



ST. MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH

COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

The following comprehensive safety plan is to ensure our parish is taking the proper health and safety precautions and following diocesan regulations upon reopening ministries. Below you will find information and requirements for our parish. This comprehensive plan is intended to significantly increase safety and reduce the risks associated with the spread of COVID-19. **These protocols and procedures must be followed by all catechists, students and families who choose to attend any parish ministry or faith formation/youth ministry gatherings on campus.** Please read through the details below thoroughly. Thank you for your patience, faithfulness and compliance to these guidelines.

St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church is dedicated to preventing the transmission of COVID-19. We are following CDC guidelines for sanitation, social distancing and face coverings. Even with these precautions, infections are still possible and may result in serious illness or even death. If you have questions about whether your child or a family member are in a vulnerable population, please visit the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/other-at-riskpopulations.html>

We strongly encourage families to stay up to date with parish happenings through parish emails, the St. Mark Facebook page as well as the St. Mark website.

The following procedures will assist our parish to serve children, teens, families, and volunteers at ministries on-site. If any person has discerned that he or she is unable to participate in the celebration of Mass for health reasons, then they are also unable to participate in on-site parish ministry.

Prior to Engaging in Faith Formation/Youth Ministry Events

1. Cleaning/Sanitizing Common Space/Touch-Points:

While surface spread of COVID-19 is less common than previously reported, continue to disinfect all common touch surfaces prior to the event.

a. This includes, but is not limited to: light switches, door knobs, chairs or tables in use, microphones/audio equipment, etc.

b. We will use an approved CDC disinfectant:

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticideregistration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>

2. Hand Sanitizer Stations:

Dispensers will be placed throughout the campus and in high traffic areas and maintained throughout the week.

During Youth Ministry Events

1. Meeting Location and Frequency:

Meetings are to be held in the Community Center Gym and/or New Legacy.

- a. Leaders and participants are not allowed to enter facilities other than the designated meeting space.
- b. Restrooms are available (if meeting in the Gym, the restrooms outside Shalom; if meeting in New Legacy, the restrooms across from the Development Office).
- c. Any tables and chairs used during meetings are not to be rearranged by participants and may only be used as arranged by custodial staff.
- d. Enter and exit through designated doorways only.

2. Physical Distancing:

Participants will continue to socially distance themselves at events, especially when indoors or in enclosed spaces. Appropriate distancing will be based on the most recent recommendations from the CDC, state, or local health departments. At the time of this publishing, the current recommended distance is 6 feet.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>

3. No Physical Contact:

Avoid physical contact with one another. This includes but is not limited to: hand shaking, hugging, fist bumps, high fives, or any games/activities where physical contact is required. This is believed to be the MAIN way the virus is spread, through close physical contact with an infected individual.

4. Attendance Sheets to track participation:

Staff are required to track attendance of all participants and acquire names and contact information (including contact information of parent/guardian in the case of minors). Proper care for participants requires that we know who is in attendance at all times.

5. Indoor Events

a. Face Coverings/Masks:

- i. When indoors, participants and adult leaders must wear face coverings.
- ii. When a catechist/presenter can maintain 6 feet of distance from participants, he/she can remove his/her face covering.

b. Necessary Sanitation:

- i. All common touch points should be sanitized before and after each meeting.
- ii. It is recommended that participants do not share materials (notebooks, writing implements) or personal items such as water bottles.

c. Food Items:

- i. Food will not be included in on-site ministry activities.

Reporting and Communication

1. Reporting if a Participant, Chaperone or Staff Member shows symptoms or results in a positive Covid-19 test after an event:
 - a. Advise individuals to follow CDC reporting guidelines should a person become ill and tell him/her to call his/her doctor.
 - b. The Pastor, Ministry Coordinator, or other individual designated by the pastor should submit a COVID-19 incident form to Risk Management: risk@archsa.org
 - c. Individuals known to have contracted or are/have been exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 should not return until after a 14-day self-quarantine followed by at least 72 hours of no symptoms. Individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 should not participate in activities until they have self-quarantined for 10-14 days from the date of exposure.

2. Feedback/Adjustment:
 - a. These recommendations will be reviewed and revised as necessary on a regular basis to ensure that they are adequate responses to changing conditions.
 - b. Recommendations may be relaxed or increased based on the recommendations of federal, state, and local health departments.

For questions or concerns, please contact the respective staff member:

Msgr. Kevin Ryan, Pastor

210-494-1606, x312 | kryan@stmarkevangelist.com

Dot Hamlin, Pastoral Administrator

210-494-1606, x311 | dhamlin@stmarkevangelist.com

Paul Vance, Director of Faith Formation

210-494-1606, x326 | pvance@stmarkevangelist.com

Rita Cabello, Coordinator of Children's Faith Formation

210-494-1606, x320 | rcabello@stmarkevangelist.com

Anne Kemper, RCIA Coordinator

210-494-1606, x329 | akemper@stmarkevangelist.com

Madonna Gil, Coordinator of Edge and Life Nights

210-494-1606, x331 | mgil@stmarkevangelist.com

Blake Tamez, Coordinator of Confirmation I and II Prep

210-494-1959, x 332 | btamez@stmarkevangelist.com