

March 20, 2020

Dear Bellarmine Class of 2020 parents,

We recognize that there is an incredible amount of uncertainty in the days ahead, and this is not the Spring Semester of your senior year that you have been imagining for yourself. We don't know exactly when we'll return to campus; our goal is to head back on April 20th, but earlier this week, Governor Newsom said that he didn't think that most schools would return before summer. We hope to be back at Bellarmine sooner than that, but are just not sure yet. We hope to have prom on May 2nd (or any time in May), Baccalaureate Mass on May 21st and Graduation on May 23rd. Given the rapidly changing local and state directives, we are not in a position to make a decision about those events yet. I am convening a group of Bellarmine community members to explore creative ideas for how we might approach these important events. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

What we do know is that we want to celebrate with you as soon as we can – and we will! We want to congratulate you on all that you have accomplished during your four years at Bellarmine. We want to celebrate the amazing and resilient men you've become as a result of all of the hard work you've put in while at Bellarmine. We want to showcase how you live out our motto of being “men for and with others,” even in this time when being with others is happening via technology rather than in person.

In the upcoming weeks, you will continue to hear from colleges, and you will begin to think about your life beyond Bellarmine. We know that you are going to do unbelievable things in the years to come. You might have questions as you start to make decisions around your college choices for next year, and we know those decisions are more complicated by the fact that most, if not all, colleges have cancelled their in-person Spring visit programs. We are here (online) to support you in those decisions, and our college counselors would be happy to set up a meeting with you and your parents via Teams to help you to reach a decision. Our college counselors know you well, and they are very familiar with colleges and universities across the country. Don't hesitate to ask them questions!

Our teachers, coaches, moderators, campus ministers, parents and friends are all here for you. We all want to celebrate your accomplishments, and we will have a celebration.

Now more than ever, we need the Senior class's leadership as men for and with others. We call upon you, the Class of 2020, to set the tone for our school as we face uncertainty in the days ahead. As opportunities to stay connected to your Bellarmine brothers unfold in the coming days, please take advantage of the opportunity to participate virtually. Help us keep the Bellarmine brotherhood strong for the entire school.

Sincerely,

**Kristina Luscher
Principal**