

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

Office of Evangelization and Catechesis

Resuming Parish, In-Person, Catechetical Sessions during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Code of Conduct

The following rules must be strictly adhered to, by all persons, both adults and minors, participating in a parish catechetical program, lest one should be, in the case of a willful violation, sent home, removed from the parish property, or – if the violation is egregious or repeated – expelled from the parish program.

All persons must not seek entry into a parish facility unless one is an official participant in the parish religious education (faith formation) program, such individuals being limited to a parish's catechetical leaders, catechists, aides, approved volunteers, and registered students. Parents are allowed in the building *only* if the parish is conducting family catechesis, or in the case of an emergency involving one's child.

All persons must be in good health in order to be admitted into a parish facility, i.e., not experiencing a fever (i.e., a body temperature above 100.3), a sore throat, headache, new loss of taste or smell, chills, shakes, a cough, shortness of breath, abdominal pain, nausea, nor recent (within the previous 48 hours) vomiting or diarrhea.

All persons must use only those entrances and exists that they have been instructed to use.

All persons must be willing to have their temperature taken, undergo a brief wellness-screening, and apply sanitizer to their hands, upon entry to any parish facility.

All persons must not bring in, carry, nor consume, any food or drink while in a parish facility.

All persons must refrain from making physical contact with anyone else, abstaining from handshakes, hugs, pats on the back, and the like.

All persons must wear a cloth face mask (facial covering) upon entering a parish facility and continuously do so, until departing from the building. The mask must completely cover one's nose and mouth. No one unwilling or unable to wear a facial covering is allowed entry to a parish building.

All persons must do their utmost to maintain proper social-distancing, i.e., at least six feet of separation between persons, while standing or moving about, and at least three (but preferably six) feet of separation when seated.

All persons must obey all signage and floor markings indicating safe social-distancing and acceptable one-way foot-traffic.

All persons, upon entry to a parish facility, must proceed directly to their seat or workspace, without congregating or lingering at doorways or in hallways, offices, restrooms, gyms, halls, or lobbies, before, during, or after parish programming.

All persons must avoid joining singular groups or gatherings of more than twenty-five (25) people, while on parish property.

All persons, while seated, must make use of any plastic barriers or hygiene shields provided to them by the parish. Parishes are not required to issue such items.

All persons must wash their hands for at least twenty seconds, under warm water, while using the provided soap, as frequently as their hands become dirty, germ-filled, or in contact with anyone else or an unclean surface, and especially before leaving a restroom.

All persons must avoid sharing with anyone any personal items, e.g., a Kleenex or lozenge, or any school materials, e.g., a pencil or paper.

All persons must use the provided disinfectant to clean and wipe down all surfaces that one has come in contact with, before exiting a room.

All persons must take out with them, from the parish facility, any item or material having been brought into the building or distributed to them during the parish programming, including, but not limited to, paperwork, textbooks, and supplies.

All persons must depart the building directly and immediately upon the completion of any parish programming, as well as leave the parish property, not lingering outside the building.

All persons, in the case of contracting the coronavirus or having been in close proximity with a known case of coronavirus, must inform the program leadership immediately and must not participate in any parish programming or ministry for the succeeding, fourteen (14), consecutive days. These individuals will also have to prove to the parish that they have tested negative for the coronavirus, by providing official, medical documentation, upon completion of the 14-day absence and before resumption of attendance in the program.

By signing, printing your name upon, and dating this form, you (the parent or guardian of a parish, religious-education student) are agreeing, personally, to strictly follow these rules and, also, require your children to do so, at all times while on parish property, as well as acknowledging that you are aware that, in the case of a willful violation of a rule listed above, by yourself or your child, your child will be sent home, removed from the property, or – if the violation is egregious or repeated – expelled from the parish program.

Parent or Guardian

Parent or Guardian

Signature

Signature

Printed Name

Printed Name

Today's Date

Today's Date