



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS
Office of Communications and Planning

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The Archdiocese of St. Louis Extends Distance Learning Through End of School Year for All Archdiocesan Elementary and High Schools

In light of continued developments in the COVID-19 situation throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis and new guidance from government and health officials, **the Archdiocese of St. Louis elementary and high schools—including all grades pre-K through 12—will continue distance learning for the remainder of the school year.** All in-person classes will remain suspended throughout that time, and extra-curricular activities and athletics will continue to be postponed/canceled, including graduation ceremonies.

Archbishop Robert J. Carlson communicated to school administrators that as with all decisions related to the COVID-19 crisis, this determination has been made following much consultation with archdiocesan leadership, and local and state officials, as well as deep discernment in prayer. He reiterated that this is the best course of action to keep our students, staff and all those in our community safe, healthy and well.

Details regarding distance-learning timelines at the elementary and high-school levels are as follows:

- Elementary-school distance learning will culminate on Friday, May 8. The last day of school for all Catholic elementary schools will be Wednesday, May 13.
- High-school distance learning will conclude during the week of May 18-22. Specific end-dates will vary by school.
- The Archdiocese of St. Louis Office of Catholic Education and Formation will be providing additional guidance to schools next week and will meet virtually with administrators to assist with planning.

Archbishop Carlson and the Archdiocese of St. Louis will continue to support school leadership, and pray for the entire St. Louis community, especially during this unprecedented celebration of Holy Week.

All decisions regarding parish, school and archdiocesan workplace operations will continue to be determined by developments in the COVID-19 situation throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis, as well as by the effects on each individual community. We remain in contact with health officials for guidance in all decisions. We also reiterate to our parishes, schools, and staff the importance of reviewing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines regularly, complying with all

directives and recommendations from government agencies and offices, and reporting any pertinent information to the local health department.

All updates and resources from the Archdiocese of St. Louis regarding COVID-19, including stories from the *St. Louis Review*, can be found at [archstl.org/coronavirus](https://www.archstl.org/coronavirus). Video messages of hope from many priests of our archdiocese can be found at [archstl.org/be-not-afraid](https://www.archstl.org/be-not-afraid).

Please direct questions to communications@archstl.org.

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