



MEMORANDUM
Office of Most Reverend Dennis J. Sullivan

From: Bishop Dennis J. Sullivan

To: All Catholic School principals, faculty, staff and parents

Date: March 14, 2020

Re: Diocese of Camden Catholic Schools to Temporarily Close Effective March 16

Due to the continued spread of COVID-19 and in an effort to promote important social distancing I am directing that the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Camden temporarily close, effective Monday, March 16.

Principals and faculty of each Catholic school have prepared extensive plans for remote learning to ensure the continuation of education for as long as schools are closed. These plans will immediately be put into action by our principals who will communicate them to parents and students. Each day that students complete their lessons via remote learning during this school closure will count towards the required 180 days of school. It is hoped that this closure will not force an extension of the school year.

It is my expectation that schools will be closed for a minimum of two weeks. However, the staff of the Office of Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Camden will continue to monitor the situation closely in order to determine when it will be appropriate to re-open our schools.

I encourage our students and families to follow the directives from the New Jersey Department of Health and Human Services as we all work together for the common good, to slow and prevent the spread of the virus.

I am well aware that the closure of our schools places an enormous burden on working parents and will be challenging for all our families. While I am deeply saddened, the seriousness of this health crisis is unprecedented and demands the action we are taking.

Please join me in praying for the health of our students, their families, our dedicated faculties, administrators and staffs, and for all people as together we bear the effects of this worldwide pandemic.