



ST. ANTHONY  
—DE PADUA—  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*St Anthony de Padua Catholic School develops life-long learners  
who live their faith through stewardship and are committed to  
Catholic virtues and academic excellence.*

September 22, 2020

Dear St. Anthony Families,

As we continually review our practices and protocols, I would like to share some updates and information. Again, our goal is to minimize the threat of transmission of the virus among our students, faculty, and staff while we engage in a transformative Catholic educational experience. We respect parental choice in making an informed decision that is best for your child and family. Additionally, for scenarios outlined below, we need to continue to be ready to transition to remote learning. Thank you for your continued partnership and support. I would also like to thank our faculty and staff who are working together and with incredible dedication to continue student learning and growth. The students are also doing a great job with mask wearing and personal and hand washing. At this time, we will continue to offer in person and virtual options.

We believe we are many parts, but all one Body. (1Cor 12:20). I would like to be as transparent as possible, while still respecting privacy. Fr. Ben, myself, and all the faculty and staff regard the health and safety of all of our students and their families with the utmost importance. I offer the following situations for your consideration and to ponder some “back up” plans, as we have had some parent questions.

You will be notified if we have reason to believe your child has been in close contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes total) with an individual who has tested positive. Should you receive this notification, you and all household members, your child, and any siblings will need to be quarantined at home for 14 days from last contact and until 24 hours symptom free without over the counter meds. If your student tests positive, they will need to isolate at home for 10 days from onset of symptoms and be symptom free for 24 hours without the use of over the counter meds. Attached is a [quick reference guide](#) that provides additional guidance.

If we were to have a positive COVID case, it may be necessary for an entire class to quarantine for a period of time. There is no hard line for when we would close the school, however, should numbers approach 20%, we will work with the local health department and Catholic School Office to determine our best next course of action. One last possibility is if we do not have enough faculty and staff to operate the school. Substitutes are very limited. Again, I only share these possibilities for your consideration and planning.

We believe humility is the root of all virtues. We will continue to follow the best practices of what is known to limit the transmission of the virus. We will continue to keep students, faculty, and staff as safe as possible by limiting close contact by maintaining seating charts and cohort groups. We



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will continue to wear masks when we are inside (unless eating) and when social distancing cannot be maintained. We are well stocked with disinfecting spray, disinfecting cleaner, hand sanitizer, and paper towels. High touch surfaces are being disinfected and cleaned frequently.

Some classrooms have more students than others. Kindergarten, first grade, and fourth grade are some of our larger groups. We have obtained shields with a clear front to provide an additional barrier when students are in more close quarters.

Students take turns using different areas of the campus for recess. One class each day plays on the equipment, which is sprayed with disinfectant once a day on school days. The children do take masks off outdoors when they are active. We ask them to wear them if they are doing a more relaxed activity, such as sidewalk chalk, and are closer to their classmates.

We believe we are always learning. As new recommendations are made or we adjust procedures and routines, we will communicate these to you in our weekly communications. Teachers continue to refine their approach as they work to serve both in person and virtual learners. Additionally, as we settle into our new realities, we will try new things. A few teachers are experimenting with live Zooming. We are working on getting an application called “Clever” set up to assist in having all school log-ins in one place. We hope to have this ready to go for quarter 2.

The following are some key points to remember regarding our in-person instruction and virtual learning for those who choose to stay home for health reasons related to COVID.

### **In-Person Instruction Details**

#### **Health Checks**

- Parents will commit to at home self-screening for temperature and symptoms of COVID 19. [See attached Parent Screening flyer.](#) Student and faculty temperatures are screened in the mornings and afternoons.

#### **Arrival**

- We will have an extended arrival window, 7:35 - 8:00 with staff to assist in sanitizing hands and ensuring students and adults have a mask to enter.
- Visitors will not come into the building. Staff will collect necessary items at the door and bring students to the main entry when parents come to check students out.

#### **Dismissal**

- Students will be dismissed from homerooms to meet with family members and head out to their car.



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- We will dismiss all students from the “school side”. Walkers will be released just before 2:50. All students should be picked up by 3:10.
- We could use an additional person or two to assist with the Car Line and/or Crosswalk. If you are interested please contact Mrs. Bogol. A huge thank you to Mr. Turba for helping us out!

### **Cohort Groups**

- The goal is to keep the children in each homeroom clustered together in cohorts and not in close contact with students in the other homerooms.
- Students will eat lunch in their classroom. Ordered hot lunches will be boxed.
- In most cases, cohorts will stay in their homeroom classroom. Junior High will rotate in such a way to allow for distancing and disinfecting.
- Staff will promote, reinforce, and monitor for healthy hygiene practices.
- Academic schedules will be adjusted to allow for increased hygiene and transitions with appropriate social distancing.
- A limited number of cohorts will attend Mass at a time. K-2 on Mondays, 3-5 on Wednesdays, and 6-8 on Fridays.
- Recess will be offered by cohort and in different locations. Cohorts will take turns utilizing the playground and outside areas. Playground toys will be issued by cohort with disinfecting of hands before and after play.
- One cohort a day will use playground equipment and it is being sanitized once a day.

### **Specials Classes**

- Music class will be held in the classrooms with no singing. Band remains on hold for now.
- Art will be held in the homeroom classroom using student school supplies, no shared supplies at this time. Mrs. Garvey is teaching from home with Mrs. Tomczak delivering the instruction for her.
- Instead of organized PE, students will be provided with supervised recreation time on our school grounds.
- Computer Science and Library will be taught in the classrooms or in the library/computer lab with cleaning between groups.

### **Virtual Learning Option Details**

- As we partner, we appreciate your continued understanding and cooperation in supporting students learning from home.
- Learning boards will be posted by 9 am each day the school is open. The goal is to mirror what is being done in the classroom as much as possible.



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- Students will need to show evidence of work each school day between 9:00 and 2:00.-
- Attendance will need to be recorded daily and students will need to check in throughout the day. It is important students adhere to assignment due dates unless there is an illness.
- Teachers will provide weekly feedback in a narrative form for PK-2, in PowerSchool and on assignments in 3-8.
- Teachers will have “office hours” on certain days and times to video chat with students at home.
- At times, students may need to come to the building for key assessments - primarily in the junior high. We will provide appropriate social distancing.
- We do plan to offer opportunities for students to use Zoom to interact with their homeroom at times. Scheduling considerations have made this more difficult, but we will continue to work on these opportunities.
- There will be opportunities to pick up/drop off supplies.
- Books and materials will be made available for pick up to be used at home.
- Devices are not yet available to lend out as they will be needed in the classrooms. We do have some on order, but delivery time is uncertain.
- Tuition agreements, policies, and practices will remain in effect and binding during any virtual learning period.

We believe God is in all things. While some things may look different, we know many things will remain the same. Our faculty and staff are so excited to see the students - both in person and remotely. They are being creative and continue to learn as they embrace these challenges with grace and humility. Your children will be provided with a focused education from a Catholic perspective - rooted in virtues and focused on God's love for us.

We appreciate your commitment to providing a transformative Catholic education for your child.

Most Sincerely,

Mrs. Karen Bogol,  
Principal