



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK ANNOUNCES OPERATIONAL CHANGES TO SIX CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

(February 6, 2017 – New York, NY) – The Office of the Superintendent of Schools of the Archdiocese of New York today announced changes to six Catholic schools located in the Bronx, Manhattan, and Sullivan County.

- St. Ann School, Visitation School, and St. Mary School in the Bronx, and St. Gregory the Great School in Manhattan - whose parishes merged with neighboring parishes as part of the 2013 *Making All Things New* archdiocesan-wide planning initiative - will cease operations at the end of the current academic year. Despite the Archdiocese's best efforts to maintain the operational and financial viability of these schools in light of the closure of their co-located parish, continuing to educate students in a school where a significant portion of the facility is unutilized has proven infeasible. St. Ann School, Visitation School, and St. Mary School students will have the opportunity to continue their Catholic education at St. Brendan School, St. John's School in Kingsbridge, and Our Lady of Grace, respectively, or at other neighborhood Catholic schools. Students from St. Gregory the Great School will have the opportunity to continue their education at nearby Ascension School, or other local Catholic schools. **All students will be guaranteed a seat at a Catholic school within the Archdiocese of New York.**
- Sts. Peter and Paul School in the Bronx will transition, beginning in September 2017, from a kindergarten through 8th grade school to a universal pre-k (UPK) school to meet the increasing demands in the community for additional early childhood and universal pre-k services. Current Sts. Peter and Paul School students will be offered seats at neighboring Catholic schools.
- St. Peter's Regional School in Sullivan County will also cease operations at the end of the current school year. The school had seen a decline in enrollment in recent years and consequently transitioned from a full-service elementary school to a pre-k to 4th grade school. The Archdiocese will provide families with support to transition students to Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Middletown, or other local schools.

The Office of the Superintendent's Directors of Enrollment will work to help school families transition into another Catholic school for the 2017-2018 school year. Additional information and resources for affected families will be shared in the coming days.



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“We understand these are challenging times for many families, and we will work with all students who are seeking to continue their Catholic education to find a seat at another excellent school in the Archdiocese,” said Dr. Timothy McNiff, Superintendent of Schools. “These are difficult but necessary decisions, and working together we will ensure our Catholic schools are stronger than ever.”

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