore Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37919

April 15, 2020

Dear Families in our Catholic Schools:

Easter greetings and blessings to each of you! A month ago, we transitioned to an alternative and new learning model for our teachers, students, and families with the hope and eager anticipation that it would be for a brief period of time. As the guidance from health professionals and government officials concerning this pandemic has developed over the last weeks, we have been responsive by adapting and modifying our timeline while remaining intent on fulfilling our educational mission of service to our families. The successful outcomes experienced so far have been a testament to the professionalism of our school leaders, teachers, and to you all in your steadfast cooperation and support. I want to express my sincere appreciation for these efforts and your continued commitment to partner with our schools. I also want to thank those of you that have taken the time to complete our surveys, so that we can continue to improve our service to you and your family.

While we have maintained hope that we would once again be able to convene back in the regular school environment, earlier today we learned that Governor Lee has recommended school closures to the end of the year. Therefore, we have made the decision to extend our remote learning at home through the rest of the school year. Our last instructional day for graduating Seniors at Notre Dame High School and Knoxville Catholic High School will be May 12<sup>th</sup>. The last day for our eighth grade students will be May 15<sup>th</sup>. The last day for St. Dominic will be May 21<sup>st</sup> and all other students will be May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Despite the fact that we will not be able to gather in May to celebrate our many rituals, such as May Crowning, proms, Awards nights, and graduations, I want to assure you that we are committed to holding these events at some point in the future and intend to make this last part of the year as memorable as possible while observing social distancing. Your school leaders will provide you additional details on these observances in each school community.

Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

In Christ's peace,

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