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March 4, 2020

Parents,

In light of the recent spread of the novel coronavirus to communities in Florida, I'd like to take this opportunity to share some important information with you regarding COVID-19.

Cardinal Gibbons will continue normal operation; however, we are currently taking the necessary precautions to ensure the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff.

All of our facilities, including large common areas, such as the cafeteria, classrooms and gymnasium, are cleaned and sanitized daily. We have also ensured that additional hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes are available throughout the campus to help prevent the spread of pathogens. Our science department is spending time discussing standard preventive actions in their classes; we ask that you do the same at home. As a whole, we are also taking the steps recommended by Archbishop Wenski in terms of liturgical practices.

Any school-sponsored travel that involves air travel has been postponed or cancelled moving forward. We will continue to evaluate the situation regarding other travel on a case by case basis. We urge you to consider doing the same for any air travel, particularly to areas that are currently most affected by COVID-19. In addition, consider making your own individual family plans as we continue to monitor the situation.

Additionally, as part of our preventative measures, we ask that students or parents who begin experiencing the symptoms of <u>fever</u>, <u>cough</u> and <u>shortness of breath</u>, please refrain from coming to campus, as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that the best way to prevent infection is to avoid exposure to the virus. Please look at the attached guides for specific indicators. If your son or daughter falls in this category please seek medical attention and do <u>not</u> bring them to school. We ask that you contact the Attendance line to report their absence as well as Mrs. Betzler at ext. 117.

Please be sure to read the letter from Dr. Pryzbylski, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Miami. Cardinal Gibbons will take directives from the Archdiocese of Miami regarding any closures in the event that COVID-19 spreads within our local community. However, as mentioned in her letter, the closure of our school will be a last resort. We have already been in development for several weeks preparing for this possibility to ensure the continuity of education. The Archdiocese of Miami is actively in communication with the Florida Department of Health, and you will be notified of any changes to our COVID-19 protocol.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Oscar Cedeño Principal