

COVID-19

Update #3






Opening Prayer

O Mary, you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith
firm.

You know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God.
Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver
us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



Highlights About
the Church from
Pope Francis
Address of His
Holiness Pope
Francis,
September 21,
2019

- ↴ You have reflected on a central theme for evangelization: **how to ignite the desire to know God despite the signs that obscure His presence.**
- ↴ And it ends up being a beautiful museum piece rather than **the simple and joyful home of the Father.**
- ↴ What our brothers and sisters often ask of us, perhaps without being able to ask the question, corresponds to their deepest needs: **to love and be loved, to be accepted for what one is, to find peace of heart and a joy that is more lasting than entertainment.**
- ↴ How important it is to feel challenged by the questions of the men and women of today! Without pretending to have immediate answers and without giving pre-packaged answers, but **sharing words of life**, not aimed at making proselytes, but at leaving room for the creative force of the Holy Spirit, Who frees the heart from the slavery that oppresses and renews it.
- ↴ In the light of this kerygma **the life of faith develops, which is not a complicated construction made up of many bricks to be put together, but the ever new discovery of the “fundamental nucleus”, the beating “heart of the Gospel ...** the beauty of the saving love of God made manifest in Jesus Christ Who died and rose from the dead” (ibid., 36).
- ↴ Since faith is a life that is born and reborn from the encounter with Jesus, that which in life is an encounter helps us to grow in faith: approaching those in need, building bridges, serving those who suffer, caring for the poor, “anointing with patience” those who are close to us, comforting those who are discouraged, blessing those who harm us... **In this way we become living signs of the Love we proclaim.**

Our plan during the COVID-19 Pandemic

On March 13, I sent a Memorandum with the following guidance:

Create a plan that includes at least the following:

- a. How and when will parents be notified of the changes in schedule and programming?
- b. Who should parents contact during this period?
- c. How will catechists and/or youth group leaders assist remotely during this time?
- d. What resources will be available online? in printed form?
- e. How will student progress be monitored and evaluated?
- f. How will adjustments be made to meet program requirements (service hours for Confirmation, retreat, etc.)?
- g. What are the plans once the health situation ends?

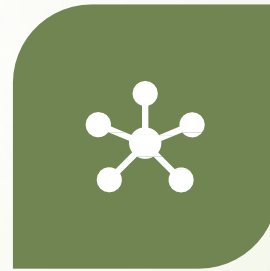
Purpose for GO TO MEETING



SHARE
INFORMATION AND
BEST PRACTICES



PROVIDE FORUM
FOR OUTREACH



CREATE A SUPPORT
NETWORK



DETERMINE NEEDS



Share Information



Weekly Secretariat Resources



On-line postings



Publishers



Partners



Personal experiences



Best practices



Provide a
forum for
outreach



How do we address the needs of those we serve?



How do we reach out to our various groups and individuals?



What resources do we provide?



What types of media do we use?



What does our social media look like?



Create a support network



For yourself



For your family



For your team



For those in your parish, Catholic academy and parish school



What are
the needs?



Your particular needs




The needs of the parents,
students, catechists, aides,
volunteers



Other needs



Sharing Practices

- What's working?
 - What's not working so far?
 - What needs to be adjusted?
 - What are some practical concerns?
- 



Safe Environment Policy

Safe Environment Policy on Distance Learning

In this difficult time, it is understood that we must rely on electronic communication to connect with our students so that the learning process is not totally interrupted. Teachers should feel free to communicate with their students electronically in groups. **Any communication should NOT be recorded.**

The Diocesan code of conduct for employees states:

As an employee I WILL NOT:

2.1. Interact with children, young people or those who habitually lack the use of reason through E-mail, social network sites, or other forms of electronic communications except for delivering information for the program I am providing.

If there are any questions please feel free to call Maryellen Quinn 718-965-7300 x2105

Adherence to this policy is mandatory.



Free Courses and Resources

- Catholic Distance University
- Catholic Faith Technologies
- National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry
- Textbook Companies (Sadlier, OSV, RCL-Benziger, Loyola, Pflaum, etc.)
- RENEW International
- Magis Center

Where to find information

- ↴ School of Evangelization on FACEBOOK
- ↴ Faith Formation folder on DioNet (First Class)
- ↴ In your in-box

- ↴ NEW Diocese of Brooklyn Resource web page
<https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/get-involved/religious-education-resources/>

Transitioning to OUTLOOK

- ↴ The Diocese has determined that OUTLOOK will replace First Class/DioNet
- ↴ All groups are being moved to OUTLOOK now or soon
- ↴ First Class/DioNet will eventually be discontinued
- ↴ Email addresses will change
- ↴ DRE s and YM s will be given a parish account that remains with the parish
- ↴ Everyone must comply—this will be our means of communication—do not use personal accounts
- ↴ A video will explain the transition and use of OUTLOOK
- ↴ Assistance will be provided by the IT Department ONLY

SEAST Grants

The Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Trust Religious Education Salary Grants were fully paid for 2019-2020.

No decision has been made yet concerning new or ongoing grants.

Spanish Resources

Nelsa Elias is now assigned to assist parishes with outreach to the Spanish community during these challenging times.

Please note that LLF courses online are offered in Spanish.

There will be a special Spanish resource section on <https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/get-involved/religious-education-resources/>

Holy Week and Easter Triduum Resources

Christian Rada created a wonderful family-friendly Easter Triduum resource. Please make good use of this resource by distributing it as widely as possible

In addition go to <https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/get-involved/religious-education-resources/> for a wide range of resources on all levels.

RENEW International



Catholic Distance University



Catholic Faith Technologies



Project YM





Issues for next GO TO MEETING on April 8

Send any items to tmusco@diobrook.org by April 3.