



**DIOCESE OF PATERSON**  
**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE**

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March 13, 2020

Dear Parents,

After many discussions and considerations with the COVID-19 pandemic, and in light of the most recent NJDOH recommendations to avoid large crowds, and the recent CDC guidelines for schools and their transition to remote learning, the most responsible decision has been made to temporarily close schools (elementary and secondary) as of March 16, 2020.

All schools will be closed for a period of two weeks. The building is closed to everyone: administrators, faculty, staff, students, and families. Non-essential activities and events are suspended during this time. We are aware of the overwhelming impact this will have for our families. The health, welfare, and safety of our schools is of paramount importance and was central to this decision.

At the end of the two-week period, a determination will be made to resume school or to continue a closure. We will monitor all unfolding events of the COVID-19 pandemic and will provide updated guidance as the need arises.

Our schools have been preparing with contingency plans to maintain a necessary transition to on-line learning. Students will be asked this weekend to take home any books and materials that would be beneficial to them during this closure.

During this time, the maintenance personnel will be providing cleaning and disinfection of our schools to mitigate the possible transmission of COVID-19 during this closure.

Communications from your principal will provide you with current and pertinent information. Please continue to check all communications from your school.

The Catholic Schools Office appreciates all your support and efforts during these precarious and most difficult times. You remain in our prayers and let us remember those affected by the Coronavirus as well as the healthcare workers attending to them.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary D. Baier".

Mary D. Baier  
Superintendent of Schools