

March 17, 2020

Cedar Catholic Families:

Based on the recommendations of the Governor's Office, the Department of Education, and the Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department, Cedar Catholic will remain closed for two weeks, March 17th through March 30th. Our school continues to work closely with these agencies along with Educational Service Unit #1 in assessing current conditions. The closure of our school will be re-evaluated after two weeks and the closure may be extended if conditions warrant.

During this closure, communication from the school will be made via text-messages and e-mails. Teachers will communicate with students through Sycamore, Google Classroom, and/or e-mail. It is important that students regularly check Sycamore and Google Classroom for class assignments and activities. **Class assignments and activities that require additional paper hand-outs or resources will be included in packets that will be available in the Holy Trinity Church lobby beginning Friday morning.** Teachers will communicate with their classes through Sycamore and Google Classroom if paper-resources are included in these packets.

In addition to the closure of our schools, the Archdiocese of Omaha has indefinitely suspended all public Masses and communal celebrations of the Sacraments and other liturgies. In response to the continued spread of the coronavirus, Archbishop Lucas is also asking Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Omaha to invoke the intercession of St. Joseph on Thursday, March 19. That day is the Solemnity of St. Joseph, who is the patron saint of the Universal Church.

The Northeast Nebraska Public Health Agency continues to recommend the following practices to decrease the spread of COVID-19:

Home-quarantine applies to individuals who:

1. Are considered a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

2. Have traveled to areas of high concern, e.g. areas that have widespread community transmission All travelers coming to our community from anywhere should take the following precautions to avoid spreading the virus:

- 1. Limit any unnecessary public interactions, practice strict social distancing (at least 6 feet away from other people for less than 10 minutes), and self-monitor for symptoms.
- 2. If a traveler develops fever or respiratory illness, they need to immediately stay home and away from others and report to their healthcare provider or the local health department.

Additional helpful prevention activities also include limiting close contact (6 ft or less and for less than 10 minutes), staying away from people who are ill, staying home if ill, and washing hands often for at least 20 seconds with running water and soap.

I greatly appreciate your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times. Please contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely in Christ,

Christopher Uttecht, Principal