



**ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE of ORANGE**

PASTORAL CENTER: DEPARTMENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
13280 CHAPMAN AVENUE, GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840

July 18, 2020

Dear OC Catholic School community,

May God's grace be with you on this day.

Yesterday, Governor Newsom announced new guidelines for re-opening schools in the state of California. While we feel strongly that our [current re-opening guidelines](#) for our Catholic schools are designed to protect our students, teachers, and staff, we are in the process of reviewing the newly issued state guidelines. Our schools have worked hard to create structures that will allow for physical distancing and cleanliness, and will call for the wearing of face coverings as needed to ensure the health and safety of our school communities.

Orange County is currently on the watch list that the governor referred to in his guidelines. We are in the process of monitoring the watch list criteria as we navigate our path forward.

In addition, for parents who do not want their students attending in person full-time or participating in a hybrid program (part-time in person and part-time online) at their home school, the Diocese of Orange will be offering a complete digital academy as an alternative option for students to continue online learning. Enrollment is now open at St. Polycarp School, an Online Catholic Academy, that will operate as a home-based K-8 learning program five days a week and be offered to families both locally and nationwide who desire a quality Catholic school education for their children from home. Additional information can be found at <http://stpolicarpschool.org>.

Let us all pray for a resolution to and decrease of the COVID-19 virus. May everyone be healthy, safe, and well.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate these extraordinary times. We will update our OC Catholic School re-opening guidelines based on the latest information and post our updates next week on our website: [www.OCCatholicSchools.org](http://www.OCCatholicSchools.org).

May God's blessings be with you always.

In mission,

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