May 26, 2020

Dear St. Thomas Aquinas Families,

Welcome, welcome to the end (or continuation) of another school year and the all-too-soon beginning of another. I pray that this letter finds you joyful in the later part of our Easter season. I know joy is something that sounds like a foreign concept in these puzzling days of masks, gloves, avoidance, distancing and fear. But we are an Easter people, ever rejoicing in Our Almighty Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Ever adoring and trusting Their care and love of us, their children.

It is an understatement to say that this winter/spring has been a terrible challenge as our everyday living has been turned upside down and inside out. So much to challenge our resolve, but this is where our faithfulness and fidelity to God comes in. The preverbal “where the rubber meets the road” in our faithfulness to all that we hold to be our abiding truths in Our Lord; trust, charity, mercy, patience, wisdom… Never before in our lifetimes have we been challenged like we have these last few months. Talk about no control or if there was any, it wasn’t much. We placed ourselves and continue to place ourselves in the loving arms of Our Heavenly Father and surrender in peace to what comes next or at least that is the hope for each new day in a Catholic life in a pandemic. Well, summer is upon us and maybe we can find more peace in the beautiful blooming world around us. The grass is so green and playful song of the birds are so welcome. Every early morning, I hear the American Robin singing his praises to God for another new day, and I am quickly reminded to do the same.

So onto our business. On the STAA website you will find the **enrollment forms** for **2020-21** which can be printed for each family that is enrolling, and attendance sheets that can be used for the all the children being schooled if they share the same days of study. Please submit your enrollment forms for the coming school year by **August 18, 2020** or contact me if you would like an extension. All **attendance forms** for the **2019-20** school year are due on **June 30th, 2020**. If you **school year-round**, please use the June 30th date as way to mark the end of one school year.

Your enrollment papers may be mailed to me or scanned and emailed, and you have the option to make your enrollment fee of $30 per school year per family by making payments online or you may pay the enrollment fee by check. Please make all checks payable to *Helen Swavely, STAA*. Once payment online is made, you can mail your enrollment papers to the address listed on the letterhead of this letter. Oh, and please if ever the enrollment fee of **$30** is ever a hardship for your family, please contact me as there are scholarships that can be applied.

Thank you all again for being part of the STAA family and know you are in our family’s daily prayers. May you all have a blessed and restful summer! Please never hesitate to contact me to assist you in navigating the state homeschooling laws. God Bless You and your families with a happy school year to come!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Administrator, St. Thomas Aquinas Academy