



The mission of Sacred Heart School is to promote lifelong learning and Christ centered values in a Catholic school

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Dear Parents,

My hope is that this letter finds you, our students, and your family well. As parent or guardian you are called to sow the seeds of faith in your child. Sacred Heart School and Parish is here to help you with the truths of the Catholic faith, the qualities and faith skills to be developed in children and some practical tips for nurturing the faith life of your children. The partnership of home and parish is the ground for nurturing faith. It is the quality of family life and parish involvement as well as the curriculum and other resources, that provide the fertile soil in which your children's faith may grow and mature. When our world returns to normal, we encourage you to participate fully in liturgy, and volunteer in school and parish events. These can be a valuable guide to helping your children grow in faith and in an understanding of the Catholic tradition.

The pandemic continues to spread and impact our country, state and local communities. As your principal I continue to listen to parent and staff questions along with your concerns, and we continue to update our actions and decisions using information received from Governor Walz's office, Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Department of Education, and the Diocese of Winona-Rochester. The Governor's latest executive order expires on Friday, December 18, 2020. I've been asked by families if you will be required to quarantine for 14-days upon returning after Christmas break if you travel out of state. After discussions Marsha Stenzel, Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Winona-Rochester and Jason Adkins from MCC, we would like families to consider not traveling out of state seven days prior to returning on Monday, January 4, 2021. We are asking families to consider this... please do your best to travel between December 19-December 28, 2020. This will allow seven days to quarantine before returning to school in the hopes that we can mitigate exposure from the Christmas break. We appreciate your support as we all do our best to limit the spread of COVID-19 and safely return after break.

We are happy to inform you that Sacred Heart School and Children's House Montessori have been approved to offer FREE meals to all of our children through the Minnesota Department of Education. The school will offer daily lunches at not cost to our Sacred Heart School and Children's House Montessori families on the days school is in session. This program will run from October 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021. We are grateful and excited for this opportunity. If you have any questions please contact the school office, 507-835-2780 or email Carly Broughten at broughten@sacredheartschoolwaseca.com.

COVID-19 has greatly affected our parish and school income. As a community of faith and believers we have not been able to hold the celebrations and/or fundraisers that help support and/or subsidize our school programming. We ask that you consider a donation to help offset the income missed from the Marathon last spring, the Fall Festival, and the upcoming Catholic Schools Week Celebration-WinterFest. We are also enclosing information that will allow you to offer gifts using our parish auto-give program. We understand that times are difficult, but hope you will consider an amount you can afford, as any amount will greatly help our school and be appreciated. Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said, "One thing I ask of you: Never be afraid of giving. There is deep joy in giving, since what we receive is much more than what we give."

May you and your family have a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year, filled with Christ's love for all!

Sincerely,

LeAnn M. Dahle
Principal

Sacred Heart School and Children's House Montessori

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