

March 19, 2020

Dear SJA students, family, and community,

We hope this finds you doing well and adjusting to the ‘new normal’ that is upon us. As you may know, today is the Feast Day of St. Joseph, our patron and school’s namesake. One of the most interesting things about Joseph is that nowhere in the Gospels do we ever hear of anything he Joseph says. He never says anything. But he’s a man of action: he does what the angel tells him; he takes Mary as his wife; he goes to Bethlehem; he finds a place to stay for the night; he takes his family to Egypt...He’s a man of action.

During these uncertain times, let us be called to action. Let us make the best of the situation that has presented itself. Let us adapt in the face of adversity and respond with new strategies and innovation. Let us all embrace the new routines that lie ahead. As we navigate through this new journey, let us pray to St. Joseph. Let him guide us and help us open our hearts to God’s plan and give us the strength and courage to be men and women of action.

As teachers and students prepare for online learning beginning on Monday, March 23rd, we want you know that SJA administration continues to monitor and discuss the situation daily. We understand that there is an abundance of information being shared from our community, our state, and across the nation and globe. SJA wanted to provide you with the following information and updates:

- The SJA campus will **remain closed to students through Friday, April 3rd**.
- Classes will resume online through **distance learning from March 23rd – April 3rd**.
- At this time, **classes will tentatively resume on campus on Monday, April 6th**. SJA will notify families immediately should the timetable for distance learning need to be extended.
- Be assured that SJA is keeping to its high academic standards during these days of distance learning. Teachers will continue their planning and design of lessons for their distance learning classes. Teachers will be accessible to students and families via email.
- Teachers will be using a variety of distance learning strategies, methods and tools. Students should be checking PlusPortals and their email regularly for information from their teachers.
- Any parent that is having difficulty accessing PlusPortals or is unsure of their log-in information should reach out to the registrar, Mrs. Leatrice Bradford at lbradford@sja.us for assistance
- In the coming weeks, all classrooms and common spaces will receive another deep, intensive cleaning by our janitorial team.

Please know that the safety of our school community is a top priority of SJA. We will continue to strive to make sure SJA is a safe place to learn and work during these unprecedented times. Thank you again for your patience and continued commitment to SJA.

Blessings,

SJA Administration