



ST. JOSEPH
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Building Wisdom and Faith Through Service to God



Reintegration of SJS Mass

Peace and good! As we begin a new school year for our SJS family, I wanted to share the following information with you regarding the reintegration of the weekly SJS Mass:

- SJC and SJS follow the Diocesan Reintegration Plan which respects the guidelines from the CDC, Commonwealth of Virginia and the Diocesan Task Force on Reintegration;
- SJC is limited in its seating capacity. The Friars have made the decision to use both the Church and Gym for the celebration of the school Mass;
- The SJS Mass will be live stream for our SJS students who are engaged in distance learning;
- Our kindergarten and first grade students will participate in a catechesis of the Mass in their classrooms for the first few months. The catechesis will be delivered by the teachers and via a catechetical DVD, *Brother Francis presents the Mass*;
- Once the reintegration plan has been implemented, we will continue to reflect on how to invite these students (K – 1) to participate in the Mass. The decision is made in respect to the restrictions for seating capacity. It is also made in light of the fact that these students do not have their SJS buddies to be with them this year;
- Due to the limited seating capacity, parents are invited to join us for Mass via live stream.

A few friendly reminders for our SJS students and teachers participating in the Mass, all phases of reintegration continue to be observed:

- the wearing of masks is required;
- respect social distancing,
- sanitizing of hands;
- no singing;
- no holding of hands during the Lord's Prayer; and
- cleaning guidelines to minimize the spread of the illness occurs after each Mass.

The friars thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and respect of our decisions during this time. We know that things are, and forever will be different, but we are really excited to welcome the students and teachers/staff back.

Many blessings!

Father Tom

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