



March 30, 2020
Monday, the Fifth Week of Lent

From: David Dean, Superintendent

To: Principals, Faculty and all Parents of Catholic Schools Students in the Diocese of Tulsa

Re: Distance Learning to Continue through April 24, 2020

MEMORANDUM

On Saturday, March 28, 2020, the Mayor of Tulsa, GT Bynum, enacted a “Shelter in Place” order for all age groups in the city of Tulsa. That same day, Bishop David Konderla issued a continuation of the suspension of public Masses in the Diocese of Tulsa and Eastern Oklahoma.

As one of our primary concerns is the safety of your children, the distance learning that is beginning this week and early next week, will continue through Friday April 24, 2020 for all diocesan Catholic grade schools (PreK to 8th grade). The transition to this type of learning is challenging for our teachers as much as it is for our children and families. Please be patient with our teachers in these early days of transition. They are working tirelessly to research and prepare appropriate lesson plans based on the current diocesan standards and guidelines for all students.

As stated in the memo dated [March 25, 2020](#), we will be assessing best practices for distance learning as we work with different online learning platforms and traditional paper assignments. We will make adjustments as needed and will continue to keep you apprised of any changes to the distance learning structure.

There are many unanswered questions from our school communities regarding special events, graduations, year-end activities, First Communion classes, and grades for distance learning. These are important issues to address. Unfortunately, so much is unknown at this time about how long the “Shelter in Place” order will remain, and how long gatherings of 10 or less will be maintained in Oklahoma and across the country. Your prayers are needed to bring an end to this historic pandemic.

Once again, we ask you to please continue offering prayers for those afflicted with COVID-19, those who may be afflicted in the coming weeks, all healthcare workers and those who are the most vulnerable in our community. Let us remain hopeful and trust in the Lord. *For I know well the plans I have in mind for you—plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope. (Jeremiah 29: 11)*

End of Memorandum