



THE BISHOP OF NEW YORK

June 2, 2024

To the Congregation of the Church of the Divine Love:

Blessings today as you close the school that has been so important to the life of your community over the last half century. I know that today is a difficult day.

Today also reflects something wonderful and eternal.

My mother was a teacher. For forty years she taught piano to the children in the neighborhood where I grew up. From my mom I learned the truth of the Henry Adams saying, "*A teacher affects eternity; they can never tell where their influence stops.*" Mom's been retired for more than two decades— and this past week a former student called her to tell her how much she meant to their life.

I know the same will be true of the Sunset Nursery School. Since its founding, the school has touched so many lives. The care it provided will continue to make a difference in the lives of its former students for decades to come. It will touch eternity.

I'm so glad that Canon Denise LaVetty can be with you today. Know that my prayers, and the prayers of Bishop Shin and Bishop Glasspool, are with you also.

Grace and Peace,

The Rt. Rev. Matthew Heyd
Bishop of New York