Dear Faith Development Families,

As most of you probably know, NC is under a State of Emergency due to COVID-19. In the spirit of keeping up with the CDC guidelines and wanting to keep all our faith development families safe, St. Thomas More will be suspending youth ministry and elementary faith development sessions at this time. Please note the following:

- Youth Ministry and Elementary groups will be cancelling all Sunday morning/evening faith formation sessions until Sunday, April 19.
- The Elementary Faith Development First Eucharist Retreats will NOT take place as scheduled this Saturday, March 14th.
- The High School Beach Retreat has been cancelled. Refunds will be sent out to participants unless otherwise noted.
- Youth Ministry’s Mass and Meal scheduled for March 29, along with any music rehearsals, has been cancelled.
- Keep washing your hands for 20 seconds and using hand sanitizers as much as possible. We want all our young people and their families to stay safe and well!

Before coming to any church event, we are asking all faith development families to self-screen themselves with the following questions:

1. Do you have a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, or other respiratory symptoms?
2. Have you had close contact with a person with known or suspected COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) in the last 14 days before symptoms began?
3. Have you traveled from China, Iran, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea, the last 14 days before symptoms began?

If the answers to 1 AND either of the other 2 are YES, please do not come to Mass or parish events for any reason.

Event cancellations and class suspensions due to the COVID-19 issues will not be an impediment to receiving a Sacrament. We will work with families to get materials for Home Catechesis if necessary.

This is a rapidly changing situation, so we ask for your patience as we work to do what is best for everyone involved. Most importantly, please pray for guidance and for the well-being of all those affected by this virus.

A prayer for our faith development families

Lord, Help me
Be prepared, but not anxious.
Be aware, but not desperate.
Be vigilant, But not in fear.
Be joyful, but not clueless.
Be faithful, but not careless.
Lord, be my hope and strength.

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

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