



April 6, 2020

Dear SJB Families,

We ask for your prayers for Mr. Dawit Gizaw, who died last night.

Mr. Gizaw was the father of Nathan Dawit, a 4th grade student at SJB. Mr. Gizaw was husband to Mrs. Selam Muluneh.

Mr. Gizaw became seriously ill in late January, and SJB students prayed for him by name each morning. We will send an update when we have information about arrangements and ways for families to express condolences.

Today we pray for Mr. Gizaw, Nathan, Mrs. Muluneh, and their family.

Report Cards

Third-quarter report cards have been added to the portal. Log in to the portal and touch the "E-Locker" tab and then select "E-Portfolio." Report cards have been added to the portfolio for students in grades 1-8.

Easter Vacation and Spring Break

Students and teachers will soon get a break from distant learning.

There will be no instruction, lessons, or assignments after Wednesday, April 8. We will be closed on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, and next week will be spring break for students and staff.

Teachers have prepared reading and math practice for student enrichment and enjoyment. The optional assignments will not be collected, assessed, or graded for class credit. No one will be penalized for taking a break.

Teachers and students will resume distant education on Monday, April 20.



Easter-Spring Break

- *Break for Students, Parents, Teachers*
- *Emphasis on Holy Week, Easter, Family, Health and Safety*
- *Optional Enrichment Offered*

Reading

- We encourage daily reading for our students.
- All daily reading is for the child's own growth, enrichment, and enjoyment.
- It is the parent's choice to require a child to read each day or the child's choice to read for interest.
- There will be no assessment of reading over the break.
- There will be no penalty for a student who takes a break.

Math

- Math practice is optional.
- Math work will not be collected or assessed.

Writing

- We encourage students to use their time over the break to write an entry for the creative-writing contest.
- Writing will not be assigned for the break.

Grades for the 4th Quarter

When we return on April 20, we will explain to students and parents how student work will be recorded and graded for the 4th quarter. Below is the scaled-down grading structure we will use. We've determined it is unrealistic to use the regular SJB report card, which includes assessments of student work ethic and social growth in some grades.



We will...

- continue to do our best to provide clear instruction and facilitate student learning in all subject areas
- continue to record student participation and collect and assess student work

We understand the effect of variables:

- home schedules
- levels and availability of parent support
- access to learning resources
- access to technology

4th Quarter Grade/Assessment Structure

Grades PK-3

Marks

- E – Excellent
- G – Good
- S – Satisfactory
- I – Incomplete or P -- Pass

Subjects

- Language Arts
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Grammar
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Religion
- Spanish



- Art
- Music

Grades 4-8

Marks & Scale

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • A – Excellent | 90-100 |
| • B – Good | 80-90 |
| • C – Satisfactory | 70-80 |
| • I – Incomplete or P -- Pass | Below 70 or Multiple Missing Assignments |

Subjects

- Language Arts
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Grammar
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Religion
- Spanish
- Art
- Music

SJB Expectations for Online Meetings

Our expectations are that students...

- dress in everyday clothing
- sit in a chair
- write on a table
- bring materials for lesson (pencil, paper, book, etc.)
- act just as they would for a class in school

We ask the students to refrain from...



- leaving during the meeting
- eating during the meeting
- wearing pajamas
- having siblings in the meeting

Teachers...

- schedule meetings on a master planning calendar to avoid conflicts
- post meeting schedules and links in the portal
- increasingly teach new content
- aim to keep meetings to about 30 minutes

For security, teachers...

- Use a random meeting IP
- Enable waiting room to make sure only students enter
- Lock the meeting after it starts

For meeting management, teachers...

- Mute participants (students) as they enter
- Instruct students on procedures:
 - how to ask a question or respond to a question
 - how and when to unmute
 - how and when to raise hand
 - how and when to show work
- Disable file sharing by meeting participants (students)
- Maintain host control of screen sharing
- Record the meeting
- Make the recording available to the class for students who may have missed it

Thank You, SJB Auction & Gala Planners

Thank you for planning and coordinating our school's biggest fundraiser. Our planners worked against great obstacles and still managed to pull off a successful fundraiser for our school. The three-week online auction ended Saturday night. Thank you, as well, to all who bid on items, donated items, and participated in any way.



SJB – The Greatest Catholic School Community Ever

It warms our heart that the [Stations of the Cross video](#) has been viewed more than 200 times since we sent it to families last week.

We asked our families to pray the Stations together on Friday in anticipation of Palm Sunday and the arrival of Holy Week.

We are humbled by the response of our 160 school families.