

St. Mary Elementary and Jr. High School

704 S. Peoria Ave. Dixon, Illinois 61021

Return to

Learn 2020-21

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to Catholic education. Especially during this difficult time, you continue to desire the excellent Catholic education provided at St. Mary's. We, too, are committed to offering the finest education both spiritually and academically for your child whether in the classroom or through e-learning. The faculty has spent months preparing to teach in a way that would allow them the freedom to continue instruction in the classroom or if called back to remote learning with the same excellence you are accustomed to receiving for your child.

After continued professional development, researching and planning we are ready to return with a plan in place for the beginning of the school year. We are excited and a bit nervous to open our doors in August with many safety guidelines in place to protect your child, as well as the faculty and staff. We ask that you also respect the guidelines in the interest of everyone's safety and health.

I am including the plan from the Diocese of Rockford as well as our individual school plan. Take some time in the next couple weeks to familiarize yourself with what our team of interested stakeholders have prepared for Returning to Learn at St. Mary Elementary and Junior High. Designed with the safety, well-being, and health of all of us, we will return to on-site, face to face, five full days, however, this plan is subject

to change and pivot to something else as the Covid-19 pandemic continues to evolve.

As of today, we are waiting to hear from Illinois Central Bus Company on their plan and availability to transport our students after school. We will have access to the buses in the morning going to school, but they have not confirmed picking up our students after school.

A note on a couple items you may want to add to the supply list, children in grades pre-8 should have a beach towel for days they have instruction outside so they can be distanced by the 6 ft. towel they are sitting on. Also, because of the warm weather, your child may wear (until Oct. 1) any Mary Monday t-shirt, or a solid blue or red t-shirt (no words or decorations).

To prevent information overload, St. Mary's remote learning plan will come out later.

Again, I want to personally thank you for your support and for being part of our mission joining us in dedicating ourselves to the well-being of these children God has entrusted in our care.

God bless you as your child's first teacher,

Jean Spohn, Principal