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Sent May 1, 2020

Special Newsletter



During the Coronavirus Quarantine

Update about St. Mary's School staying closed:



As a school in Idaho (with a childcare program), we are required to follow the guidelines of: Governor Little, State Board of Education, the Diocese of Boise and our insurance company, Catholic Mutual.

We are in Stage One (May 1-15) of the guidelines: no more than 10 may gather
Social distancing of 6 feet

Stage Two (May 16-May 29) no more than 10 may gather
Social distancing of 6 feet

Stage Three (May 30-June 12) 10 to 50 may gather
Social distancing of 6 feet

Stage Four (June 13-26) more than 50 may gather
Social distancing of 6 feet

To move from one stage to the next, there **must not be** any increase in the coronavirus disease; in fact, the disease must be on a **downward spiral**.

FYI Following are questions that have been asked:

Questions	Answers	Based on
Are we opening for students this spring (April/ May)?	NO	Guidelines from Governor Little, State of Idaho and Diocese do not permit groups over ten until May 31 st .
Are we opening in the fall?	YES	We will be working with guidelines from the governor, city, and Diocese.
How are students being graded this quarter?	Pre-S thru 2 nd S-/S/S+ 3-5 th pass/fail 6-8 th graded	No student will fail. No student's grade will drop below his/her third quarter grade.
Will my child progress to the next grade?	YES, all students are moving to the next grade	
What if we need school supplies?	These will be provided at no cost to you.	Text, call or email your needs.
Will students be receiving a yearbook this year?	Yes	

Will there be graduation for our 8 th Graders?	Yes. It is scheduled for May 31 st , at 11:00 a.m. Mass in school gym, limited to immediate family members.	Governor's/Diocesan guidelines
Will there be a graduation reception?	No, this will need to happen in family.	
Will we have the picnic at Klemgard? Will there be a Mass on the Grass?	NO to both questions.	Due to Governor's/Diocesan guidelines of social distancing.
Will Childcare be offered this summer?		If guidelines from the governor, Diocese, District 2 Health Department and our insurance company, Catholic Mutual allow it, we will.
What are the plans for moving forward for school in the Fall?	We are planning on opening in the fall. <i>However</i> , contingency plans are also being made just in case	Teachers are being trained to use google suites....we are planning on obtaining more tech devices for students to use in as well as out of school.
Will there be soft closures next year?	Do not know.	<i>We are making plans</i> in case there are.
Why is Logos opening and we are not?	As a diocesan school we must follow guidelines established by: Governor Little, Idaho State Board of Education and our insurance company, Catholic Mutual.	

CDC Symptoms to COVID-19 (latest announcement)

chills
repeated shaking with chills
pain
headache

sore throat
fever
coughing
shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

Correction and update to information: In last week's Newsletter stated how one could sign-up for information from St. Mary's Parish. Sign-up is through Flocknote. Visit smpm.flocknote.com to sign themselves up (it's really easy). Do not use Newsletter #5 site.

Ways to give:

- **Box Tops via General Mills:** school has received a check for \$81.20—*thank you so much for your assistance.*
- **If you buy from Amazon:** order via www.amazon.com and choose *St. Mary's School Foundation as your charity of choice for it to receive a 5% contribution from Amazon. There is **no cost** for purchasing through them.*
- **IDAHO GIVES:** Every year, people across our state have come together for Idaho nonprofits. It is a time to celebrate the awesome work of Idaho's nonprofits and benefit from the power of many. Due to the pandemic the time for giving has been expanded till May 7th.

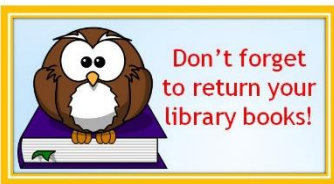
*Please consider giving to our own local non-profit---**St. Mary's School Foundation.** EACH and EVERY student benefits greatly from **our** Foundation.*

St. Mary's School Foundation was established in 1982 to support the students' education by providing monies to the school's yearly budget (5% of the interest earned from its Endowment). Monies are used to provide scholarships, as well as equipment and programs to enhance the educational experience of every student from Preschool through 8th Grade. Monies donated are put in the Endowment's corpus and *only the interest earned* is used to promote the mission of keeping Catholic education affordable.

To Give: <https://www.idahogives.org/organizations/st-mary-s-school-foundation-endowment-fund>

Please let your family and friends know about this too! The ones who will benefit will be the students!

NO donation is too small!



Note about school's library books: you can return them any time between now and **May 19th**. Books may be dropped in the *drop off box* on the outside or the school office.

Please keep in your prayers: **This past week** Dan Bosse died after a long illness. Dan and his wife Jan were active in the school. Jan and all their children are alums of the school. Dan was the one who had the idea of beginning a school auction 45 years ago! He is being buried this coming Monday and a Memorial Mass is on May 8th at 8:00 a.m. Mass in the church.



May is month dedicated to Mary. Why? May is the season for growth. “In Mary grew the vision that made her open to the incarnation (i.e. Jesus); in Mary grew the image of the strong and independent woman; in Mary grew the Christ who changed the lives of all of us. We need to grow in vision, strength and the Christ-centeredness, too. It isn't easy and it isn't done unconsciously. We have to set out to see new possibilities for the world. Mary is not a plaster statue. Mary is the woman whose commitment and

courage saved the world from self-centeredness. The world is waiting for that same kind of growth in us.” (A Monastery Almanac, Sr. Joan Chittister, author, page 31)

Information from Father Joe regarding Masses per Bishop Peter: *“Governor Little worked with the Department of Health and Welfare and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to create a four-stage process for opening up Idaho’s economy. The first stage begins on May 1st and allows our parishes to open for public liturgies once more, if they adhere to strict physical distancing, sanitation protocol, and any CDC guidance.”*

So as of this weekend **all Masses will be held at the School Gym** at the following times:

Saturday, May 2nd. 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 3rd. 8:30 and **11:00 a.m.** *(note this a change from 11:30)*

Please remember no one is obliged to attend Mass if they *do not feel comfortable doing so*. If you do choose to attend Mass, we ask that you please *wear a mask and be mindful of social distancing protocols*.

Further Fr. Joe states: “On the bright side, in addition to weekend Masses, **Daily Masses** are resuming Tuesday-Friday, starting May 4th. at 8:00 a.m. daily in the church.”

Mass intentions for first week of May:

May 5: Phyllis Martell

May 6: Don Bosse

May 7: Denise Blevins

May 8: Dan Bosse

See the attached *“If you come to the gym this weekend for Mass” for more information....*

Attached:

- *Questions with answers parents are asking*
- *If you come to the gym this weekend for Mass...*
- *Ideas for the month of May*
- *How the present pandemic is one of several in history....*

IGNITING *faith, knowledge, creativity and service*