From Our Office

As the new school year begins, it’s evident from the amount of time and endless hours our educators have given, that summer was far from a relaxing break. It’s because of their relentless diligence that we are able to implement our phase in educational model for the beginning of this school year. We will continue to serve our communities by providing rich faith formation and academic rigor in a manner keeping with the mission of the Church and teachings of Jesus Christ. Whether this year is remote continuous learning, in-person, or a combination of both, our schools continue to offer instruction to students promoting our faith and Catholic traditions.

On June 14, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, Bishop Thomas Daly officially opened a diocesan Year of the Eucharist. The idea for the year began before the COVID-19 crisis, and as the pandemic unfolded parishes were shut, regular access to the sacraments was suspended. Bishop Daly and your pastors heard from you, the lay faithful of the diocese, about your hunger for the Eucharist during this time. As we return to Mass it seems providential that plans had already begun for a Eucharistic year.

As Catholic school leaders, we are being invited to a period of “creativity and inventiveness.” We recognize that our teachers and principals are on the front line responding to daily issues related to this school year and how to not only teach asynchronous learning, but be successful at it.

The last week of August over 70 teachers attended a “Techie Tools and Teaching” in-service, to help further guide them for this academic year. It is our goal and our intentions that this school year not only be a time to survive, but to thrive.

COVID-19 has caused us to divert from our typical educational plans and find even more “creative and innovative” ways to discover new learning models. This year, more than ever, we are standing in faith over fear and leading with hope over angst and invite you to stand along with us.

Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet our faith is weak and we are fearful. But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: “Do not be afraid” (Mt 28:5). And we, together with Peter, “cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us” (1 Pet 5:7).