



March 25, 2020

Dear Mercy Students, Parents, Teachers, and Staff,

The San Francisco Unified School District announced this morning at 11:00 that the public schools of the six Bay Area districts have extended school closures through May 1. Out of concern for your health and that of all within our community, Mercy will also be closed through May 1, with the hope that we might reopen on May 4.

Once again, we learn that we are not in control! I have found this reflection by Laura Kelly Fanucci one that I have returned to often in the past several days:

When this is over, may we never again take for granted  
A handshake with a stranger  
Full shelves at the store  
Conversations with neighbors  
A crowded theatre  
Friday night out  
The taste of communion  
A routine checkup  
The school rush each morning  
Coffee with a friend  
The stadium roaring  
Each deep breath  
A boring Tuesday  
Life itself.

When this ends,  
may we find that we have become more like the people  
we wanted to be  
we were called to be  
we hoped to be  
and may we stay that way—  
better for each other  
because of the worst.

I'm sure that each of us can add many things for which we are newly grateful — lunch in the cafeteria, a hug from a friend, encouraging words from colleagues... but the final words in the reflection are the real challenge for us, "May we be better for each other..."

In Mercy,

Sister Carolyn Krohn, RSM

---

[www.mercyhs.org](http://www.mercyhs.org)



