

# Message to St. Joseph School Community from Fr. Jesse

April 8, 2020

Dear Saint Joseph School Community,

I want to thank you for the various ways in which you have adapted to these unprecedented times since the official closure of all Maryland schools back on March 16th. I want to thank Mr. Pipkin for his efforts in ensuring that our students continue the learning process through the fine work of our teachers, albeit remotely. To that end, I am also most grateful for the flexibility our parents have shown in adapting to this temporary format.

In the midst of so much suffering and uncertainty, I am also aware that you are carrying-on with a spirit of hope and even humor at times. Last week, I spoke to a school dad to thank him for a lovely piece of artwork his children had made for Fr. Francis and I which they had mailed to us earlier in the week as part of their Sunday offertory. As I asked him how the morning online classwork was going, he reported that his daughter was on her second snack! I had to report that I had just enjoyed a mid-morning snack as well.

Our Mission at St. Joseph Church & School is to strengthen marriage and the family through the sacramental life of the Church. These days when every family has been forced to “shelter in place,” has highlighted why the strengthening of marriage and the family is so crucial. I have attached a video message as a spiritual reflection to help you prepare for the Sacred Triduum. Please know that Fr. Francis and I are praying for you and will bring the needs of your families to the altar on Holy Thursday and at the Easter Vigil. Please consult our parish website for the livestream schedule.

In the hope of the Resurrection,  
Fr. Jesse

<https://vimeo.com/405274019>- A message from Fr. Jesse and Fr. Francis