



ST. BERNARD'S

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

January 6, 2021

Dear St. Bernard's Students,

Greetings in Christ! I hope that you had a very merry Christmas and that you will enjoy all God's blessings in this New Year.

Since my last update in October, the administration and staff at St. Bernard's have continued to monitor closely all developments related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. It is clear that our nation continues to be afflicted by this virus, and that the situation continues to affect how St. Bernard's will teach its students. Specifically:

- ❖ Since our Rochester campus is now located within an "orange zone", all in-class instruction at this campus is suspended for the Spring 2021 semester.
- ❖ The Albany campus at 40 North Main Avenue is used for purposes other than education. Therefore, this campus will remain closed for the Spring 2021 semester.

Instruction will continue exclusively through Zoom videoconferencing and our Canvas learning management system. There is hope on the horizon that with the introduction of several vaccines we will soon be able to return to in-class instruction. When this possibility arises, be assured you will hear from me immediately.

Our investment in Zoom videoconferencing technology and in our Canvas learning management system has done us well, allowing us to continue our online learning with minimal disruption.

My team continues to stand ready to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have, technical or otherwise. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me: Stephen.Loughlin@stbernards.edu.

Thank you for your continued patience during these trying times. Once again, general guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have been distributed through the various dioceses we serve and are helpfully articulated by the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* [here](#). Naturally, we will continue to monitor this situation and will update you with any changes to the above decisions in as timely a fashion as is possible.

May we take this time to pray to the Lord, our harbor and our true hope, and may we remember all those who are most vulnerable: those with preexisting conditions, the elderly, the poor, and those who have no one to care for them. Be assured of our prayers for you and yours during this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Loughlin".

Stephen J. Loughlin
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