



Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland

510 Ocean Avenue
Portland, ME 04103-4936

Telephone: (207) 773-6471

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation (OLFF)
olff@portlanddiocese.org

DATE: April 20, 2022

TO: Pastors/Administrators; Parish Catechetical Leaders; Youth Ministry Coordinators; RCIA Coordinators; Pastoral Life Coordinators; Priests

FROM: Lori Dahlhoff, EdD, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation 

RE: Return to typical faith formation guidelines

Easter greetings! Jesus Christ has truly risen and opened the way to new life!

Starting today, the Diocese of Portland will no longer require Covid-19 specific restrictions for faith formation with children and teens. The Bishop and Chancery staff will continue to monitor conditions and if the number of positive cases surges in a specific town, city, or school, the Diocese could reinstate mitigation measures, including mandatory masking. Your attention and care since March 2020 have allowed for faith formation to continue without a parish program becoming a source of a community outbreak of Covid19 infections. God is indeed praised by your efforts.


We do suggest the following practices continue as we are mindful of one another and the health and well-being of our whole community:

- Self-Check before Participating: Ask staff, volunteers, and participants – regardless of vaccination status – to continue using the self-check before coming to a parish program. See Appendix One for a sample.
- Minimize crowded conditions and optimize ventilation to improve air quality
- Remain aware of community conditions and adapt gatherings as needed
- Remind individuals they may choose to wear a face covering
- Provide alternatives to large group gatherings for families with members who are immunocompromised just as you have throughout the pandemic



As always, please reach out to a member of the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation staff for support or assistance in providing catechesis and ongoing learning to the children, teens, and adults in your local community. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, pray for us and all families as we celebrate the gift of the Resurrection throughout the Easter season.



[Click](#) to access shareable pdf



#GrowingMoreLikeChrist
#CareForSelf&Others





ARE YOU...

✓ feeling well today? YES or NO
 or 

✓ free of symptoms or a positive diagnosis associated with a communicable illness like a cold or the flu? YES or NO
 or 

✓ willing and able to actively and fully participate in the gathering? YES or NO
 or 

 **If you answered YES to all three of questions, you are ready to join with others at the parish to grow more like Jesus Christ.**

 **If you answered NO to the second question stay home to care for others by caring for yourself until you are well.**

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland - April 19, 2022