Dear Carrollton Community,

Traditionally, the month of May has been celebrated as a month of hope realized. New beginnings are visible everywhere. Flowers bloom, tadpoles populate ponds, and young peacock chicks venture out of nests to follow their mothers around campus. At Carrollton, in celebrating endings, we celebrate new beginnings. As educators, we see the completion of the school year as a commencement, a new beginning in fulfillment of our mission to educate our students to be their best for the world.

This past Friday, May 1, the Primary School celebrated its May Crowning. May is dedicated to Mary, Mother of God. The lily of the valley, May’s flower, appropriately embodies sweetness, motherhood and hope. You can find a link to our celebration here. Accordingly, in May, we celebrate Mother’s Day, motherhood being the ultimate act of realized hope for the future. It is fitting that we also celebrate the feast day of St. Madeleine Sophie Barat this month. We are the stewards of St. Madeleine Sophie’s legacy of character and faith, which has shown that in instilling compassion, courage, confidence and critical thinking in young women, they will in turn be effective agents of hope in the world. As a mother prepares her children for a balanced, thriving adulthood, St. Madeleine Sophie taught us to prepare our students for life.

Also this past Friday, the Upper School celebrated the class of 2020 with a caravan through our campus. While marking the conclusion of their academic journey at Carrollton, the Caritas Caravan was not a “good-bye,” rather more of an “hasta luego;” cheering our seniors on to their new beginnings as university students, while looking forward to meeting again. True to our mission, our senior class dropped off enough food supplies during the caravan to fill an entire classroom. These gifts will go to our community partners to share with those in need. In addition to thanking all who have given so generously to the many agencies and organizations supporting those in need in the greater Miami community, I write to thank all who have so graciously made donations to our COVID19 Emergency Relief Fund designated to assist families within our school community.

For many during this pandemic, the only certainty seems to be uncertainty. Fortunately, our faith directs us not only to see and express hope for the future but also to share that hope with others. Today is Good Shepherd Sunday. We are reminded to emulate Jesus as we tend to our flock, be it family, classmates, friends, neighbors, co-workers, or any with whom we interact.

Especially, please hold in your heart and prayers those who are suffering pain and loss at this time. We are a community of One Heart in Jesus that will face these challenges together with hope for our school family and gratitude for the support we can lend each other.

Yours in faith,

Olen