As our nation and world enter an unprecedented era that is defined by COVID-19, we wanted to share an update on Cardinal Stritch University’s response to the global pandemic.

First, we want to reassure you that there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Stritch. President Kathleen Rinehart and members of the University leadership team continue to monitor all information regarding the spread of COVID-19. Frequent updates regarding University actions and pertinent information are provided to the Stritch Community on a regular basis. A web page dedicated to COVID-19 updates and information can be accessed at stritch.edu/covid-19.

As a University, our daily efforts are acutely focused on doing everything necessary to deliver our academic programs, maintain daily operations and keep our students, faculty and staff as safe as reasonably possible. For example:

- As of Monday, March 16, all classes are being delivered via the Canvas learning management system (LMS) platform. Given the nature and scope of the projected spread of the virus, classes will continue online through the end of the Spring semester. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of faculty and staff, we are ensuring that all students continue to receive the rich and full academic experience that Stritch is known for.
- Approximately 50 students remain in on-campus housing and we are working closely with them to ensure they have all required to complete their academic work. In addition, our Health and Wellness professionals have been especially attentive to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of all of our students, providing services to those students remaining on campus, as well as to others via email and telephone.
- Faculty and most staff are working remotely. A limited number of essential staff will have access to campus to address the University’s security, facilities and other operational matters.
- All campus-based events, as well as those sponsored by external organizations have been postponed or rescheduled. Additional information will be provided next week regarding end-of-academic year activities, including Commencement.

As President Rinehart shared in a recent message to the Stritch Community:

_This is not a time for panic. Instead it is a time to be attentive, serious and engaged regarding the steps we need to take as a Community to care for ourselves and one another. During this period of heightened stress, concern and anxiety, we must be mindful of the Four Franciscan Values that have defined this institution for almost 100 years: Showing Compassion, Creating a Caring Community, Reverencing Creation and Making Peace. Each of us bears the ongoing responsibility to reflect those Values through our interactions and communications with those on and off campus. We must expect the best from ourselves and offer the best of ourselves to others._

We pray that you and your loved ones will be healthy and safe. We also sincerely appreciate your prayers for all members of the Stritch Community, as well as the myriad local, state, national and global professionals who are working so diligently to address and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.