Thoughts from the CRE…

Just like many of you, I find my myself thinking about how different life was just two weeks ago. I didn’t expect to have my older boys’ home from college so soon, nor did I think I’d be saying an *Our Father* every time I wash my hands. I most certainly didn’t think I’d avoid giving a hug to my parents or making sure our food supply stretches more than a week. Unfortunately, these are the types of things on all of our minds.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has changed our daily routines and we are finding ourselves asking a lot of questions without receiving many answers. The unknown becomes unsettling and a bit scary, so we try to adapt the best way we can. Maybe that means we scramble to buy extra disinfecting wipes, food, and even toilet paper because that helps us to feel like we are in control during a time when we don’t have much control at all. Through all of the unknown and nervousness, we need to remember that God is still in control. We have to believe that God will help us get through this. I encourage our families to turn to God and prayer. God is always there to listen and more now than ever, he is waiting to hear from us. Take time to pray with your children and let them know that God is with them too.

Our children may not understand why their daily routines have been turned upside down. As parents and your child’s primary teacher, take time to talk with them and answer their questions. Most importantly, be present in their lives, spend quality time together, and encourage each other to do their part. Some may feel like all these cancellations and rules are holding them back, but by social distancing and limiting daily activities we are doing the right thing. We need to be mindful of all God’s people, not just ourselves. As people of God, let’s remember God’s Great Commandment. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37-39).

I will miss seeing our PSR families weekly, but please know that I am keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. Please remember that God will get us through these trying times, we just need to keep the faith and turn to prayer. May God bless each one of you. Take care of each other, especially your children.

Prayers & Blessings,
Erica Taylor

**P**arish **S**chool of **R**eligion Cancellations

Many changes have taken place over the last week within our PSR program and our Church. As the new CRE, I was just thinking how lucky I was this year to not have to cancel classes because of inclement weather. Then…last week, the unimaginable happened. I had to notify our PSR families that PSR classes are cancelled until further notice due to the coronavirus outbreak. And if that wasn’t enough, I had to share the news to our Confirmandi that their scheduled Confirmation date of March 28 had also been cancelled. Our Confrimandi had just finished their classroom instruction time with their catechist, Mrs. Schumacher, and completed their 15 service hours. Their sponsor and saint names were chosen, interviews had been done, and all of the paperwork was sent to Holy Cross and Bishop Malooly.

This group of young adults have been dedicated throughout their catechesis and most definitely grew stronger in their faith and their relationship with God over the last eight months. Please say a special prayer for our Confirmandi as they patiently wait for the day that they will participate in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Prayerfully yours,

Erica Taylor