

**Saint Francis de Sales
Parish School of Religion (P.S.R.)
COVID-19 Restart and Operating Plan**



August 7, 2020

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Mr. Michael Kletzly, Coordinator of Religious Education

During the Spring of 2020, St. Francis de Sales P.S.R. responded to the executive order to close schools by providing online catechetical-instruction links as promoted by our religion-textbook publisher. Facing the uncertain future of school operations in the 2020-2021 school year, the St. Francis de Sales P.S.R. program presents the following plan to continue religious instruction in the Catholic Faith for the 2020-2021 academic year.

This document is written following the guiding documents from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. It is available on our parish website at www.stfrancisdesales-lebanon.org

1. To **PROTECT** students, staff, and families within our parish community:

a. **Daily Health Assessment:** All families and staff are to implement a daily home health screening prior to arriving for P.S.R each Sunday. Any student or staff member with a temperature of 100.4 or higher are to stay home. Symptoms should also be checked daily (according to CDC guidelines, symptoms include: fever, chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, etc.; for more information, go to <https://www.cdc.gov/caoronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>). Also, any students or staff members who have received a positive result from a COVID-19 test, whether they are symptomatic or not, are to stay home.

b. **Protective measures taken during class:** *All students and staff are always required to wear facial masks while inside the building.* Masks must cover the nose and mouth, stay in place, be cleaned regularly and be in good condition. Plain masks are preferred, and masks bearing images and/or words must be consistent with the Catholic Faith.

Staff and students are to use the hand sanitizer provided near the door of each classroom as they enter it.

The classroom desks are placed so as to socially distance students as much as possible. Students are to remain seated in their assigned seats, facing forward, throughout the class period, getting up only if directed to do so by a staff member. Students are also to keep their hands out of the interior of the classroom desks.

Students are not to bring anything with them to class -- everything they need for class will be provided. Each student will only handle her/his own designated materials (no sharing).

c. **Protective measures taken after class:** Every classroom will be sanitized before and after each P.S.R. class period. Additionally, any staff or student who contracts or is presumed to have contracted

COVID -19 is asked to immediately contact Mike Kletzly in the parish office at 513/932-2601 to apprise him of the situation. St. Francis de Sales Parish will cooperate with official contact-tracing investigations by providing class-seating charts to local officials to facilitate the rapid identification of those at high risk for infection from the positive COVID-19 student or staff member.

- d. **Option to participate in P.S.R. from home:** Parents may opt to teach their child(ren) in religious education at home during these challenging times. Such parents will be provided with textbooks for home use. (Note: any family wishing to return to class at any point in the P.S.R. year is welcome to do so, contingent upon their following all P.S.R. virus-related measures.)
- e. **Return to Class:** Returning to P.S.R. following self-quarantine: staff or students with confirmed or presumed COVID-19 (and/or those living in the same household as someone with confirmed or presumed COVID-19) may return to class after they and all such household members meet the following criteria: Persons with confirmed COVID-19 may return after fever is resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication **and** respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath) improve **and** they have two simultaneous negative COVID-19 test results. Persons with presumed COVID-19 may return to class when at least 7 days have passed since symptom onset **and** 72 hours after fever resolves without the use of fever-reducing medication **and** respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath) improve.
- f. **St. Francis de Sales P.S.R. will operate within the health and safety guidelines** outlined by the Ohio Department of Health, the Warren County Board of Health, the Ohio Department of Education, and other community partners. St. Francis de Sales P.S.R. will operate responsibly by abiding and implementing mandates and procedures adopted by governing agencies as they apply.
- g. **St. Francis de Sales P.S.R. is prepared to operate** in a fluid and responsive manner for the needs of our community.