



May 22, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we wrap up the 2019-2020 school year, we want to thank you for your continued support of and investment in a Catholic education for your children. Over the past 12 weeks, our number one goal has been the safety and well-being of your children and our school communities as we continue to provide the best education possible during this unprecedented time. As we conclude the 2019-2020 school year, please know that we are already working diligently with your school's leadership team in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore's Department of Catholic Schools has created a team to develop a plan for the 2020-2021 school year. The "**Planning Ahead Task Force for Catholic Schools**" has been established to design a comprehensive plan for the safe return of both faculty and students to the classroom, focusing the following four areas:

- School Facilities Operations
- Curriculum, Pedagogy and Student Support Services
- Classroom Technology
- Safe COVID – 19 Response Protocols (including physical distancing, sanitization and hygiene)

The goal of the Planning Ahead Task Force is to provide standards to address safety, curriculum, and all aspects of our schools' operations. We will establish clear guidelines and protocols for each school, including additional resources needed to implement the plan. While our schools operate independently from our public school counterparts, we are required to follow local and state laws and ordinances and we will adhere to relevant safety measures and guidelines issued by government and public health officials, as well as local Pastors. The plan will include contingencies to address potential guidelines and external factors that may affect how your school will reopen.

Over the coming weeks, the Planning Ahead Task Force will finalize a comprehensive plan to welcome students back to school. We appreciate your support, patience, and understanding and we will continue to keep you updated as the Task Force finalizes the plan to move forward for the 2020-2021 school year.

Be safe & stay healthy.

Sincerely,

James B. Sellinger
Chancellor of Catholic Schools

Dr. Donna Hargens
Superintendent of Catholic Schools