

FROM THE DESK OF

SAINT NICHOLAS

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear Students of St. Vladimir's in Philadelphia,

I am pleased to be able to write to all of you during this time, especially with so many things happening in the world around us. Sadly, I will not be able to visit with you in person this year; I will greatly miss your beautiful singing, instrument playing, poems and smiling faces that usually greet me so warmly. However, we must do our part to remain safe and keep all those around us safe.

My heart is full of gladness at all of the wonderful things you have done and continue to do to help others. Adjusting to school, church services, meetings and our convention, remotely in many cases, has not been easy. But you have done it! Your dedication to community outreach by organizing food drives and sending gifts to those who are unable to leave the house is inspiring. By doing these things in a consistent and quiet basis, without asking for anything in return, is remarkable and truly in the spirit of St. Nicholas. You are all shining lights of Christ's love! Keep these good deeds going as you continue to bring joy to so many who need it. Most importantly, keep up your daily prayers and actions that help us to be safe. Wear your masks, stay socially distant, wash your hands (again and again!), and listen to your parents and teachers as they guide you each day.

Every one of you makes a difference in the life of those around you, and the many examples of kindness you display are outstanding. You motivate me and help me encourage others to think and act as all of you do. I am blessed to have you as my friends and pray for you each day.

In Christ,

St. Nicholas