

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PARENTS, STAFF, AND VOLUNTEERS
REGARDING COVID19 PROTOCOLS FOR THE 2021-22 YEAR

Parish Name: _____
Child/Staff/Volunteer Name: _____
Legal Guardians (if applicable): _____

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic and is extremely contagious. As a result, in order to continue to have an environment that is safe for children, staff, and volunteers, parish activities, social distancing and other essential safety measures at the parish named above ("Parish") have been established. The Parish has put in place reasonable preventative measures and standards of behavior to reduce the spread of COVID-19 at the Parish and its associated activities. Even with implementation of safety protocols, the Parish cannot guarantee that your child/you will not become infected with COVID-19. Attendance at the Parish and/or participation in associated activities could increase your risk and/or your child's risk of contracting COVID- 19.

Children, Staff, and Volunteers Wearing Face Coverings

1. Children, staff, and volunteers are strongly encouraged to wear masks when 3 feet of social distance is not available.
2. Children are strongly encouraged to wear masks when doing group work and are unable to maintain social distance.
3. All children, staff, and volunteers **not vaccinated** are strongly encouraged to wear masks.

There may be times during the year when masks may be required, such as during large group gatherings or when there is an elevated spread of COVID-19 in the parish or local community. This will be at the discretion of the Pastor. Therefore, all children, staff members, and volunteers must have masks readily available.

All parish constituents should take note that both DHEC and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have provided guidance stating that the wearing of face coverings slows the spread of COVID-19, and that a child, staff member, or volunteer's failure to wear a face covering may subject that child, staff member, or volunteer to an increased risk of contracting COVID-19 and spreading COVID-19 to others.

Vaccinations

All children, staff members, and volunteers are strongly encouraged, in consultation with their personal physicians, to receive the COVID-19 vaccination.

Children, Staff, or Volunteers Who Are Sick Coming to Parish Activities

By execution of this Statement, I affirm that I have read and understand that in order for a child, staff member, or volunteer be eligible to attend a parish activity, she/he/they should be able to reply "NO" to the following questions:

1. Have you had a fever as defined by the CDC (100.4 or higher) during the past 24 hours?
2. Have you had a new or unexpected cough during the past 7 days?
3. Have you been around anyone exhibiting these symptoms within the past 14 days?
4. Are you living with anyone who has been sick, has exhibited symptoms of COVID-19, or is currently under quarantine for exposure to COVID-19?

By execution of this Statement, I further affirm that I have read the foregoing questions and understand and affirm that an answer of “YES” to any of these questions on any given day, is a clear indication that the child, staff member, or volunteer should **NOT** attend parish activities that day.

As a parent (if applicable), I understand that, in the event my child develops symptoms or suspected symptoms of COVID-19, I will be contacted by Parish staff, and I must make immediate preparations to have my child picked up from the Parish. Similarly, as a staff member or volunteer (if applicable) experiencing any of the above, I understand that I will need to go home immediately.

In the event of a medical emergency, I authorize the Parish and Parish staff to call 911 and have my child or myself (if a parish staff member or volunteer) transported to a hospital or healthcare facility. I further understand and affirm that the Parish and Parish staff have discretion to determine whether a child, staff member, or volunteer is ill or potentially contagious, and whether it is in the best interests of the child, staff member, volunteer, other children, and all Parish staff to mandate that a child, staff member, or volunteer be picked up from the parish at the time of that determination.

Quarantine

In the event that my child or I (if a staff member or volunteer), contracts COVID-19 or becomes exposed to someone with COVID-19, I further understand the need for my child or me (if a staff member or volunteer) to be quarantined as directed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”).¹ (This information is available upon request.)

Additionally, I understand that children, staff members, and volunteers may not return to the Parish until they have met the CDC's criteria to discontinue home isolation.

I (if a parent) understand and accept that the Parish will enforce such other reasonable measures and directives as may be deemed necessary by the Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, and that, in the event that it becomes necessary that catechetical sessions or activities should be administered via distance learning, I will not be entitled to a refund of any of my tuition fees.

My signature below indicates that I understand and agree to the foregoing terms and conditions.

Staff Member or Volunteer Signature: _____

Date: _____

OR

Legal Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

¹ The following criteria and information are taken from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”). The following does not constitute medical or legal advice for any particular child, staff member, or volunteer, and for guidance on any individual case, a child, staff member, or volunteer is encouraged to contact their medical provider. See, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>.