



August 12, 2020

Dear Our Lady of Lourdes School Families:

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and healthy. On Friday, August 7, Governor Cuomo gave schools the green light to re-open based on available data. As of Monday, August 10th, 0.78 percent of the New York State COVID-19 tests were positive; the lowest one-day percentage reported positive since the pandemic began. What this means is that regional infection rate benchmarks are achieved, and school districts may consider opening. New York City Archdiocesan Catholic schools will now move forward with the opening-of-school plans. Attached you will find the plan for Our Lady of Lourdes School.

Teachers return to school and participate in professional development training on September 1st and 2nd. Students return to school on Wednesday, September 9th.

With the decision to re-open comes an increased partnership between school employees and families. Each decision we make is a decision that impacts our community and keeps our students safe. We must increase our communication. I make a commitment to you to maintain consistent communication as the year resumes and progresses. I ask that each of you make conscientious choices at home and with your families around health and social responsibility.

In an effort to increase communication and address concerns, OLL will host virtual information sessions in English and Spanish the week of August 17th. I ask that you submit questions to be answered by Friday, August 14th to Ms. DeCarbo at vdecarbo@ollnyc.org. Please submit in English or Spanish. We will hold video conferences and you will receive an email invitation to attend.

During the week of August 17, you will have the opportunity to join a Zoom meeting with other parents to discuss the opening of school and to ask further questions.

I recognize that this is a stressful time filled with the anxiety of making the right decisions for your family and we are here to support you. Please feel free to call me at school at any time. As a Catholic school, let us remember that faith remains at the center of our lives and we place our trust in God, knowing that He is holding us in His love. As a community, we draw strength from each other as we face the future together with hope and optimism.

Respectfully,
Suzanne Kaszynski
Principal