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SAINT JEANNE DE LESTONNAC EXCELS AT REMOTE LEARNING DURING SCHOOL CLOSURES

Tustin, CA. (March 31, 2020) – As schools and school districts throughout Orange County race to provide an effective remote learning educational platform for all students, Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School in Tustin, CA, has successfully implemented a remote learning program that continues to provide students with academic excellence, individualized learning, faith development, and a strong sense of community, a particularly essential component for families during this time of uncertainty. Despite the physical building being closed, school is still in session as teachers use technology and their creativity to recreate the classroom experience for all students from Preschool – 8th grade.

As a private Catholic school, owned and operated by the Sisters of the Company of Mary, Our Lady, we followed the lead of the Diocese of Orange, Department of Catholic Schools who informed all its constituent schools on Friday, March 13 that all elementary school buildings would close and student-related activities would be canceled from March 16 – April 17, 2020. However, with the guidance of the Department of Catholic Schools, schools were charged with developing a high-quality remote learning program. The administration and faculty at Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School immediately began implementing a remote learning protocol. With support from the Diocese – including a Diocesan-collaboration with Loyola Marymount University for focused professional development in the area of remote learning – Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School was able to launch its remote learning program on Wednesday, March 18. The Remote Learning Program went live, just 5 days from the school closure announcement.

Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School's remote learning program includes:

- Continued access to all of the school's existing Digital Learning Management Systems.
- Dedicated launch point web portal for the [Remote Learning Platform](#)
 - Providing students in grades Pre - 8 with:
 - Digital Learning Platforms for students in grades Pre – 8
 - Daily video lessons (2hrs) from grade level and subject area teachers in all grades and subjects.
 - Flexible learning times and opportunities to facilitate working parents and build on the values of self-regulation by students.
 - Continued access to all of the school's learning platforms, already digitally based, in Religion, Mathematics, Science, English Language Arts, Social Studies, and Fine Arts.
 - Providing parents with:
 - Consistent, well organized, launch-point for all resources and online classes.
 - Timely news, updates and alerts regarding remote learning resources and platforms.
 - Access to all of their child's accounts for each of the digital learning platforms.
 - Video tutorials, when applicable.
 - Daily updates and spiritual reflections through the school's robust Communication Management System.
 - Weekly feedback from teachers regarding their child's progress and growth.
 - Parent virtual meeting evenings, utilizing Google Meet, for grade-level clusters to answer questions and direct attention to relevant information regarding their child's

“I could not be more proud of our teachers, students, and parents,” says Sister Cecilia Durán, O.D.N., Principal of Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School. “Our faculty, leaning on past years of professional development regarding Blended Learning in the digital age of education and viewing this situation as an opportunity, were able to transition fluidly to a completely online platform. The school is blessed with resources, our Home and School Association, and parents who have consistently supported our efforts. This support has manifested in our ability to reach the needs of each of our students, be it in person or completely online.”

Per the Diocese of Orange Department of Catholic Schools, schools are closed through April 20, 2020. Although no plans have been made to extend this date, the Diocese of Orange is committed to ensuring the safety of students, teachers, and the community. Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School, along with all diocesan schools, will continue to follow the recommendations of the CDC and OC Health Agency.

About Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School

Faithful to a strong Catholic Identity and the Educational Project of the Company of Mary assists our students in developing a vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ as they strive to achieve excellence in education and live a life of service according to the Gospels. Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac School is a Preschool through 8th Grade Catholic school accredited through the Western Association of Catholic Schools (WCEA) and the Accrediting Commission for Schools of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). For more information, please visit www.SJDI.School.com.

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