

Safety Plan for This Year's 8th Grade Faith Formation Program in Light of

Covid-19:

What Is Our In-Person Limit?

- ❖ The current restrictions (as of 9/13/20) on indoor gatherings other than worship to which we must adhere is that only 25 persons are allowed in a single enclosed space at any time. This number is subject to change based on directives from the state of MA. The registered number of students for 8th Grade Faith Formation, combined with the Core volunteer team, meet that requirement and are therefore allowed to meet indoors in Reed Hall and to be safely distanced.

How Will The Students Be Gathering?

- ❖ Before the weather changes, part of our sessions will be held outdoors on the Resurrection lawn and we will transition into Reed Hall for programmatic material when involving videos.
- ❖ *Weekly Mass Fulfillment:* Everyone is encouraged to attend the Sunday, 5:30 PM Life Teen Mass (which is geared toward this age group where a faith-filled, peer community is built) on Resurrection Lawn, weather permitting

What Happens When the Weather Changes?

- ❖ Once the weather changes, we will be meeting solely in Reed Hall & safely distanced.
- ❖ If we are no longer able to meet in person safely due to, for example, Hingham entering the "red zone", we will be switching to virtual meetings. We will be updating you via email with more information if that time comes. We are not able to send the invitation to the student directly due to Archdiocesan regulations. Online students will be broken off from

the main meeting room into “break out rooms”. Those groups would mirror their small discussion groups where relationships had already been established. The online formation would be run by Teen Core and two CORI and VIRTUS trained Adult Core Members.

- ❖ *Weekly Mass Fulfillment:* When the weather changes, there will be an 80 person limit on indoor mass (per Governor Baker). Like many churches, online reservations will be taken. We understand not everyone will be able to attend the 5:30 PM Mass. Alternate Sunday Masses or the Saturday Vigil Mass will be available. Again, experiencing the immeasurable blessing of receiving Jesus in the Eucharist is integral to your son/daughter’s faith formation, so we ask that you please email Tahni Morell at edge8@hinghamcatholic.org with which Mass you plan to attend that weekend.

What Safety Protocol Does My Child Need To Follow?

- ❖ No food will be allowed in compliance with the Archdiocesan regulations.
- ❖ Masks must be worn at all times and at least 3 feet of distance must be maintained.
- ❖ Temperatures must be taken before entering indoors and attendance verified for contact tracking
- ❖ ***While outside, all students must still wear masks, maintain social distancing and bring their own chair.***

What Additional Measures are Being Taken to Ensure Safety?

- ❖ A trained cleaning crew will be using top cleaning solutions, without harsh chemicals, and will disinfect all chairs, used writing implements, bathrooms and commonly touched surfaces before and after every session.

- ❖ For indoor Mass, there will be one entrance and one exit. Temperatures and contact information will be taken and parishioners will be ushered to seats to ensure safe distancing. The sanctuary will be filled from back to front. Students will be asked to sit with families. If families are not present, students will sit with Core Volunteers and safely distanced.

In these extraordinary and challenging times, we are so grateful to God for the opportunity to gather and worship outside. In light of students being on Zoom for countless hours, we have labored tirelessly and prayerfully to provide a faith formation experience for your student that is still focused on building in-person relationships with peers and Teen and Adult Core through engaging and relevant catechesis, and in a safe manner. If families are not comfortable sending their students back in-person even with our safety precautions in place, please contact Tahni Morell at 781-413-5093 or at edge8@hinghamcatholic.org.

May God immeasurably bless you and we thank you for partnering with the Edge Core Volunteer Team for your son/daughter's 8th grade faith formation.