



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS  
Office of Communications and Planning

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Archdiocese of St. Louis Announces School Closings of Most Holy Trinity; Christ, Light of the Nations; and St. Joseph (Manchester)**

Due to the unprecedented challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic on already financially-strained institutions, today, the Archdiocese of St. Louis is announcing the permanent closure of three elementary schools following the end of the 2019-20 school year.

The incredibly difficult decisions to close Most Holy Trinity Catholic School & Academy; Christ, Light of the Nations School; and St. Joseph School (Manchester) were made after conducting an analysis of the financial feasibility of these schools following the impact of the virus. While the situation at each school is unique, all three have received financial support from the archdiocese and its parishes, which have been impacted by the suspension of public Mass and the loss of offertory and other contributions due to the pandemic.

The Archdiocese of St. Louis believes that Catholic elementary schools represent much more than school buildings. Each is a community of families and organizational partners who are fully invested in the impact of a Catholic education. These schools have already changed the educational trajectory of thousands of students and alumni. The archdiocese, together with community partners, is fully committed to supporting all families and students as they continue their educational journeys.

Parish leaders of affected institutions, in partnership with archdiocesan leadership, are reaching out to families, staffs and faculties with specifics regarding the support they will receive in making transitions to other faith-based schools within the archdiocese.

The archdiocese keeps all of those impacted by these difficult circumstances in prayer, and will continue to do everything possible to answer questions, address concerns and provide support for those who need it. More information about Catholic education, scholarship opportunities and the many quality, faith-based schools of the Archdiocese of St. Louis can be found at [archstlcatholicschools.org](http://archstlcatholicschools.org).

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