



St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School COVID-19 Updates

March 12, 2020

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Our Mission: To Teach, Love, Live and Learn as Jesus Did

Our Vision: Share Faith, Serve Others, Seek Knowledge

Dear Parents,

In discussions with Fr. Tom, with all that is rapidly happening with COVID-19, to be proactive/safe for all, we have made the changes below. I think everyone understands that the situation is fluid at this time. As far as school closings go, this will most likely play out in domino fashion as it does with snow day closings. In any case, if the State or County says to close, we will do so. Thank you.

1. The Father-Daughter Dance has been canceled for tomorrow night - refunds will be forthcoming over the course of next week. This may or may not be rescheduled at this time.
2. The Spring Play has been postponed. Performance date TBD.
3. The Knights of Columbus Fish Fry will still be held next Friday - Carry out only at this time.
4. ISSMA and FAME have been canceled.
5. Afterschool activities with students will still go on as long as school is in session (play practice, children's choir, athletic practices, etc.)
6. Larger gatherings will most likely be canceled in the coming weeks.
7. in the event of a mandatory two-week closure, we have planned for three days of eLearning for the first 10 school days out. In the event of all schools closing, the State IDOE will most likely waive days (5-10), but we will have no idea if we will be out at all, or if the days might reach 3-4 weeks. So, we begin to hedge our bets while keeping a burden on the families and students to a minimum. I have already spoken to the 6-8 grade students and communicated this information this morning. I asked for them to step up and lead being well-behaved, cooperative, and acting as role models for the younger students. I also asked them to step it up at home in case needed to help take care of younger siblings. They were very responsive.
8. Pueri Cantores has now been officially canceled. All monies will be refunded.
9. The 6th grade trip to the Synagogue has been postponed.
10. The 8th grade trip to Indianapolis has been postponed.
11. Until further notice, the passing out of treats from home (birthday, VIP, student of the week) will be suspended. Hopefully, students will be able to do this at a future date.
12. Until further notice, no live pets will be permitted to be brought into the building.

I thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this pandemic. Your safety and that of your families' are of utmost importance to us. We will continue to take reasonable precautions. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to speak to Fr. Tom, Sr. Genevieve, Mr. Hoersten, or me. We would be glad to work with you.

Sincerely - Rob Sordelet



DIOCESE OF
FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

Date: March 12, 2020
Re: Coronavirus COVID-19 Update

Dear Parents or Guardians,

The Catholic Schools Office wants to provide you with an update regarding our efforts to ensure the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff, parents, and community regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The diocese and the Catholic Schools Office (CSO) is in constant contact with local and state health departments and is making decisions based on scientific facts and recommendations. As of right now, our schools will be conducting school and school activities as usual as possible until otherwise advised by the local or state health departments. The preventative measures taken by all our diocesan schools to manage the flu season are the same precautions to be used for COVID-19; however, we are enhancing what we have already done.

If the local health departments or the Indiana state health department advises us to close any of our schools, we will fully comply, and we will work on a plan of action for remote or eLearning or apply for waivers of instructional days.

The news media continues to shine a spotlight on COVID-19, but that coverage has also created some unnecessary panic in the process. Hopefully, staying informed will help alleviate the anxiety that some people are experiencing. In case you do not know, COVID-19 has mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, cough, and fever. Illness can be more severe for some people and can lead to pneumonia or breathing difficulties. More rarely, the disease can be fatal. Older people, and people with other medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), can become severely ill.

Please continue to go to credible sites such as the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention, to keep updated on COVID-19. The diocese has also created a webpage for the most current directives and resources for our diocesan parishes and schools: www.diocesefwsb.org/covid-19.

We are working with the various diocesan entities and outside sources to help each other respond to different COVID-19 scenarios. Know that we are in a constant state of readiness to plan, prepare, and respond to COVID-19 using local, state, and national health departments, and we are making decisions based on their recommendations. We continue to consult with other (arch)dioceses in Indiana as well as other states and utilize our policies relating to planning for seasonal & pandemic diseases. The process will not end until the pandemic is over.

Keep in your prayers those inflicted with COVID-19 along with the health professionals and first responders tending to them.

Blessings,

Joseph (Joe) A. Brettnacher, Ph.D.