

# Message to St. Joseph School Community

May 9, 2020

Dear Saint Joseph School Community,

With this week's news that all schools will remain closed for the remainder of this academic year, every family throughout the State of Maryland must soldier forward, adapting to these unprecedented times. I want to thank our parents for the sacrifices you have made in transitioning to this new normal that none of us could have ever predicted just several months ago. As this week is dedicated to the great work of our teachers, I also want to take this opportunity to thank our great teachers at St. Joseph School. I have seen firsthand through my own Zoom visits to our virtual classrooms the way our teachers have transitioned with adroitness. While online learning and live stream Masses can never replace the real thing, the fact that our teachers have cultivated such personal relationships with each child has made the online learning platform and the Zoom classroom experiences beneficial and productive.

Our Mission at St. Joseph Church and School is to strengthen marriage and the family through the sacramental life of the Church. At the center of every family is the mother, the giver of life to every child and the great nurturer, from infancy through adulthood. I would like to invite all of you to join Fr. Francis and me at 10:30 a.m. this Sunday for a livestreaming of the Mass as we honor in a special way our moms. Please know that I am praying for all of you and in a special way our school moms on this Mother's Day weekend. I look forward to visiting with your children over the next week or so through Zoom as we pray for an end to this COVID-19 pandemic and protection upon our children, frontline workers, and our entire community at St. Joseph Church and School.

In Christ,

Fr. Jesse

Pastor