

Dear Families,

As you are aware, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently issued interim guidance to plan and respond to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and our school administration are closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with county, state, and national resources. We will continue to take steps to keep our children safe and prevent the spread of illnesses across our campus, some of which include:

- Asking that children and employees who have symptoms of respiratory illness stay home and not come to school until they are free of fever (100.4° F [37.8° C], signs of a fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever reducing medicine (i.e. Tylenol, Motrin)
- Modifying End of the Year Attendance Awards so they are only calculated from August 14, 2019 through March 1, 2020.
- Planning for increased absenteeism and alternatives for making up missed work.
- Scheduling regular times throughout the day for children to clean their hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer or wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Reminding students about how to [stop the spread of germs!](#)
- Daily cleaning of all frequently touched surfaces in the school, such as desks, computers, and doorknobs and providing disposable wipes so that commonly used surfaces can be wiped down before each use.
- Teachers using commercial grade disinfectants on lunchroom tables and surfaces after each lunch rotation.
- Purchasing an electrostatic disinfecting system for regular use by janitorial staff to use in addition to daily disinfecting.
- Cautioning staff and families regarding travel plans: please follow CDC safety guidelines and be aware of [CDC travel notices](#) Important Reminder: If traveling to any countries with Level 3 Travel Health Notices, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance calls for staying home for 14 days from the time you left an area with widespread, ongoing community spread (Level 3 Travel Health Notice countries) and practice social distancing.

This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation; our community is prepared to alter our procedures and planning should the situation change. We are discussing strategies like virtual schooling and thinking ahead regarding the impact of spring travel, school trips, and other non-typical school activities. We will communicate any changes when the time is appropriate using RenWeb alerts and email.

It is important to remember that handling the spread of a serious contagion like the coronavirus is primarily a task for public health agencies. We encourage you to learn more about preventing illness by visiting the [Centers for Disease Control website- COVID-19](#) and following the Cardinal's [precautionary measures for the Mass](#).

In times like these, we are particularly grateful for the strength of this community and we join in solidarity and prayer for those impacted or working to treat those infected by the disease.

Please continue to look for further communications from us on this matter.

Blessings for good health and wellbeing!

Other links:

[Coronavirus Fact Sheet](#)

[Latest Coronavirus Updates](#)

[TEA Guidance on Spring Break Travel](#)

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