

December 28, 2021

Good evening, OLSS Families,

On Monday, Dec 27, 2021, Parochial School leaders in Southern Maryland met with County Health Department officials. They were able to share with us the statistics on COVID-19 and the Delta and Omicron variants. It was strongly recommended that we consider delaying our return to school on January 3, 2022 to January 10, 2022 or that we consider having our students return to virtual learning for the week of January 3-January 7, 2022.

A collective decision was made by the Parochial School leaders in Southern Maryland to have all students return to virtual learning for the week of January 3-January 7. While this decision was not made lightly, we do believe that allowing students to return to virtual learning for this week only will help in mitigating a wide spread of infection of COVID-19 (and its variants) among our students and staff. This will also allow additional time for the detection of symptoms of COVID-19 and its variants and for families who may need to be tested.

On Monday, January 3rd, 2022, OLSS School staff will be in the building preparing materials for students in each grade level. Parents/Guardians are to come to school at the usual dismissal time (2:45 pm - 3:15 pm) on Monday, January 3, to retrieve their child(ren)'s items for the week. There will be no teachers available after 3:30pm.

A detailed schedule for students' classes for the week of Jan. 4-Jan. 7 will be sent on Thursday, Dec. 30 to all families. Teachers will be providing live instruction through Google classroom at the scheduled times. Students will be using Google Classroom to attend class, so I ask that all students log into their Google classroom account before Friday, Dec. 31, 2021 to ensure that there will be no issues logging into class on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. If your child does have any problems logging into their school email account or if families are in need of an electronic device for their child(ren) to use next week, please contact Mrs. Grater at cjgrater@yahoo.com for assistance.

Thank you for your continued support of Our Lady Star of the Sea. I pray you had a blessed Christmas and that you have continued good health and a renewed spirit in the New Year.

Grace and Peace,

Jennifer Thompson