



PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Maria Aselage, Director of Media Relations
(843) 513-7605 ~ maria@charlestdioocese.org

Cardinal Newman School transitions to online learning

COLUMBIA – Due to two staff members testing positive for COVID-19, in an abundance of caution, Cardinal Newman School transitioned to online learning today. Below is a letter from Rob Loia, school principal, that was sent to parents on Dec. 9.

“With the health and safety of our students, staff and community members being paramount, I am reaching out to share with you that Cardinal Newman was recently made aware that a second staff member was diagnosed with COVID-19. After contact-tracing and contacting DHEC, we determined that other students and staff members would need to quarantine. The families of these students were contacted directly.

“As COVID-19 continues to spread, we are entering a time of heightened risk for our community. In an abundance of caution for the health and safety of Cardinal Newman students, staff, and families, I have sought and received approval from the Diocese of Charleston Catholic Schools’ Office to move to a virtual learning environment starting tomorrow, Thursday, December 10th. We will remain virtual through Friday, December 18th. These are the final days of the quarter.

“All athletics and co-curriculars, including practices, are cancelled through December 18th. We will have personnel in the Main Office should your child need to come in for any items. The Christmas Service Project partnering with St. Martin DePorres Parish and school community will continue. Mrs. Chambers will be available during school hours to collect all gifts, gift cards or donations at the front of the school starting Thursday, December 10th, through Monday, December 14th.

“Classes will proceed tomorrow with a regular Black Day schedule. Friday will remain a half day. Schedules will be posted each morning. All class lessons will be given through Schoology. Lunches ordered through Schoolhouse Fare will be cancelled.

“The health and safety of our school community is a top priority. We need your help. I have appreciated all the great communication efforts of our families. Please continue to monitor your children for symptoms. Should you be aware of any or of a positive test result, please contact me or Nurse Wilbur at your earliest convenience. This helps us to keep all others safe.

“We will continue to be in communication with you in the days ahead. Please keep all those suffering with COVID-19, all those caring for them, and all suffering loss in our community in your prayers.”

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