

March 19, 2020

Dear Champion students,

I hope this message reaches you while you are all safe, in good health and spirit. I want to reach out to you at this time as you face the new task ahead of you. As you know the whole world is adjusting to the reality of the Coronavirus pandemic, and accordingly Champion College faculty and staff members are working diligently to keep our students well served. I understand that the switch to online learning, in such a short notice, is challenging for many of you. Our faculty members this week have been adjusting to help you complete your academic courses for this winter term and guide you in this process. Starting tomorrow the academic learning continues in a distance/online modality for the rest of the term.

I ask for your cooperation and patience. Distance learning is not the same as in regular class settings, while being away from your immediate colleagues and friends. Try to look at the online means of education as our best ally at this time of the crisis. In many ways we are lucky to have a state of technology that keeps us all connected, informed and capable to serve. We are committed here at Champion College to assist you succeeding in your registered courses.

Keep in mind and in prayers all those who have been affected by the Coronavirus; they are suffering tremendously whether due to sickness and / or when they get quarantined from their loved ones. Remember also in gratitude those who care for them – their compassion for better health is heroic – and, those researchers who strive towards developing a vaccination are indeed our prophets and faithful servants. Education, pre-cautionary praxes and mindfulness of the dire situation of today's pandemic are essential elements to transform our world back to sound health. I urge you to reflect on how your education is helping you to serve better the needs of today's world.

As many of the worship places are no longer available in our city of Regina to host gatherings for communal prayers, keep in mind that the world and its current suffering is now our place of worship and service. How we serve one another to make a healthier world makes a parish life real outside parish walls. The Lord remains faithful and engaged with us. In the event you need some pastoral support and counselling, do not hesitate to reach out to our Campus Minister Kelly Bourke (Kelly.Bourke@uregina.ca) or through her cell at 306-550-5293.

As a last word of encouragement, be safe and may the remaining weeks of this term be one of consolation for you, your families and your loved ones. We miss you but together we will get through this crisis.

Affectionately and in much gratitude,



Fr. Sami Helewa, S.J.
President