



September 20, 2021

First, Second, Seventh, and Eighth Grade Religious Education Students and Parents:

In recent days, the ongoing pandemic has caused a significant increase in COVID-19 positive cases in our immediate area, as most are already aware, and is causing school classes to be placed on remote learning, portions of student bodies to go into quarantine, and entire schools to close for periods of time.

As a parish, we strongly believe that the communal and in-person aspect of religious education, especially in Sacramental preparation is important. However, we cannot ignore the safety and well-being of our staff, our volunteers, and most importantly you and your families. For this reason, for those years that were to begin in-person instruction next week we will be pausing the beginning of in-person instruction and using the at-home model that served us last year.

The plan at this time is to start in-person instruction on Monday November 1, 2021. This date will be the goal, but the final feasibility of using it, will depend on the progress in health and safety that happens in our area between now and then.

We thank you for your patience and flexibility. Let's hope that the considerations of this pandemic will soon be in the past, and we will be able to gather together safely and prayerfully. You will be receiving more information from the Religious Education office and your catechist as to what the next steps will be, and we will remain in communication as to the status of the date of resuming in-person classes. God bless you, and please remain healthy and safe.

Yours in Christ:

Rev. Michael Hall: Pastor

Sr. Carolyn Houck: Director of Religious Education