



Introduction

When Jesus called the disciples, He invited them foremost into a relationship and on a personal journey. Our formation ministries seek to follow this example of Christ, to accompany one another. This is a very personal and relational action. The spring of 2020 launched a health crisis that inspired all of us to approach our interactions with one another in a manner that runs counterintuitive to the social nature of humankind. As we return to in-person ministries, we strive to continue to provide a safe and nurturing environment for parishioners to grow in their love and relationship with God.

We learned a lot from the spring of 2020, including a renewed emphasis on our department's role to support parents as the primary catechist and educator of their children. The following plan has been created to provide for a fluid transition from face-to-face sessions to online ministries as dictated by a crisis affecting our parish and local community. The movement from phase to phase will be dictated by the situation at hand whether it be guided by the Department of Public Instruction, Department of Health Services, or local authorities as the safety and well-being of the parish community are taken into consideration. During and following a crisis, **our goals are to keep our parishioners safe, care for the social and emotional well-being of all of our community members, and design flexible plans to keep accompanying disciples in their faith journey.** We strive to adapt our methods to meet the challenges we are presented with amid the fluid conditions our world presents.

We appreciate your support of this plan as it is in the best interest of each one for the sake of all.

St. Dominic Parish Mission Statement

"To Seek Christ, Know Christ and Become Christ, each one for the sake of all."

We are a thriving community of Christians in the Roman Catholic Tradition, assembled under the patronage of St. Dominic, the preacher and teacher.

We hear the voice of the Lord in our lives and desire to live the call of the Gospel by growing in faith through:

- Actively participating in liturgy, the Word of God, prayer, and the Sacraments;
- Extending ourselves in hospitality and evangelization;
- Serving human concerns of persons within and outside our Parish family;
- Offering lifetime opportunities for Christian formation and ongoing conversion; and
- Sharing in stewardship with our time, talent, and treasure.

Main Contact

If you have questions or concerns regarding this action plan, or to report an exposure, please contact:



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Thumbnail Sketch of Rules

Below is a thumbnail sketch of the rules developed from the crisis plan. Students and families are expected to abide by these rules as they are for the safety of our entire parish community.

- **If you (or your child if they are the participant) are sick, please stay home! This is especially true if any of the symptoms commonly associated with COVID-19, such as cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea are present. Should your child(ren) exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19, we require that you keep your child(ren) home**
- Parents and Legal Guardians shall take the necessary steps to determine whether their child(ren) are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, including, but not limited to, temperature checks for fever (as defined by the CDC as at or above 100.4)
- Any child or participant that demonstrates any symptoms of COVID-19 while attending a ministry will be asked to immediately leave. For children, they will be moved to a separate location and the parish will contact that child's Parents and Legal Guardians to require that child be picked up and taken home in a timely manner
- Wash hands with soap and water frequently.
- Sanitize or wash hands upon entering any room and upon leaving any room.
- Wipe down touchable surfaces after each use.
- **Any teasing or bullying about the wearing of or not wearing of facemasks will not be tolerated.**

General Guidelines

St. Dominic Catholic Parish has implemented universal precautions as dictated per the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020. To ensure that we are always operating in a safe and sanitary way to control the spread of contagions, we employ the following expectations provided by the [CDC](#) to slow the spread of contagious illnesses:

- Frequent handwashing and sanitizing
- Encourage the wearing of facemasks
- Encourage the control of respiratory droplets
- Maintain safe distances from others by respecting "personal bubbles"
- Encourage use of outdoor spaces

Frequent handwashing and sanitizing

All of the students and adults participating in our parish ministries and events are expected to wash their hands with soap and water frequently throughout the day. Everyone will be expected to wash/sanitize hands when entering the classroom or meeting space, after using the restroom, prior to and after eating, after touching educational materials/manipulatives, or at any other time deemed necessary. When soap and water are not readily available, the use of hand sanitizer (alcohol based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol) is expected. Ministry Leaders (Catechists, Core Team Members, Small Group Leaders, etc) are to ensure that touchable surfaces such as desks, tables, chairs, light switches and door knobs be cleaned and disinfected after room usage.

Facemasks

Many contagions are spread through the sharing of respiratory droplets. To prevent the inadvertent sharing of respiratory droplets, all participants are encouraged to follow the recommendations of the CDC about wearing

facemasks. Please know that you may wear facemasks at any time you so choose. We wish to acknowledge that our stance on the use of facemasks is one of universal precaution in order to allow our ministries to continue to meet in person. We appreciate your support of our practices regardless of personal opinion.

For safety reasons, St. Dominic Catholic Parish encourages students wear facemasks that have ear loops and not tie behind their head. Facemasks are to be worn over the mouth and nose to be the most effective per the directions of the [CDC](#). Catechists will work with students to ensure that masks are being worn properly throughout the sessions. Facemasks bearing images that are inappropriate in nature or not in line with the mission of the parish are prohibited such as those with offensive language, offensive images, etc. Facemasks will also be expected when we are unable to properly accommodate for physical distancing, especially in hallways.

The mask mandate effective August 2, 2020 and September 22, 2020 for the State of Wisconsin has since required that facemasks be worn at all times inside public buildings. This is to be followed to participant in our parish ministries or events.

Controlling Respiratory Droplets

Please employ proper hygiene practices when it comes to controlling coughing and sneezing. All individuals are to be covering up their coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the crook of their elbow. We know that this sometimes gets tricky so should we cough or sneeze into our hands, hands will instantly need to be washed or sanitized. It will take all of us working together to develop this healthy practice.

Physical distancing

We ask parishioners to follow CDC guidelines for physical distancing. Please be mindful of a person's "physical bubble" and that their bubble may be larger than what you are comfortable with. St. Dominic Catholic Parish will additionally address physical distancing by arranging classrooms and meeting spaces as best as we can to provide appropriate spacing. Formation classes will also stagger time spent in the hallways and other common spaces in the building. All ministries (Child, Student, and Adult) will stagger the dismissal of classes and meetings to limit traffic in hallways, stairwells, and doorways. When we are unable to stress appropriate physical distancing, facemasks will be worn.

Food & Beverages

To help control respiratory droplets we are limiting the consumption of food and beverages. All Bubblers/Water fountains have been turned off. Additionally, in compliance to Archdiocese guidelines, ministries are not to provide snacks, food, or beverages. Many of our ministries do not meet for an extended time, so we ask that participants refrain from bringing food or beverage to ministries outside of water. Ministries that do meet for an extended time **may** get an exception to this policy. This must be in writing and approved by the Director of Formation.

Use of Outdoor Spaces

While all of our classrooms and meeting spaces circulate air from the outdoors at a regular rate. Ministries and/or classes may be conducted outside when possible and appropriate. For groups larger than 15, we encourage reserving outdoor space in advance.

Emergencies (Fire, Lockdown, Tornado)

An emergency dictates that it is more important to get participants/students to safety than it is to mind physical distancing.

Plans for the Delivery of Ministries

As a parish community, the ability to gather to grow in our faith and relationship with God with other believers is paramount to our mission. The goal of St. Dominic Catholic Parish is to safely provide for in person interactions and ministries. We do realize there may be times when we must adapt our instruction as determined by what is happening in the world around us. In order to be responsive to these changing variables, St. Dominic Catholic Parish has developed four scenarios to be employed based on the safety needs of the community. The four scenarios will be referred to in this plan as Green, Yellow, Orange, and Red.

Level	Description
Green	<p>The green scenario will be engaged when there are low instances of danger/contagion to the population at large. The green scenario most closely mimics “normal”.</p> <p>Under the green scenario, St. Dominic is fully open with no limitations to group sizes or distancing.</p>
Yellow	<p>The yellow scenario will be engaged when there is a greater need for vigilance against danger/contagion to the population at large. The parameters for determining the need to be in yellow are based on directives from the Waukesha Health Department and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Administration will engage the yellow scenario when it may be locally advisable to do so to ensure the health and safety of our parish community.</p> <p>The yellow scenario institutes a situation that controls the number of individuals on campus or at a particular ministry.</p>
Orange	<p>The orange scenario will be engaged when there is a high need for vigilance against danger/contagion to the population at large. The parameters for determining the need to be in orange are based on directives from the Waukesha Health Department and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.</p> <p>The orange scenario institutes a situation that controls the number of individuals on campus or at a particular ministry to a small group.</p>
Red	<p>The red scenario will be engaged when there is imminent threat to the health and well-being of the population at large. The parameter for determining the need to be in red will be that a stay at home order has been issued.</p> <p>When operating under the red scenario, all ministry will be delivered online.</p>

St. Dominic Catholic Parish may need to move into and out of these phases fluidly based on the situation at hand. The administration will always communicate when and why those changes will take place as soon as possible to provide parishioners time to adjust.

Regardless of the scenario employed, St. Dominic Catholic Parish and School wishes to honor parents as the primary catechists of their children. If the situation we find ourselves in results in parents independently making the decision to keep their children at home, St. Dominic Catholic Parish will respond accordingly. We wish everyone to feel comfortable and at ease especially in times that elevate fear and anxiety. Parents are encouraged to reach out to administration to discuss alternatives.

Handling of an Exposure

St. Dominic Catholic Parish views exposure in three ways: direct exposure, proximal exposure, and remote exposure. While scenarios may vary and cases will be unique to the individual or ministry, the following understandings will be employed when making decisions on behalf of the parish community.

Direct exposure: A participant/student has tested positive for coronavirus or other novel contagious illness.

Proximal exposure: A participant/student’s family unit has tested positive for coronavirus or other novel contagious illness or a member of the family unit has been quarantined.

Remote exposure: A participant/student has learned that they have been in contact with someone outside their family unit who has tested positive for coronavirus or other novel contagious illness but maintained proper care requirements in their presence.

Direct or Proximal Exposure to the coronavirus or other novel contagion

In the event that you or a household member (living with you) has been knowingly exposed **OR** has tested positive to the coronavirus or other novel contagion, you/your parent or legal guardian should immediately take the following steps:

1. Contact the your/your child’s primary care physician
2. Notify the local health department
3. Follow the local health department’s protocols for quarantine, isolation and return to work or school
4. Notify the parish, specifically the Director of Formation, of exposure. The parish will then alert the community as to the next course of action.
5. Prior to the participant/student returning to our ministries, the parents or legal guardians will contact the parish to inform the parish of the steps taken to ensure that the child is no longer contagious based on the protocols and guidelines of the local health department.

Based on what is reported to the parish the following protocols will be launched. **This plan could vary based on the exposure in relation to the ministry.**

Direct exposure	Proximal exposure	Remote exposure
Inform the Director of Formation	Inform the Director of Formation	Inform the Director of Formation
Person is to be quarantined *	Monitor symptoms	Monitor symptoms
Parish will assist in contact tracing and suspend ministries or small groups as needed.	Follow quarantine instructions.	Follow quarantine instructions.

**The child is to remain home until they are fever free for 10 days from when fever broke OR at least 14 days from onset of symptoms AND improvement in respiratory symptoms OR negative COVID tests with no other symptoms. A doctor’s note on formal letterhead will need to be provided to return to school prior to the end of quarantine.*

St. Dominic Catholic Parish is taking all illness seriously, as we wish to keep contagion low in order for our parish and school to continue to operate. We reserve the right to refuse re-entry of anyone onto our campus without proper documentation for the health and safety of the community.

General Conditions

This document is subject to review and change as conditions warrant. Said changes are deemed immediate and do not require distribution of the updated Crisis Plan for a Pandemic. Any errors or omissions in this document are considered repairable given the intent of the policy and procedure.