



**April 30, 2020**

My Dear Friends,

Recently, the Archdiocese sent you an online petition which asks Governor Baker to allocate private schools a portion of federal CARES Act funding for emergency educational relief in Massachusetts. In sending the petition we also asked that you share it with your parishioners and staff, with the request that they join you in signing. It is important to note that although this petition does not ask any special consideration for Catholic Schools, it is essential that our schools, as one group of private schools in the Commonwealth, have access to this emergency funding. Many Catholic Schools families come from communities that were economically challenged and underserved before the current crisis, they are now experiencing some of the most serious impacts, including uncertainty concerning their children's education. By signing the petition we can help these families, by asking that our Catholic schools receive a share of the emergency funding.

Please share the petition with your parishioners, staff, parish pastoral and finance councils, asking for their participation and that they share it with all individuals and group who would welcome the opportunity to join in this effort. We are in the midst of a critical moment for our Catholic schools, particularly those that serve the most needy. It is of great importance that we do everything we can to support our students,

families, teachers and staff, that they can continue their mission of service that greatly benefits our communities and is a priority for the work of the Church.

To access the petition please click [here](#). If you have any questions or require any assistance, please contact Thomas Carroll, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, at [thomas\\_carroll@rcab.org](mailto:thomas_carroll@rcab.org).

Please know of my gratitude for all you are doing on behalf of the Church, the people entrusted to your care and your assistance with this very important effort in support of our schools.

With the assurance of my prayers,

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Cardinal Seán

***\*Please note, in addition to the Cardinal's request to share the petition with as many people as possible, we would ask you to share the petition on your social media platforms and websites. Thank you.***