



April 27, 2020

At a time in our country, in fact in the world, when everything we took for granted has been upended, it is more important than ever that we remain a strong school community and we do that by supporting each other and trusting each other. For us, the leadership of Cardinal O'Hara High School, our highest priority remains keeping our students and their families healthy and safe as we stand united against the tragedy of COVID-19 in our everyday lives.

For our seniors and senior families, the impact is particularly hard. We know that graduation, Baccalaureate Mass, and proms are long anticipated celebrations of your journey and your achievements. We share in your disappointment. We wish we could stand with you for these well-deserved and memorable events in your education and your life experiences.

The reality of restrictions on gatherings of more than 10 people does not permit us to give you the great and proud tradition of a Cardinal O'Hara graduation in person as planned.

As Archbishop Perez has said, we are a people of great hope. We need to gather up our hope and our faith to help us accept what we cannot change. Our students and their families have demonstrated great strength and courage throughout this challenging and difficult chapter of your high school experience. Since March 16, together you have learned, together you have prayed, together you have socialized, together you have given back-all virtually. Together we will find a way to make your graduation experience a safe and rich experience virtually as well.

At Cardinal O'Hara we have been working very hard on a plan for how this will be achieved. We are planning for a virtual baccalaureate Mass, Tuesday, June 2nd, 7:00 PM, and a virtual graduation ceremony, Wednesday, June 3, 10:00 AM. We will very shortly be sharing the details with you. *And if and when there has been easing of government restrictions, we hope to plan additional celebratory events during the summer or into the fall.* In the meantime, know that you are very much in our hearts and minds even though we are apart.

May God bless you and keep you safe.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gerald W. DeFrusco'.

Gerald DeFrusco
President

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Eileen Vice'.

Eileen Vice
Principal