



## **Nativity of Our Lord Parish Fall PREP COVID-19 Safety Plan**

### **Introduction**

This document provides information regarding the plan to return to traditional in person Religious Education for the 2020-2021 PREP year. This plan is contingent on the green phase in the state of Pennsylvania allowing schools to be open for in person learning.

### **Cohorting**

Cohorting is recommended by many health organizations as an environmental measure to prevent the spread of disease. Cohorting is a major part of this plan. Class sizes will be small, with an average class size of 12 children or less. Every attempt will be made to cohort PREP students from the same public school. Cohorting allows for much easier contact tracing. Windows will be kept open to allow for adequate ventilation.

### **Social Distancing**

Small class sizes will allow for the maximum social distancing of 6 feet. Nativity class rooms are spacious and will easily allow for this mitigation. All desks will face in one direction. Seating charts will be kept by the Religious Education office. The children will be assigned to the same desk weekly.

### **Mask Usage**

The wearing of masks is mandatory for students when social distancing may be interrupted, which includes, but not limited to:

- a) At arrival in Church until entering the classroom for the start of class.
- b) Any time when not in an assigned seat which includes hallways, bathrooms, or 6 foot distancing is not possible.
- c) During dismissal from the time the student leaves the classroom until exiting the building.

Students may remove masks when stationary and socially distanced, that is, in their assigned seat. Students should bring a storage bag (small zip lock) to hold the mask when not wearing. It is a parent/guardian prerogative if they wish their child(ren) wear a face mask while in their

assigned seat. Catechists and classroom assistants will wear face shields. All other PREP Faculty must wear a mask when moving about the building.

## **Sanitation**

Classrooms will be professionally cleaned at the end of the school day before the start of PREP. Disinfecting wipes will be available in each classroom. Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom. Students and Faculty will sanitize their hands upon arrival in the classroom, and at the end of class before dismissal.

## **Supplies**

There will be no sharing of supplies. This will help mitigate the chance of cross contamination. Students will be provided with pencils, crayons, glue sticks, scissors, etc. by Nativity PREP. These supplies will be kept in the classroom, marked with the student's name in a clear zip lock bag. Students should not bring outside materials in to PREP class with the exception of personal water bottles. Common water fountains will not be in use. Text books and water bottles will be the only things that the student may need to bring back and forth from PREP to home.

## **Arrival and Dismissal**

PPEP class will commence in Church. Children will be seated with their class, and kept socially distanced. Masks will be required in Church.

Dismissal will utilize one doorway per level. There will be an **A and B dismissal**, so that only one class is at any given doorway at a time. **A** dismissal will begin at 7:15PM, followed by **B** dismissal at 7:25PM. Dismissal **A/B** and doorway assignment will be communicated via the August PREP letter that is mailed to registered families. The oldest child will be dismissed to the outside of the youngest child's classroom, and will join their sibling once the class moves to the dismissal doorway. Masks will be required at dismissal.

Families will need to be prompt at pickup, to avoid large gatherings at any doorway. Parents/guardians should keep themselves socially distanced at their assigned doorway. Parents/guardians must come to the doorway at dismissal. **Students should not be summoned across the parking lot to meet a parent/guardian. THIS IS A DANGEROUS PRACTICE AND WILL BE MONITORED.** The child(ren) of Faculty will gather in the Faculty Room for dismissal.

## **Temperatures/Illness**

Parents should take their child(ren)'s temperatures before arrival. A temperature of 100 degrees or greater is deemed unsafe to attend PREP. Additionally, students/Faculty should not attend PREP if exhibiting any respiratory symptoms (cough, runny nose, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat) as well as fatigue, muscle or body aches, new loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea. As well, any family with known exposure, or active COVID-19 disease in the home should not attend. Families may be asked for medical clearance to return. Parents/guardians will be expected to notify the Catechist so arrangements can be made to make up missed work. With family cooperation, PREP will be kept open and safe.

In the event of sudden illness during PREP class, the student will be isolated immediately and the parent/guardian notified. Parents/guardians must be available to pick up an ill child(ren) no more than 20 minutes after notification. The student will be brought to the A door for pickup.

## **Additional Considerations**

Parents/guardians are not permitted in the school building without permission from the Director of Religious Education. The only adults permitted in the school building during PREP are those who volunteer for the Program.

There will be no communal bathroom breaks. Students will be permitted to use bathroom facilities individually on an as needed basis. Families are encouraged to have their child(ren) use the bathroom before coming to PREP. This will decrease the need to have students in the hallways to access the bathroom.

If a student tests positive for COVID-19 and has attended PREP within a 14 day period of time, the parent/guardian must inform the Director of Religious Education. [lbigony@noolp.org](mailto:lbigony@noolp.org)

Due to the fluid and dynamic circumstances of COVID-19, Nativity of our Lord PREP Program reserves the right to update this plan as needed.