

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Catholic Schools  
835 North Rush Street  
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March 13, 2020

Dear Catholic School Parents and Guardians,

Due to the prevalence of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in the greater Chicago area, the Archdiocese of Chicago is announcing a system-wide closure of Catholic schools, effective Monday, March 16. This decision applies to all Catholic schools in Cook and Lake Counties operated by the Archdiocese of Chicago. Catholic schools not operated by the archdiocese, such as those governed by religious orders, will make decisions individually.

This decision extends to all regular operations of our Catholic schools, including all extra-curricular activities, social events and other school-related gatherings.

At this time, we have not determined how long this closure will last. We are in close communication with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Illinois Department of Public Health, and other agencies managing the public health response to the COVID-19 epidemic. We will make an announcement when we have determined a date to reopen.

We will perform extra cleaning of our facilities while school is not in session.

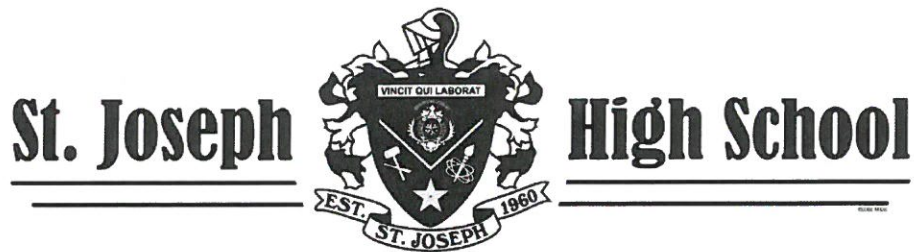
During this closure period, Catholic school students will be asked to complete academic work through electronic learning ("e-learning") or alternative learning. You should expect communication from your school's principal on how e-learning or alternative learning will take place.

I encourage you to continue to pray for God's grace throughout this time of uncertainty. Let us pray for the health and wellbeing of our Catholic school community and all our brothers and sisters affected by the epidemic.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Rigg".

Jim Rigg, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools  
Archdiocese of Chicago



March 13, 2020

Dear parents and families:

The Archdiocese of Chicago announced today that, due to the prevalence of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) in the greater Chicago area, a system-wide closure of Catholic schools will take affect Monday, March 16, 2020. No ending date of the closure has been announced.

St. Joseph High School, as a school in the Archdiocese, will close as of Monday, March 16, 2020. It is not known at this time how long this closure will last. An announcement will be made when we have determined a date to reopen.

This closure is being initiated as a preventative measure to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. To our knowledge no student or faculty/staff member at St. Joseph High School has contracted the virus nor have they been in contact with anyone who has the virus.

During the closure students are being asked to complete all academic work through electronic learning (“e-learning”) or alternative learning. Students are invited to come to the building from 7am to 9am on Monday to retrieve their devices, textbooks and clean out their lockers as necessary. Please know teachers will be loading lesson plans, assignments and other materials to their class webpages. Teachers may also be emailing students with information. Students are expected to complete assignments for all classes by the assigned due date – this work will count toward their 4<sup>th</sup> quarter grades. All students are responsible for this work. Furthermore, teachers will publish their office hours, which is designated time for communicating with students and families, on their class webpages. Please email teachers directly with questions.

Let us continue to pray for each other, and all of those affected by this virus. I will continue to keep everyone updated as more information becomes available.

Sincerely,

David Hotek, AFSC  
Principal



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