



March 7, 2020

To IC-OLPH Youth Ministry + Confirmation Families,

As I continue to monitor the situation of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) I am aware, as you are, that things are changing rapidly. On Wednesday (3/4) Fr. Joseph and I agreed to suspend youth ministry for this Sunday (3/8) in an effort to keep teens and volunteers from doing anything “extra” and to limit exposure especially for the most vulnerable in our community.

Since then, new guidelines have been released from the CDC and Snohomish Health Department that recommend that people do not attend any programs where 50+ people are gathered. Everett School District and surrounding districts have cancelled/postponed all large group activities and extracurriculars.

I have struggled to make a decision about Confirmation prep for tomorrow, March 8, because I know many people have rearranged work/activities and some have even traveled to attend the Sponsor + Candidate session. However, at this point, it would be in everyone’s best interest to **cancel Sunday’s session**.

Instead of having an in-person class, I will offer a lesson plan and guide for sponsors to work on with their candidate, one-on-one. This is allow for us to continue on in the process while also following the advice of national and local health agencies. In order to do this, I will need names and contact info for each candidates sponsor. Please use the form, located [here](#) to submit that information.

Direct form link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeE7BrF3S5bO8C2AG2rbhGqqyq-gYwXPLRWiJfQSqp4XJjGPw/viewform?usp=sf_link

I will continue to monitor the situation carefully and will follow the advice of the CDC, Health Department and Seattle Archdiocese. Please know that even if we do resume programming that anyone who is not comfortable attending in person will be able to receive work to do at-home for Confirmation preparation. Hopefully we can work together to keep our community safe and healthy.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

God Bless,

Kelsie Mattingly

Director of Youth Ministry

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