



DIOCESE OF ORANGE
DEPARTMENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
13280 CHAPMAN AVENUE, GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840

28 October 2020

Dear OC Catholic School Families,

May God's blessings be with you during this month of October. As we approach the middle of our first semester, I wanted to offer you an update on our schools' re-opening plans. The first weeks back inside the classroom have exceeded all expectations. It is truly a joy to be together again in community and faith! Our principals, teachers, and staff continue to serve our students with courage and love to ensure they receive the highest level of academic instruction and faith-formation.

I am pleased to share our [OC Catholic Schools COVID-19 Dashboard](#). OC Catholic Schools remains committed to providing accuracy and transparency as it relates to the number of confirmed cases among staff and students on our campuses. To date, the number of positive COVID-19 cases has been low and there has been no transmission at any of our schools. We welcome this level of transparency as another effort to protect and promote the common good of our community. Our primary goal is to keep all faculty, staff, and students healthy and whole in body, mind, and spirit. Thank you for continuing to ensure that your children wear facial coverings in school and follow all requirements of return-to-school plans, keeping students home if they are sick, washing hands regularly and maintaining proper social distancing.

The wildfires of the past few days have presented additional health and safety concerns for our families. Schools that have been affected by evacuation notices and unhealthy air quality have decided to return to distance learning for a few days. I am extremely grateful for our school leaders who continue to lead with faith and courage in the face of adversity. May God bless our firefighters and first responders as they work to keep us safe.

As we navigate this extraordinary year, we give thanks for the moments of grace in our midst. St. Augustine reminds us that grace is given not because we have done good works, but in order that we may be able to do them. It is through God's grace that we will be able to continue the good work of Catholic education in the Diocese of Orange. Thank you for your prayers and companionship on our journey.

In mission,

Erin C.O. Barisano, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools
Diocese of Orange