

December 2, 2019

Dear St. Thomas the Apostle School Families,

As we enter into this Advent season, a time of prayer and a time to deepen our friendship with the Lord, our students are reminded daily to direct their minds and hearts to the Lord, and to turn to Him fully for wisdom and guidance.

With that in mind, I turn to the Lord too, to ask Him to guide me in my leadership of the school and parish. I also pray that He will continue to direct the hearts and minds of our students, our families, and our school faculty and staff, as St. Thomas the Apostle School enters a time of transition.

Ms. Joanne Kowit, who has served as our school's principal for over 7 years, will take a short term leave of absence, effective immediately.

Ms. Barbara Stevens, assistant superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Metuchen, will be the temporary administrator of the school, helping to assist with the transition. She will also support the work of Ms. Annette Pioppo, who will continue in her role as our vice principal. I assure you that, together, we will work to ensure a seamless transition for the students.

Please keep Ms. Kowit, Ms. Pioppo and Ms. Stevens in your prayers as they begin this time of transition. Also, please know that I am available to you should you have any questions or concerns.

As we enter this Advent season, a season of waiting and joyful preparation, and also a time when we ask the Lord to enter our lives more fully, we cannot forget to open our hearts more fully to be loved by Him who has come, is coming and will come again.

May you have a blessed Advent!

Rev. Jerome A. Johnson
Pastor