



**DIOCESE OF
STOCKTON**

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 13, 2020

Dear Catholic School Community:

This has been a trying time for all of us as we confront coronavirus COVID-19. The rapidly evolving news stories surrounding this pandemic have undoubtedly caused you great concern.

While there have been no confirmed COVID-19 diagnoses within any of our schools, in the interest of doing our part to slow the onset of COVID-19 and in keeping with action taken by public health authorities, numerous school districts, and other dioceses throughout the state, we have decided to suspend all onsite instruction in the Diocese of Stockton, effective immediately and for a minimum of two weeks. Classes on campus are scheduled to resume on March 30.

This closure includes any planned large gatherings that are not essential, including fundraisers, community events, and field trips. School buildings will not be open to children, parents, or community members during this time.

It is important for you to know that our schools have been working proactively for such an event. To keep our students engaged, learning, and connected with each other during this challenging time, our teachers have prepared remote learning resources. Principals will be communicating specifics about the implementation plan for your school.

We will continue to provide updates as we progress through these next few weeks.

Please continue to keep all who are affected by this illness in your prayers and remain prayerfully hopeful of the work done to alleviate and eradicate this virus.

In the Peace of Christ,

Most Reverend Myron J. Cotta
Bishop of Stockton

Marian DeGroot Graham
Director for Catholic Schools