



Dear Parents,

August 26, 2020

It was a pleasure to be with you last evening at the virtual Back-to-School night. I especially appreciated your questions and comments in the chat box. Your input is helpful! If you did not have the opportunity to be with us last evening, please make time to listen to the recording found on the Facebook link on the St. James School website.

<https://www.st-james-crete.org> Also please be sure to listen to your children's teachers' presentations found on the Back-To-School Night menu bar on the website. There was some initial trouble with certain grades not opening, but we think we have the problem solved. Enjoy!

One parent asked me last March why I thought God was allowing the COVID-19. While I can't claim to know the exact answer, Father Walter J. Ciszek, unjustly imprisoned for twenty-three years in a Siberia labor camp, offers an explanation on suffering which I think is very plausible.

"We go along, taking for granted that tomorrow will be very much like today, comfortable in the world we have created for ourselves, secure in the established order we have learned to live with, however imperfect it may be, and give little thought to God at all. Somehow, then, God must contrive to break through those routines of ours and remind us once again, like Israel, that we are ultimately dependent only upon him, that he has made us and destined us for life with him through all eternity, that the things of this world and this world itself are not our lasting city, that his we are and that we must look to him and turn to him in everything. Then it is, perhaps, that he must allow our whole world to be turned upside down in order to remind us it is not our permanent abode or final destiny, to bring us to our senses and restore our sense of values, to turn our thoughts once more to him—even if at first our thoughts are questioning and full of reproaches. Then it is that he must remind us again, with terrible clarity, that he meant exactly what he said in those seemingly simple words of the Sermon on the Mount: "Do not be anxious about what you shall eat, or what you shall wear, or where you shall sleep, but seek first the kingdom of God and his justice."

So I think this all goes back to our theme of entrusting ourselves to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. If He is in charge, even if suffering comes our way, all will be well.

In the Heart of Christ the King,

Sister Mary Alma, C.K.

### **First Holy Communion**

The plan right now is for last years' Holy Communion students, who are now third graders, to begin receiving on the weekends from September 12- October 11.

### **Confirmation**

Confirmation for those who missed the Sacrament in the spring due to COVID-19 closures is scheduled for Monday, September 14 and Friday, September 18. Please call the parish office at 402 826-2044 to let us know which date your child will attend.

## **Exposure to COVID**

If a student has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes without a mask and in less than 6 feet distancing then:

- If ill person is in strict isolation, the student may return (if symptom free) 14 days after contact.
- If ill person or child leaves home, the student may return (if symptom free) 14 days after isolation begins.
- If ill person is not able to isolate and the student or ill person are not able to go elsewhere, the student may return 10 days after ill person's initial symptoms plus an additional 14 days.

**SCRIP**: SCRIP is a great fundraiser for St. James School and is easy to do on your part. Please consider using SCRIP for all your shopping needs. You purchase gift cards at face value and the school gains a percentage from each of your purchases. We have many vendors in stock for you to select from. We can also order something for you if we don't have it on hand. Orders can be filled in the school office during school hours.

**Tardy/Absence Policy**: To be on time, your child must arrive at school by 8:05 am. If you arrive after 8:10 a.m. please walk your child (K-6) into church; do not have them wait alone in front of school. If you are going to be late or have a sick child, please call the school office to let us know. If we notice that your child is absent and we do not know why we will call you to confirm their absence.

## **Coming Home Today**

- Scrip Order Form
- Tuition Envelopes
- Copy of the signed COVID-19 Parent/Student Acknowledgment Form (This is for your daily reference.)
- Missing forms ( for any family who still needs to turn in forms already requested.)