

## A HANDWASHING HERO Continued...

Credited with having started a “handwashing revolution” was mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Viennese physician Ignaz Semmelweis. Semmelweis demonstrated that when doctors washed their hands before treating maternity patients, the mortality rate fell from 18.3% to 2%

How, precisely, does handwashing protect us, particularly from the coronavirus? As Dr. Lindsey Fitzharris explains, “The coronavirus...is enveloped in fatty layers that are easily dissolved by detergents, exposing the core of the virus and causing it to perish.”

Makes sense, doesn’t it? After all, we use detergents every day to clean our greasy pots and pans. So, wash, wash, wash those hands! And give a grateful thought to Ignaz Semmelweis.

-Jim Weingartner