



2020-2021

Have the Courage to Be Happy
Pope Francis I – World Youth Day 2015

Good Sunday morning!

What a beautiful day that God has provided us today!

In the words of today's Gospel: Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." - Matthew 16:24. This is quite a sentence to consider - pray about how you can joyfully take up your cross at this time and how you are able to deepen your relationship with the Lord. **If you are not attending Mass in person as a family, there is live-stream Mass from Saint Charles Church at 10am beginning next Sunday.** Be sure to tune in with your family and pray with your community from your home.

Speaking of Mass, this past Friday students in grades 4-8 were able to attend Mass together for the first time since March. If your family has not returned to in-person Mass, **your child did on Friday and was able to receive the Eucharist!**

Now for some reminders -

Hot lunch begins tomorrow. All active passes from last year have been transferred to this year. If you are sending in cash - it **MUST** be in an envelope with your child's name on it and what is being requested - a 10 day pass, a 20 day pass, a milk pass, or just lunch/milk for one day. Mrs. Bennett in our cafeteria is doing as much as possible to avoid the exchange of cash. There is only one menu item for the beginning of the year. As of right now, there are no a la carte items. Plans are being developed as to how to do this safely going forward.

As of this time, we are not allowing parents into the cafeteria to eat lunch with the kids. We are doing our best to limit extra people in the buildings. We truly do not like keeping parents from visiting kids at lunch, but we are doing what is best and safe.

We are limiting visitors to the school. That includes parents bringing in items that your child forgets in the morning. Our recommendation would be for you to have a checklist by the door as you leave that you can refer to before getting in the car:

Bookbag with homework
Chromebook (junior high)
lunch or lunch money
water bottle
mask

We will make sure your child gets something to eat if lunch is forgotten. We have extra water bottles if they forget. We have disposable masks if those are forgotten.

The morning drop off procedures need your attention. It seems that we have been away from our procedures for so long that some have forgotten what to do.

You should dropping your children starting at 7:45am and until 8:00am. Dropping them even five minutes earlier is causing kids to have to wait outside in groups - which is what we were avoiding by allowing them to go right into school upon arrival. **Thanks for adjusting your schedule so that you are arriving no sooner than 7:45am.**

Some other important reminders:

1. **There is NO parking in the SMALL Wilber Ave. parking lot in the morning-** not even for kindergarten. That is for drive thru drop off only.
2. **If you are travelling FROM Ridge Road towards West 67th on Wilber,** pass the school until you reach the small Wilber Ave, parking lot and when you pull in, please pull up all the way so 4 cars can drop off at time. When exiting the parking lot, turn right towards West 67th St.
3. **If you are travelling FROM West 67th towards Ridge Road on Wilber,** pull into large parking lot and your child should exit the car and cross at the crossing guard. As you exit the parking lot, turn right towards Ridge Road.
4. **If you are parking and walking with your child across the street (AT THE CROSSING GUARD ONLY), park in the large parking lot - but not in the spaces along the tree-lined fence along Wilber.** We need the kids being dropped off to be able to see where to go for the crosswalk.
5. **Charles Ave. is planned as a drop off for the buses only.** If you choose to drop off on Charles, you could risk receiving a ticket from the police. We do not endorse Charles as a drop off for cars.
6. **There is no drop off along the street on Wilber Ave. Children are to exit cars only when in a parking lot.** If you are running late, then you are running late - do not put the lives of others in danger by being reckless.
7. **Everyone should cross at the crosswalk.** Kids see everything adults do and so when you decide just to run across the street anywhere instead of at the crosswalk, the kids will think what you are doing is the safest choice.

Thanks for reviewing the map that is attached and making the right plan for your child and for the safety of all of us. Drive slowly, be patient, and care for one another.

Thanks to Fr. Josh (our new parochial vicar) and Mr. Brian Pelcin for being around to brighten our mornings as your kids arrive. They may be helping with taking temps every once in a while too. What an awesome Saint Charles community we have!

To our synchronous learners - we are glad that you are joining us each day. We are also grateful for your patience as we work out some kinks to make sure we are doing the best we can. You have to remember that the teachers have never taught kids at home while teaching kids in person at the same time. It takes a bit of adjustment. Your kindness is appreciated.

I am attaching a September calendar.

You can see that we will soon welcome our youngest Wildcats in preschool the week of Labor Day.

Until we can be sure it is safe to hold our clubs and groups after school, we will have to wait.



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Drama club is able to start because only about 6-10 students meet while wearing masks and they are socially distanced when practicing lines.

Our school picture day is September 14. Our synchronous learners are invited to come to school between 8:15 and 8:40am to have their pictures taken that day. If that date does not work, our retake day is October 27. All the safety protocols will be in place. Of course masks will be removed for their picture!

If you are the parent of a kindergarten child or seventh grader who needs immunizations updated, attached is a flyer about some drive thru clinics the Cuyahoga County Board of Health are hosting right here in Parma. Call the number on the flyer for a recording of the details before you attend one of the clinics.

Thanks for reading this and know that an email will be sent home each week on Sundays.

We are so glad to have our Wildcat family back to school (in whatever way you are participating). Enjoy your Sunday!

Eileen M. Updegrove