

March 11, 2020

Dear Priory Community,

We certainly find ourselves in uncharted waters as we navigate the quickly changing effects and spread of COVID-19. With that in mind, the Priory will be closed, along with the other San Francisco Archdiocesan schools, from tomorrow March 12 through March 25. If that is changed or extended we will let you know.

We understand this is an evolving health concern, and guidance is changing daily. This decision involved collaboration with our administration, school nurse, CDC guidelines, local health departments and other leadership bodies across California. I understand the hardship this may cause some families. Our decision was made out of maximum consideration for the health and safety of our students, Monks and school community.

School is still in session through the Distance Learning format with faculty providing classwork to be completed while the students are not on campus. Additional information about the details of that and other updates will be sent out by Ms. Ambler, Mr. Schlaak and Mr. Morris.

The campus will be closed during this time which means only faculty and staff will be allowed on campus to work in their classrooms or offices. If a student or a family member needs to be on campus they will need to make arrangements with the appropriate person beforehand and check-in at the main office.

The daily and weekly bulletins will continue and will contain important updates and a link to a Covid-19 Information webpage. Be sure to continue checking the bulletin on a daily basis as we try to keep communications funneled through the bulletin as the single contact.

Mr. Siler has already prepared our dorm students and families for this moment and they will have to vacate the dorms and campus no later than noon tomorrow and head to their local guardians. He will be in communication with his dorm community as needed over the next two weeks.

As a closed campus, that means all Priory activities, athletic games, dances, field trips, practices, and any other activity or event is canceled. If an activity can be postponed that will be communicated to you later. There is to be no use of any the Priory facilities except classrooms and offices by faculty and staff during this period.

The Priory's 38th Gala - *On a Safari* - will be an entirely online event this year. The Gala Committee and Development Office have been working to create an exciting online event to engage the community in supporting the school and our very important Fund A Future for Financial Aid. Although we won't be able to celebrate together, I hope you will rally as a community and help us achieve our goals by enthusiastically participating in this year's online Gala. In the coming days you will receive more details, so stay tuned.

As a Benedictine and a Catholic school we care for all members of our Priory community and will keep you informed as the situation evolves. The Monks will continue to keep you in their daily prayers and I ask that you especially keep health care providers, public health officials and all community leaders in yours.

Peace,

Tim Molak
Head of School