

The first half of 2020 has been challenging to our families, parish, community, and world. Throughout this time, the Seton Formation Staff has been praying for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we work on plans to continue our partnership with parents in the formation of their children in the ways of faith.

*Because of social distancing concerns, the decision has been made to temporarily discontinue Preschool Religious Education and Children's Liturgy of the Word during 9:30 Mass on Sundays.*

With safety in mind, we are preparing for the following options to be available to all families in September when classes are scheduled to resume. Additional details will be sent to families in the coming weeks.

#### **In Person Classroom Setting:**

- Masks will be required by all entering the Church and Parish Life Center buildings.
- Hand washing is encouraged prior to entering classrooms or once inside those rooms that have a restroom.
- The use of community supplies will be discontinued. If individual supplies are needed for class (pencil, crayons, notebook) parents will be notified prior to classes resuming.
- The number of children in each classroom and meeting space, as well as at each table will be limited to maintain social distancing.
- Opportunities may be available for meeting outside when weather permits.
- Reducing congestion in the hallways is being discussed during drop off and pick up times.
- Carmel Clay Schools has adjusted their daily schedules with a later start and end time for Middle School and High School. Because of this, Wednesday classes will meet from 4:30 – 5:30 PM to allow for families to get to class.

*Catechist Volunteers will be needed for the in person classroom setting. Please go here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084aaea92ba20-seton2> to sign up to help!*

#### **Home School Setting:**

- Families who prefer teaching their children at home will receive a student text book and syllabus to lead the grade specific lessons from home while following the same schedule as the In Person Classroom Setting.

#### **Virtual Supplement for All Families**

- In order to prepare for a time when in person classes may need to be suspended and to support those who will homeschool, a monthly family formation supplement will be sent to families. This supplement will include parent formation and resources for the upcoming lessons each month.
- Activities for the family will include opportunities such as movie and game night, preparing a meal together, prayers and preparations for the home to create moments of holiness in everyday life.

*Please take a moment to share your opinion concerning your families participation in religious education or youth ministry this school year. Kindly complete the survey found [here](#) by Monday August 10th.*

The staff at Seton is aware of the challenges that families face while children may be at home with e-learning, trying to work full time at home and balancing concerns of childcare, financial hardships and stress in the this COVID environment. It is our hope that giving the flexibility to choose the setting that works best for each family will keep faith formation accessible to all. We also recognize that adjustments may need to be made during the year.