



THROUGH
worship,
education,
AND service,
WE CONTINUE THE WORK OF
JESUS

IHM Youth Group Health Protocols

OUR COMMITMENT

- Protecting the health, safety and well-being of teens and volunteers.
- Delivering youth centered ministry, where the adults show up prepared to care about and walk in faith with our teens.
- Following and applying the guidelines of the Archdiocesan Task Force for Infectious Disease, Georgia Department of Public Health, American Academy of Pediatrics, CDC and other health organizations.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Physical distancing will be practiced at our sessions whenever possible. We will meet outside since it is considered much safer than meeting inside. We will be in covered areas: the high schoolers in the lower level patio and the middle schoolers under tents behind the school. Seats will be measured to at least 6 feet apart, often more. Teens will remain in the same small group to reduce exposure.

ARRIVAL and TEMPERATURE CHECKS

Teens will have their temperatures checked by volunteers as they arrive to the Lower Level Parking Lot. Those who arrive by car will have their temperature checked **before exiting the car**. *If anyone in the car has a temperature of 99.5 degrees or higher, the entire carpool must immediately leave the church campus. If you are carpooling with another family, please confirm that everyone can satisfactorily complete the health screening questions and is fever free before getting into the car.*

After temperatures have been checked, teens will proceed directly to their session locations. For the teens' health, *there will be no congregating in groups as we enter or exit sessions.*

ILLNESS PROTOCOLS (On-Campus)

- *Teens and parents must communicate with the Youth Minister, Michele McPheely, if they or anyone in their household tests positive for COVID-19, experiences symptoms, or is exposed to someone who is positive (with symptoms or asymptomatic). They will be required to isolate/quarantine at home for 10 to 14 days (10 or more days from the onset of symptoms in the case of a positive diagnosis, based on guidance the party's medical doctor; 14 days in the case of a person who has had close personal contact with someone that has COVID-19).*
- Persons who experience illnesses that are explained as non-COVID-19 (e.g., strep throat, seasonal allergies, chronic conditions, etc.) may return to youth group after providing Michele with a negative result on a COVID test, once they are symptom free without medication.

- Teens who become sick or experience symptoms while on campus will be removed from the group for isolation. Parents will be notified to pick up their teen(s) immediately.
- Local public health officials will be notified of any positive cases. Contact tracing will be implemented to mitigate the spread of infection and community members who may have been in close contact with the infected person(s) will be notified promptly. You may receive a call from the health department; if so, it's important that you speak with them and follow their direction. Youth Group families and volunteers will be notified of confirmed illnesses occurring within the session. However, patient confidentiality will be maintained and respected.

YOUR COMMITMENT

Here's what families can do to help ensure the safety of our youth group and parish:

- Practice proper hand washing.
- Talk about the importance of physical distancing with your teens and practice how to maintain personal space.
- Explain that physical touching (e.g., fist bumps, hugging, etc.) are not safe right now with people outside of your household.
- Remind your teens to avoid touching their eyes, noses and mouths.
- Wear masks as directed: before exiting the vehicle and remaining on until back in the vehicle after youth group.
- Keep your teen home when they or household members are ill or have been around someone in the past week who was ill (including when you suspect or have reason to suspect that your teen or a household member is becoming ill).
- Ensure health screening questions are completed on Sunday before coming to youth group.
- Ensure that teens who have been ill are fever free for 48 hours without medication before returning to school and are no longer coughing or sneezing.
- Ensure that teens who have been ill are vomit and diarrhea free for 48 hours without medication before coming to school.
- Keep the Youth Minister, Michele McPheely, informed of any changes in medical condition through email: mmcpheely@ihmatlanta.org.
- Be patient and kind with us, each other, and yourself. We are all working to keep everyone healthy and safe. Changes to our procedures might be necessary as the public health situation develops. Protocols such as arriving may be a little hectic at first days, but they will begin running smoothly as we practice. Again, we ask for your patience and support as we work to ensure your teen's safety. Thank you!

HEALTH CHECK

Before coming to any youth ministry or faith formation programs, families must complete a brief online health screening checklist. A reminder to do this will be emailed and texted to you each week before class (please make sure we have a good email to contact you).

If you have any questions please contact:

Michele McPheely

Youth Minister

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