

All Saints Catholic School

3420 Portola Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90032
323/225-7264

February 28, 2020

Dear Families,

As communities and public health officials respond to and closely monitor the outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) around the world, [name of school] and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles along with the Catholic Church in the U.S. stand in solidarity with those affected by the coronavirus and their families, and the health workers trying to diagnose and treat patients.

While the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has stated that the immediate risk of this new virus to the American public is believed to be low at this time, everyone can do their part to help respond and limit the impact of this emerging public health threat.

We are working closely with the (name of County) County Department of Public Health to monitor this situation and make decisions about the best steps to take concerning schools. At this time, it is important to listen to facts and not contribute to the spread of rumor, misinformation or fear. Please check with [parish or school] administration for updates and visit websites of the CDC and Los Angeles, Ventura or Santa Barbara Departments of Public Health for latest information.

We are taking steps to reduce the spread of illnesses at our school – especially since its flu and cold season. We want to keep functioning in a normal manner during this time, but we need your help to do this. **Please keep your child home if they are sick. This is the best way to contain illness and prevent infecting others.**

The Department of Public Health recommends that the public do the following to protect themselves from all respiratory illnesses:

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limit close contact, like kissing and sharing cups or utensils, with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve (not your hands).
- Facemasks are most effective when used appropriately by health care workers and people who are sick.
- Get a flu immunization to prevent influenza if you have not done so this season.

Please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/> and the county departments of public health in Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara for the most current information. We will notify you of any changes to our strategy to prevent the spread illness.

Please join [me/us] in offering prayers for healing and support for those organizations, both domestic and international, working to provide medical supplies and assistance to address this serious risk to public health.

Sincerely,
All Saints Catholic School Faculty

A Catholic Education is an Advantage For Life.