



## DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH

### **Guidelines for Parish Gatherings Outside of Mass**

As we recommend parish gatherings, all must be mindful of and follow the established guidelines as follows:

- Safe Environment Guidelines
- Youth Ministry Guidelines
- Health Safety Guidelines – as follows

### **Health Safety Guidelines for Parish Gatherings Outside of Mass**

#### **General Guidelines**

1. Room Capacity: please use the following formula for maintaining social distancing
  - a. Room should be arranged to maintain 3 feet between persons and/or families -side to side and front to back
  - b. If persons of the same household are seated closer together, total occupancy is not to exceed the room capacity
  - c. Water fountains should remain covered
2. Meeting Guidelines
  - a. Room should be sanitized prior to the first event of the day and following the last event of the day
  - b. All participants should:
    - i. Sanitize hands by washing with soap and water (preferred) and/or alcohol-based hand sanitizers
    - ii. Masks are optional
    - iii. Maintain social distancing during all activities

#### **Specific Event Guidelines**

3. Retreats for Adults
  - a. Please submit the overnight retreat requests to the Very Reverend Jonathan Wallis, V.G., except those retreats scheduled and administered by Montserrat Retreat House
  - b. Day Retreats for adults and Sacramental preparation retreats held at parishes under the meeting guidelines are authorized
4. Overnight Youth Activities
  - a. Parish Led Retreats
    - i. Please submit the overnight retreat request form to Jason Spoolstra:  
<https://fwdioc.org/diocesan-forms>

#### **THE CATHOLIC CENTER**

- b. Youth Conferences/Workcamps/Summer Camps
    - i. Please submit the overnight retreat requests to Nancy Eder, RN.
    - ii. No International Travel is allowed
- 5. Child Care Programs
  - a. General
    - i. All programs allowed
    - ii. Please submit program protocols to Nancy Eder, RN.
  - b. Programs
    - i. Pre-School Programs
    - ii. Mother's Day Out Programs
    - iii. Parish Nurseries
- 6. Parish Festivals
  - a. For festivals: Please have a drive-through option:
    - i. Food delivered to people in cars
    - ii. Walk-up delivery is allowed
    - iii. Frequent hand-washing and hand sanitizing
    - iv. All wear masks for those handling food
    - v. Maintain social distancing
  - b. Outdoor gatherings allowed
    - i. Maintain social distancing
  - c. Please submit plans to Nancy Eder, RN.
- 7. Religious Education
  - a. General
    - i. In-person encouraged
  - b. Education Programs
    - i. Religious Education for K-12
    - ii. Adult Religious Education
    - iii. Family Catechesis
- 8. Sacramental Preparation
  - a. All Sacramental Preparation
    - i. In-person encouraged
- 9. Youth Groups and Discipleship Groups
  - a. In-person encouraged
- 10. Parish Offices
  - a. Offices may return to 100% in-person labor
  - b. Masks are optional in parish offices
- 11. Catholic Schools
  - a. Beginning June 1, 2021, face masks will be optional for students, staff and faculty at the Diocese of Fort Worth Catholic Schools for school events and functions.