

**Seton's Big Brother and Big Sister Program:
An Opportunity to Bond with your Little during the Corona Virus**

"I wish it need not have happened in my time," said Frodo.

"So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."

— J.R.R. Tolkien, The Lord of the Rings

You've heard it said a million times we are living during a time no one ever could have predicted, with thousands of people dying daily from this terrible virus. Where there is great evil there's great grace. Today is the anniversary of JP II's death. A great hero and saint who has taught us the meaning of God that can be found within the human person. Bigs have a great opportunity to reflect the love of God and mirror the heart of Christ by reaching out to their Little, providing comfort and reassurance or simply by just listening during this provocative pandemic. As hard as it is for a senior to contend with current events, one can only image how a preteen is impacted by the heavy weighted news spewing from every form of media 24/7. Just weeks ago, Littles were leading ordinary lives, and now all of us are being called to address this pandemic and this new life of social isolation. Right now, they are probably feeling uncertain, worrying about what lies ahead. They, like yourselves will face challenges — boredom, fear, loneliness. Sometimes they will be brave and resilient. Other times they won't, but that's okay.

Seniors you can have a huge impact on these young people, how they embrace this storm and adventure by inspiring confidence and hope. I am asking you to reach out and make contact with one's Little in the next few weeks. What a great Easter gift with such little effort. Simple is the best strategy. I've enclosed the list of Bigs and Littles, some of them may have been changed. If you have any questions concerning who your Little is contact me.

Why should I contact my Little: Put yourself in their shoes. Seventh graders have always looked up to the Seniors. The mere fact that you reached out will make a young person feel as if someone is thinking about them, someone cares, it gives him or her bragging rights when they speak to their peers. Our Lord's generosity won't be outdone by yours. You will reap the fruits of this endeavor, its guaranteed!



How do I contact my Little: Use the school's directory? If you don't have one call a peer and ask them for your Little's address and phone number. I know you're going to hate this but truly the best way to contact your Little or several Littles is to pick up your phone and call. Awkward maybe for what 10 seconds, afterwards the reward, I promise you, will far outweigh any uneasiness. Hey you can get together as a group and do a group skype or zoom. However, one on one is amazing too. You can obviously send an email to his or her parents and it can be passed on. Or what about writing a letter, that's a novel ideal. Who doesn't love getting mail?

When do I contact my Little: Easter break maybe? Really, a quick phone call simply stating that you're checking in, inquiring about how he or she's doing, asking what do they miss the most about not being at Seton and what don't they miss, what sorts of things are they doing in their free time and how's on line schooling going are just a few things that can start up a conversation.