



March 15, 2021

Dear Presentation Community,

Exactly one year ago, we closed campus for our first day of remote learning. Today, we are thrilled to welcome back a small group of students for in-person instruction. Campus has not been the same without our students, faculty, and staff. Our students have demonstrated incredible resilience and hope in the midst of so much uncertainty and we thank you for your partnership as they've stayed home to attend school remotely. And, we are indebted to our faculty and staff for their flexibility, dedication, and professionalism as they've worked tirelessly to maintain the Presentation experience over the past year. Join us praying for the continued improvement of our community's health and for the safe reopening of our campus.

This week is especially celebratory as it is Diversity Week (Monday, March 15-Friday, March 19) at Presentation. Through this week's student programming, we affirm our commitment to working for others by demonstrating respect for human diversity and acknowledging the inherent dignity in each human being. As the U.S. Bishops share in *Open Wide Our Hearts*, "We need to continue to educate ourselves and our people about the great cultural diversity within our Church." This week is not only critical because of our Presentation mission and our call as a Catholic community, but also because racially motivated hate crimes still persist in our world today. These acts of violence including the recent attacks on members of the Asian American community, which began at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, are horrific and cannot be tolerated. As a Presentation community, [we are firmly committed to diversity, equity and inclusion](#), working for justice, denouncing hate, and promoting reconciliation in the midst of racism and divide.

As Catholics, we acknowledge that we are each made in the image and likeness of God. During Diversity Week, we commit to educating one another about various topics of diversity, equity, and inclusion, building relationships with one another amidst similarities and differences, engaging in self-reflection and critical discussions with others, and celebrating the beauty of diversity and the importance of valuing the uniqueness that each Pres person brings to our community.



Students are invited to participate in the following activities:

- **Multicultural Rally:** A student-led Rally that includes poetry reading, dances, song, and reflection. This is the only mandatory event for students this week.
- **Workshops:** Highlighting various topics like Ableism, Minorities in STEM, and the Asian American Experience.
- **Noche de Mariscos:** A cultural celebration led by our *Familias Unidas* parent community on Wed, March 17 (YouTube Link to follow).
- **BSU Brown Bag Lunch Discussion:** A Black Student Union (BSU)-led discussion open to all (Zoom link to follow).

While this week's programs are student-centered, all voices in our community are critical to this important work. Parents, if you have not already, please take the time to fill out the [Assessment of Inclusivity and Multiculturalism \(AIM\)](#) which will inform our future DEI plans. The survey is open until 11:59 p.m. tonight.

Thank you for your partnership,

Katherine Georgiev,
Principal

Crystal Catalan,
Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion