



April 29, 2021

Dear Families,

IMPORTANT NOTICE – NO SCHOOL NEXT WEDNESDAY: The funeral Mass and memorial for 16-year old Earl Estrella has been scheduled for St. Paul Church next Wednesday, May 5.

Due to the publicity surrounding this very tragic and senseless death, the size of his extended family, and the expectation of a large gathering of friends, we have determined that in order to keep our Covid protocol intact, **we will NOT hold classes that day here on campus.** The nature of our facility and the commingling of restrooms with the church, as well as the sharing of playground and parking, make it nearly impossible to assure the health and safety of our students. Our regular schedule will resume at 8:30am the following day, Thursday, May 6.

I very much appreciate your understanding of the situation and ask that you keep Earl and his family in your prayers. Every life is to be cherished and valued. To lose it at such a young age makes this an even more difficult reality for us all to absorb.

- **BAND NEWS:** Are you a current 5th grader and want to learn an instrument? Miss McKamey is here for you! Come to the Kennedy Catholic Elem. Summer Band Program July 7-9 and continuing July 12-16! **In Person Band!!**
Session One: Beg. Band!!
Session Two: Veterans! It is time to make music together!
Registration is now OPEN! [Please see flyer!](#)
- Our **Scholastic Online Book Fair – April 19 through May 2 – wraps up this weekend.** Click [HERE](#) for details.
- The annual school **May Crowning Mass** will take place as planned next Thursday, May 6 at 8:30am. Students are invited to bring simple flowers from home to carry in the procession to the altar.
- Plans continue for our Graduation and Alumni Gathering on Sunday, June 6, beginning at the 8:30am Mass. Seating at the Graduation Mass will be limited. **At this writing – in expectation that our County will return to a more restricted Phase Two Covid protocol - graduate families will be limited to SIX seats at Mass.** A request for the names of your invited attendees will be forthcoming. Attendance at the following open air celebration

and open house is less restricted, but we may have to cap the total number once the gathering health regulations are clear. Classroom tours, talk to the teachers, food trucks, music and historical display will be available. We ask that you continue to RSVP prior so we know numbers. Go to our website home page for details and click [HERE](#) to RSVP.

- As mentioned last week, in order to prepare for the 6/6 celebration and to capture as much of the fun as possible, **we are searching for any help in the following areas:**
 - Digital pictures you are willing to share – DROPBOX link [HERE](#).
 - Any print or tangible memorabilia (old uniforms, ribbons, awards, photo albums, etc.)
 - A helpful volunteer who would share photography skills that day
 - Assistance in getting the date out to family, friends and alumni.

Contact the school office if you can help!

- Details regarding the new **Early Learning Center** are quickly emerging. A full description of the program and FAQ page will soon be posted on our website. Until then, if you know of families interested in placement for 3 and 4 year olds for next year, contact the school office or Director Laurie Clark at lclark@seattlestpaul.org. Families interested in applying can go directly to the sign-up page [HERE](#).
- Many of our Catholic high schools are offering **summer sessions for middle schoolers** with a wide variety of academic and sports-related activities. These opportunities are beginning to appear on the web sites. Go to those sites directly to sign up.

Next week is national Teacher Appreciation Week. Believe me, with all that has happened these past months, the list of people I need to appreciate is longer than ever! Every one of us has so many people to thank for helping us make it through some fairly tough times. We have a couple of things planned here to acknowledge some pretty selfless people who have given their all. I'm certainly not asking you to add one more thing to your list, but if you have a chance sometime during the week to let your child's teacher know the work they have done has not gone unnoticed, that simple act goes a long way. It means a lot.

Enjoy a great first weekend of May with those you love. Every moment counts!



Dan