

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT RELATED TO
COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR MINISTRY OUTSIDE OF MASS AND OTHER LITURGIES**

_____ Catholic Church (the Parish), has established protocols intended to reduce the potential for exposure to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on campus during in-person ministry. These protocols are attached to this form and may be updated from time to time. They are intended for ministry outside of the celebration of Mass and other liturgies, which have their own protocols previously sent to parishes and remaining in effect.

Even with these protocols in place, the Parish cannot guarantee that parishioners, employees, or visitors will avoid contraction of COVID-19. Participation in a Parish activity, program, or event (“Activities”) may increase the risk of contraction of COVID-19 and related illnesses. The Parish asks you to acknowledge the following to help ensure that these protocols are followed and that all will work to mitigate the risks.

- A. I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and that children, youth, adults, employees, and visitors may be exposed to or contract COVID-19 by attending, volunteering, visiting, or working at the Parish, or by attending or participating in Parish Activities. I am aware that exposure or contraction of COVID-19 may result in serious illness or personal injury. I recognize the risks related to COVID-19 and that my own actions or omissions may contribute to the risks or assist in mitigating the risks of COVID-19.
- B. I will abide by and follow the Parish’s protocols related to COVID-19 for myself and for any person for whom I am responsible.**
- C. I understand that the Parish intends to enforce its COVID-19 protocols and may amend its protocols from time to time as it finds necessary and appropriate.
- D. I am informed that circumstances may require the Parish cancel or modify Parish Activities in order to mitigate the risks of COVID-19.
- E. To the extent permitted by law, I release and agree to hold harmless and indemnify the Parish and the Catholic Diocese of Austin, as well as their employees and representatives, from any claim or injury stemming from or related to my or my children’s attendance, visitation, volunteering, or working at the Parish or any Parish Activity related exposure to COVID-19.

Parishioner/Parent/Guardian Signature

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Parishioners/Parent/Guardian Signature

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

COVID Protocols
St. Vincent de Paul Faith Formation
Elementary, Middle School and High School
2021-2022 School Year

Important Note: The following COVID Protocols apply to the St. Vincent de Paul elementary (K-5), middle school (6-8), and high school (9-12) faith formation programs.

Daily Screening for COVID-19 Symptoms

The best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is for all community members to stay home when they are experiencing symptoms that indicate an infectious illness. The purpose of the daily COVID-19 screening is to prevent students, faculty, staff, and families from coming to campus if they have symptoms related to any infectious illness, including COVID-19.

- Temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher (CDC states 100.4)
- Sore throat cough (for students with chronic cough due to allergies or asthma, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Difficulty breathing (for students with asthma, a change from their baseline breathing)
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New loss of taste or smell
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

All individuals should screen themselves and/or their children daily for COVID-19 symptoms and not attend Faith Formation if exhibiting symptoms.

An individual in a quarantine period following a close contact* with an individual who has tested positive should also stay home.

St. Vincent de Paul will provide information related to COVID symptoms to parents, catechists, aides, and anyone entering the Holy Family Catholic School Hope building for our elementary or middle school (K-8) programs or the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Activity Center (PAC) for our high school (9-12) program.

For all adults and children entering the Holy Family Catholic School Hope building for our elementary or middle school (K-8) programs or the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Activity Center (PAC) for our high school (9-12) program, ~~must wear a mask~~, masks are recommended (Updated 09/30/21).

*Close contact is defined by the CDC as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. An infected person can spread SARS-CoV-2 starting from 2 days before they have any symptoms, until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation. In the K-12 classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet on an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.

Personal Hygiene and Procedures

Each parent should teach the following

- Proper handwashing skills to students that include 20 seconds of washing hands with soap and running water.
- How to dispose of dirty facial tissues properly and then wash hands or sanitize hands.
- How to cough/sneeze into their elbow and then wash hands or sanitize hands.
- How to remain socially distanced.
- Proper cleaning procedures.
- How to wear, take off, and put on a mask.

Classroom procedures

~~• Wear a mask.~~

- Students will be socially distanced from other students in the classroom. Students will sit a minimum of 3 feet apart.
- Catechists will utilize activities that allow students to engage in the learning goal while maintaining distance when possible.
- Desk, doorknobs, and other communal areas will be cleaned daily and before a new student uses it.
- Students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon entering the classroom.
- To increase air exchange, the HVAC will be set so that air is coming from outside the building.
- When appropriate, the catechists can go outside for instruction (weather permitting).
- Students will face the same direction for learning or plexiglass will be used.

Hallway procedures

- Students walking the hallways will maintain 3 feet distance.
- Water fountains are not available.
- No more than 2 students in the restroom at a time.

Temporary Online learning due to the Need to Quarantine or Isolate

- If a student needs to remain home during a period of isolation or quarantine, the student will have the ability to continue faith formation at home. An online catechist will work directly with the parents of the student to provide direction. The student will then complete an online assessment, which will count for their attendance, after completing the course work with the parent's help.