

## Resources Related to COVID-19 Coronavirus

This is a gathering of links, infographics, PDFs and other information about the Coronavirus outbreak. These resources are to be enlisted, along with your school's Crisis Plan, in preparing for and mitigating any circumstances that may arise. The Office of Catholic Schools will continue to update this document and post on the [Administrators' bulletin board of our website](#), as this situation is very fluid.

Links:

[CDC's Interim Guidance for Administration of US Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools to Plan, Prepare and Respond to Coronavirus Disease](#)

[CDC's You Tube Channel](#)

[Ohio Dept. of Health's COVID-19 Resources for the Public](#)

[The City of Columbus Coronavirus 2019 Outbreak](#)

[World Health Organization's Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) Outbreak](#)

[Scholastic Classroom Magazine's Coronavirus Info](#)

[Sanjay Gupta MD Coronavirus Podcasts](#)

### CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

There are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ohio. Please continue to protect yourself from all infectious diseases by using these precautions.

#### PREVENTION

For additional information visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).



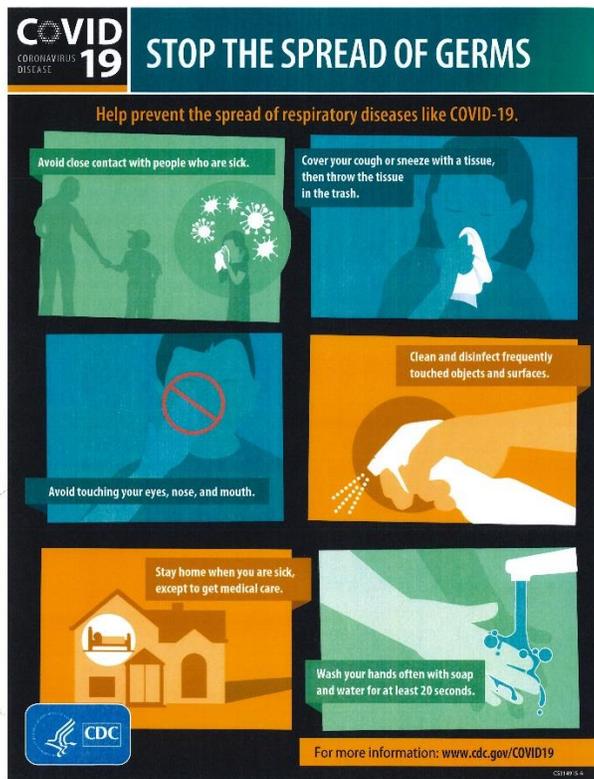
#### CLEAN ALL "HIGH-TOUCH" SURFACES EVERY DAY

High touch surfaces include counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, and bedside tables. Also, clean any surfaces that may have blood, stool, or body fluids on them. Use a household cleaning spray or wipe according to the label instructions. Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

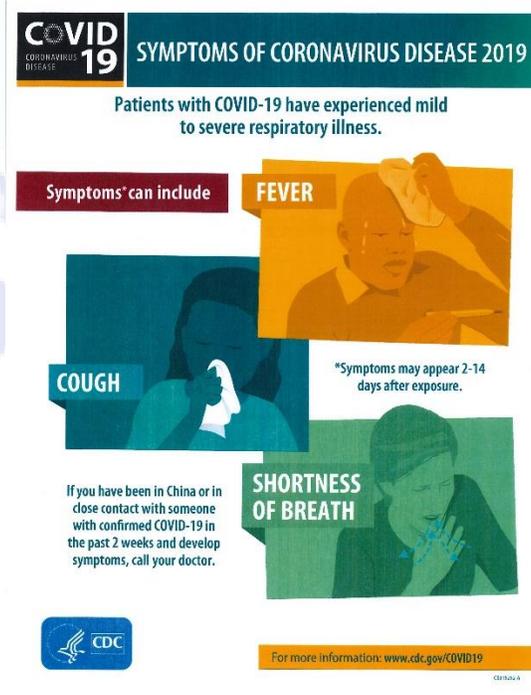
03-04-2020

Additional information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>

Clicking on the graphic above will link you to the PDF version.



Clicking on the graphic above will link you to the PDF version.



Clicking on the graphic above will link you to the PDF version.

### From the Ohio Department of Health (3.3.20)

Below are talking points with updates on information about the 2019 novel coronavirus. Please use these when talking with students, parents and/or guardians, faculty, and staff.

- The 2019 novel coronavirus is a new virus strain that started in Wuhan, China in December 2019. Health experts continue to learn more about novel coronavirus because little is known about its potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people.
- Currently the risk to the general public is low. At this time, there are a small number of individual cases in the United States. To minimize the risk of spread, health officials are working with health care providers to promptly identify and evaluate any possible cases.
- People who have been diagnosed with 2019 novel coronavirus have reported symptoms including fever, cough, and difficulty breathing that may appear in as few as two days or as many as 14 days after exposure to the virus. (Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-novel-coronavirus/faq.html>). Remember, at this point you are more likely to catch the flu or a common cold, which show some of the same symptoms.
- Health experts are still learning the details about how 2019 novel coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:
  - The air by coughing and sneezing.
  - Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands.
  - Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or
  - In rare cases, contact with feces.
- ODH advises that persons follow the usual recommendations for reducing their risk of infection for other illnesses, such as influenza. These recommendations include:
  - Wash your hands for 20 seconds or more with soapy water. If unavailable, use hand sanitizer.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Avoid contact with people who are sick.
  - Stay home while you are sick (except to visit a health care professional) and to avoid contact with others.
  - Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
  - Get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals to ensure a healthy immune system.
- Students may be asked about their travel history (especially to China) if they present with respiratory symptoms and about any ill contacts within 14 days of symptom onset. If any students traveled to Wuhan or another outbreak area, parents and/or guardians will be advised to seek medical care for the student if they feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing. Read more about [2019 novel coronavirus symptoms](#).
- We will be in contact with the local health department immediately if we feel we may have a patient with 2019 novel coronavirus. Local and state public health staff will determine if the patient meets the criteria for a PUI for 2019 novel coronavirus.
- Cleaning and disinfection of surfaces will continue throughout the school per the standard procedures for infection prevention.
- Anyone traveling overseas (to China, but also to other places) should follow the CDC's Traveler's Health guidance [here](#). As of January 30, 2020, the CDC has issued a [Warning Level 4 Travel Advisory](#) for China. This means do not travel to China. The situation is evolving, so please check the CDC [Traveler's Health](#) page for the most up-to-date information.
- Visit [www.odh.ohio.gov/coronavirus](http://www.odh.ohio.gov/coronavirus) and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-novel-coronavirus/summary.html> for more information.

---

Schools

THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS



Department  
of Health

Mike DeWine, Governor  
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Amy Acton, MD, MPH, Director

COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019)  
February 27, 2020

#### Current Situation

There are no confirmed cases COVID-19 in Ohio.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to consider the health risk from COVID-19 to be low among the general public in the U.S.

As of February 24, 2020, the CDC reports 14 cases of COVID-19 detected and laboratory-confirmed in the U.S., with 12 related to travel and two from person-to-person spread.

#### General Information and Precautions

Currently, you are only at risk if you (1) are displaying symptoms; and (2) have traveled to China in the 14 days before feeling sick or have been in contact with someone who has confirmed COVID-19. By and large, travel history is key.

ODH recommends precautions used for reducing the risk of infection for other illnesses, such as flu. Actively encourage staff to follow these precautions:

- Frequently wash your hands for 20 seconds or more with soapy water. If unavailable, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick (except to visit a health care professional) and avoid contact with others. Employees who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are recommended to stay home and not come to work until they are free of fever (100.4° F [37.8° C] or greater using an oral thermometer), signs of a fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g. cough suppressants). Employees should notify their supervisor and stay home if they are sick.
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.

Staying informed about COVID-19 through the CDC, the Ohio Department of Health and your local health departments.

Sharing prepared CDC fact sheets/posters with families and staff. These can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/factsheets.html>

Sharing the CDC travel fact sheet with families and staff who recently traveled back to the U.S. from China. It can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/communication-resources.html>.



Clicking on the graphic above will link you to the PDF version.

Catholic  
Schools  
THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

## From Columbus Public Health & Franklin County Public Health (2.3.20)



**Public Health Message**  
From Columbus Public Health & Franklin County Public Health

Dear Public Health Partner:

Columbus Public Health and Franklin County Public Health are closely monitoring an outbreak of [respiratory illness caused by a new coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\)](#) that developed in Wuhan, Hubei, China in December 2019. Human-to-human transmission of the coronavirus has been verified, but is limited in the United States. As a part of the response to this situation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided [quarantine guidance](#) for people recently returning from China:

**As of February 2, 2020 at 5 p.m. ET, there will be a mandatory 14-day quarantine of individuals returning from Hubei Province, China, taking place at the port of entry to the United States.**

**Those who travel from all other areas of China will be required to self-quarantine and self-monitor for fever and respiratory illness for 14 days after departure from China.** Public health will be in contact with travelers from China upon notification from the Ohio Department of Health.

**Travelers from anywhere in China, including Hubei Province, who arrived in Columbus and Franklin County prior to February 2, 2020 at 5 p.m. ET, are advised to self-monitor for fever and respiratory illness.** If symptoms develop within 14 days of leaving China, they should avoid contact with others, and call their health care provider to tell them about their symptoms and recent travel. Health care providers should then immediately notify the Infectious Disease Reporting System (IDRS) at 614-525-8888.

As of February 3, 2020, there are 11 confirmed cases of coronavirus in the United States; 260 persons under investigation have been identified in 36 states. There are currently no persons under investigation and zero confirmed cases in Ohio.

Public health is using the criteria in the table below to identify persons under investigation:

Clinical Features		Epidemiologic Risk
Fever or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath)	AND	Any person, including health care workers, who has had close contact with a laboratory-confirmed 2019-

Clicking on the graphic above will link you to the PDF version.

### Bishop Brennan's Letter to Clergy (2.29.20)

Dear Father,

In the midst of the influenza season and with growing concerns regarding the potential spread of the coronavirus/COVID-19, I realize that you are on the proverbial front lines meeting people with their needs and concerns. I appreciate that and I want to support you as best I can. It seems to me that parishes, schools and institutions in the Diocese of Columbus exercise good judgement and hygienic practices in our gatherings and in our liturgical practice. Our diocesan offices are working with various health officials to stay abreast of the Coronavirus, and for that matter, any public health issue. At present, the message from our public health agencies is to be cautious and aware. If notified by State or County health authorities that further precautions are necessary, I will share that information with you and our offices will work with all concerned in order to take appropriate concerns.

In regard to our liturgical practice, we exercise the same prudence and charity taken during any influenza season:

- assuring our parishioners that when they are ill or even experiencing symptoms of illness, that they are not obliged to attend Mass, and, in fact, in a spirit of charity should not attend Mass or other functions.;
- taking proper measures to practice good hygiene ourselves and asking all ministers of Holy Communion (ordinary and extraordinary);
- asking all to exercise good judgment regarding coughing, sneezing, the shaking of hands, and keeping surfaces clean.

The decision to offer the Precious Blood from the chalice has always been a local decision at the discretion of the pastor. There is no need for a diocesan directive at this moment but you may choose to suspend or limit (i.e. consecrate less wine and/or use fewer chalices) the practice in your parish based on the number of people who choose to approach the chalice, the availability of ordinary and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and the needs of the parish. Likewise, while the customary sign for the Greeting of Peace is a handshake, it is not the only expression. Individuals may choose simply to turn to those around them saying, “peace be with you.”

I intend to write a broader letter to the faithful but I wanted to take this chance to reach out directly to you. We will also make information available on the website and in the Catholic Times. In the meantime, we pray for those who are suffering directly with this illness and those affected in various ways. We also pray for those charged with the public health and all caregivers. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has provided sample petitions for the Universal Prayer. I offer them below as a possible resource:

- For those who are suffering in the current outbreak of sickness that they might be healed, and for the happy repose of all who have died from this sickness in recent weeks; let us pray to the Lord.
- For scientists, health professionals, public officials, and all who are serving the common good in this difficult and uncertain time, that they will be filled with wisdom and understanding; let us pray to the Lord.
- That in times of illness our merciful and loving Father will strengthen our faith and trust in his goodness and divine providence; let us pray to the Lord.
- That our compassionate Father would touch all affected by the current outbreak with healing and peace; let us pray to the Lord.

Brothers, my prayers as we begin this holy season of Lent. May we and our people experience the love of the Lord in deeper ways through our prayer fasting and almsgiving.

Faternally,  
+Bishop Brennan  
February 29, 2020

---

our  
Catholic  
Schools  
THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS