



## Religious Formation Department

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Dear Religious Education Families,

While we are preparing to begin a new year of learning about our faith, let us remember the successful year we completed just a few short months ago. By working together, we were able to not only keep our students, families, and staff safe with minimal disruption to the learning process, we were able to stay in community. Let us begin this year in the same spirit.

Under the guidance of the CDC, AOD, MDHHS and AAP recommendations, we will be maintaining universal indoor masking for all catechists, staff, students, and visitors to our building, regardless of vaccination status. Please see the following links:

CDC/Center for Disease Control: [CDC: Guidance on cloth face](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html)

[coverings https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html)

AOD/Archdiocese of Detroit: [PreK-12 Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year for Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Detroit - Detroit Catholic Schools](#)

MDHHS/Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services: [MDHHS - MDHHS updates school guidance and strongly recommends universal masking to prevent the spread of COVID-19 \(michigan.gov\)](#)

American Academy of Pediatrics: [AAP urges in-person learning, masking in updated guidance on safe schools | American Academy of Pediatrics \(aappublications.org\)](#)

As stated in the MDHHS website, "It is safer to wear a mask in high-risk settings where many unvaccinated individuals are present, to protect vulnerable populations, or when community transmission is substantial or high." Doing so protects our unvaccinated students and will lessen the possibility of a quarantine where students and families would be faced with disruptions to the learning process. As last year proved, following safety protocols such as those listed below, allowed our Sacrament students in Grades 2, 7, and 8 to maintain in person learning safely.

St. Edith Parish will continue to monitor the situation and may need to change protocols when necessary.

### PROTOCOLS TO BE FOLLOWED:

- All catechists, staff, students, and visitors to our building will wear a mask.
- Students will have assigned seating in each classroom at distances of at least 3 feet.
- Sanitizing stations and hand sanitizer are available. Bathrooms are equipped with touchless faucets. To minimize movement outside of the classrooms we ask that all children bring in their own marked water bottle and to please use the restroom at home to limit the number of bathroom trips during our 60-minute sessions.
- All students will receive their own bag of supplies to use in class. This includes a textbook, pencils, crayons. Second graders will be taking these home weekly to complete a family page. We ask that

these students bring their 'bookbag' to class every week. Remaining students 'bookbags' will remain in the building.

- Our school building's high-touch surfaces are cleaned and disinfected twice daily.
- A fresh air system is in place for optimum ventilation system. Air conditioning filters are replaced every 3 months. Individual air purifying systems are in each classroom. Open doors, windows, and ceiling fans assist in increased air movement.
- We ask all parents to complete their own daily health screening. Please refer to the CDC website for guidance: [CDC: Guidance on cloth face coverings https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html)
- Anyone who is sick, displaying symptoms of infectious illness, or has been exposed to COVID-19 should not attend class and should seek medical care when necessary. Please notify the Religious Education Office at 734-464-2020 of the reason for your absence.

Please know that we will work to do our best for the health and safety of our students and families. May we be patient, understanding, and kind role models to those around us. I ask that we keep one another in prayer as the Community which is St. Edith.

God bless,

Linda Kramer