



March 10, 2020

Dear Archdiocese of San Francisco families,

The public's health and safety are paramount to the Archdiocese of San Francisco and all of our community and educational partners. Sunday evening, the San Francisco Public Health Department confirmed that an ASF student has tested positive for COVID-19. Additional diagnoses of COVID-19 across our schools are likely.

After careful consideration and in light of the new information, the Archdiocese will close its school buildings and cancel classes and student-related activities from **March 12 - March 25, 2020**. This closure includes any planned school events such as fundraisers, community events as well as field trips. This closure means that school buildings will not be open to children, parents, or community members during this time. Course content will be delivered utilizing the Archdiocesan distance learning protocol which has been distributed to all schools.

I understand this is an evolving health concern, and guidance is changing daily. This complex decision involved close collaboration and coordination with the CDC, local county health departments, and other members of executive leadership across our CA Catholic dioceses. I also ask that you please inform your school leadership if your child receives a confirmed diagnoses of COVID-19.

I understand the hardship this may cause for families. We made this decision out of maximum consideration for the health and safety of our children and school community members.

As we proceed, we are aware that there continue to be many concerns around COVID-19 and want to ensure families that we are working closely with SFPH for updates and guidance. For the latest information on COVID-19, families are encouraged to visit our ASF webpage, the SFPH webpage dedicated to COVID-19 (2019 Novel Coronavirus), and the CDC homepage.

As a community of faith, I ask that you pray especially for the sick, health care providers, public health officials, and all community leaders during the weeks to come.

For updates regarding this closure, please visit the Catholic Schools section of the Archdiocese of San Francisco website at <https://schools.sfarch.org/>.

Yours in Christ,

Pamela Lyons
Superintendent of Schools