



RE-OPENING 2020-2021

Option #1:
In-Person Learning



Option #2:
Full Remote Learning



[Enroll Here by July 31](#)

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear St. Paul Families,

We hope that you are enjoying your summer break and time spent together. As we prepare to begin what we hope to be the very best school year, we want to communicate significant information relative to how school will look this year. Our school theme this year is “With God all things are possible” Mt 19:26. Thank you for supporting our efforts and believing in our mission of being “inspired by St Paul, Centered on Christ, Called to Holiness.” We remain committed to your safety and health so that, together, we may realize this mission every day.

St. Paul will hold in-school instruction with safety and COVID-19 prevention measures in place as well as offer families a high-quality, rigorous and engaging online experience through the newly-adapted Digital Academy platform. If you would like your child - for any reason - to not attend school in a traditional on-campus setting please let us know by July 31 so we have time to plan accordingly.

[Sign up for full-time online learning using this link.](#) See more information below.

Additionally, St. Paul has developed an improved full distance learning program providing continuation of instruction in the event that a classroom or percentage of the student body must temporarily move to a virtual environment. Be assured that we monitor and are ready to adapt quickly to the guidance and request from the Centers for Disease Control, local health departments, Ohio Department of Education and Columbus Diocese. We will need full cooperation from our families in observing the sense of safe health practices in our community.

In His Name,

Dr. Carol Walsh

SCHOOL YEAR AND RE-OPENING INFORMATION

Although there are no strategies to completely eliminate transmission risk in schools, we are committed to keep transmission as low as possible to safely continue school. Increased health and safety precautions will be in place, including requiring all staff members and students in the Kindergarten or higher to wear masks. Students should keep 2 to 3 additional spare masks in their backpacks.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Parents will be expected to take student temperatures and do a symptom assessment daily prior to sending their children to school, and keep them home if ill.
- If students exhibit symptoms at school, they will be taken to a room set aside for possible COVID-19 cases, and sent home immediately. Parents/guardians will be notified to receive children within 30 minutes. Additional local emergency contact information will be required.
- Students and staff will follow current Diocesan COVID-19 Return to School/Work Guidelines.
- 6 ft. social distancing schematics for classrooms will be practiced whenever possible. Plexiglass table dividers will be installed in a small number of classroom spaces where 6 ft. social distancing is not possible due to permanently fixed furniture.
- Cleaning and sanitizing buildings, especially high-contact areas, will be a high priority.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available in classrooms and common areas.
- Students will be trained on proper hand washing techniques, hygiene, social distancing and the wearing of masks throughout the day.
- Solid color masks will be required for students in Kindergarten and higher (no writing or symbols).

GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

- All staff will be required to wear face masks and take a COVID-19 Health Assessment daily prior to coming to work every day.
- Visitors and volunteers will only be allowed in extenuating circumstances.
- Classroom doors will remain open as much as possible.
- Water fountains will be closed. Students should bring their own water bottles.
- Student lockers will not be used.
- Field trips will not be allowed.
- Students will be required to keep their own school supplies at their desks for independent use, rather than sharing with the class.
- Students should have an extra set of clothes available in their backpacks when school starts to store in their classrooms.

TRANSPORTATION

- We are planning to proceed as normal with district busing; however, the districts have not yet published final busing plans with safety and possible social distancing regulations.
- Parents are encouraged to transport their children to and from school when possible.
- Students will be expected to wear face masks at all times and use provided hand sanitizer when getting on and off the bus.

CAFETERIA

- To minimize foot traffic in the building and to allow for physical distancing, students will eat in the classroom.
- No nut products will be allowed in the classrooms.
- Hand washing or hand sanitizing will be required before and after lunch.
- Our administration and cafeteria staff are investigating possible cold lunch offerings for students.

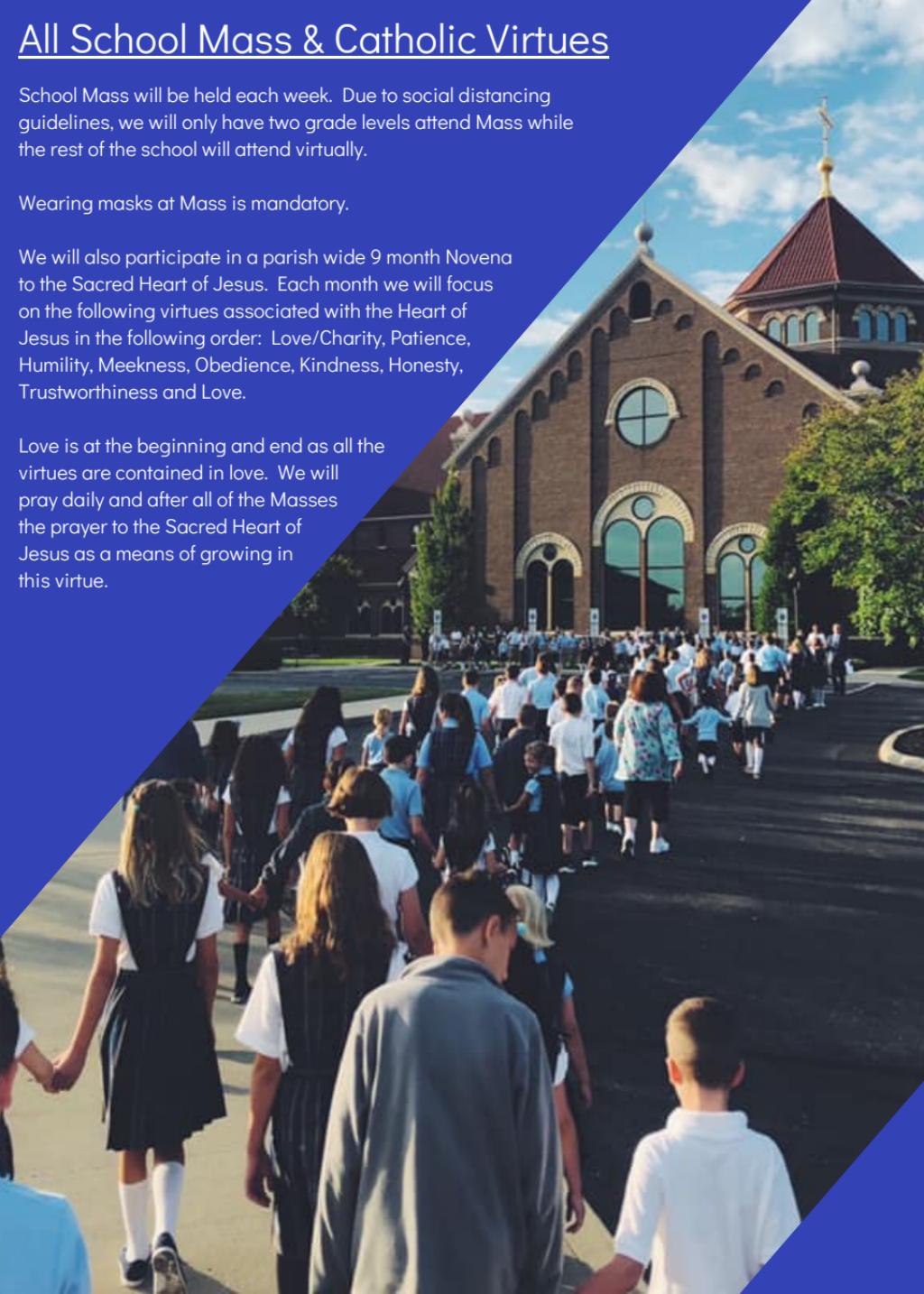
All School Mass & Catholic Virtues

School Mass will be held each week. Due to social distancing guidelines, we will only have two grade levels attend Mass while the rest of the school will attend virtually.

Wearing masks at Mass is mandatory.

We will also participate in a parish wide 9 month Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Each month we will focus on the following virtues associated with the Heart of Jesus in the following order: Love/Charity, Patience, Humility, Meekness, Obedience, Kindness, Honesty, Trustworthiness and Love.

Love is at the beginning and end as all the virtues are contained in love. We will pray daily and after all of the Masses the prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as a means of growing in this virtue.



ARRIVAL, DISMISSAL, AND TRANSITION

- Parents are asked to assist campus staff in the implementation of arrival and dismissal plans. When transporting or walking children to school, please follow all signage, drop off and pick up children at the appropriate locations, and quickly exit the parking lots.
- Parents will not be permitted to walk students inside the school building beyond the secure office foyer.
- Each group of students will be directed to a designated entrance prior to the start of school.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be placed at entrances, exits, and common areas throughout the building.
- All areas of the building (gym, cafeteria, larger classrooms, common areas, etc.) will be utilized to limit the size of student groupings.
- Dismissal exit points will be established.
- Classes will implement staggered entry and release procedures.
- Students will be released directly to and from their classrooms.
- Transition time of students will be limited as much as possible during the school day. Whenever possible, teachers will rotate into the classrooms to limit student transitions. Students in middle school will have a class schedule designed to limit student transitions during the school day.

RECESS

- Social distancing will be practiced to the greatest extent possible.
- Hand washing or hand sanitizing will be required before and after recess.
- Fixed recess equipment (e.g. jungle gym) will be closed until further notice.
- Masks will be required.

CLASSROOM CONFIGURATION & PROCEDURES



- Students will be seated 6 feet apart in a classroom or larger room to the greatest extent possible.
- Preschool students will be split between three different classroom spaces with each classroom separated by a divider (9 on each side, 18 total)
- Kindergarten students will be in their classrooms with their homeroom teachers all day.
- 1st Grade will be with their homeroom teacher all day, placed into two larger spaces and one regular classroom space.
- Grades 2nd - 4th, and 6th will be split into smaller cohorts of students and utilize classroom spaces.
- 5th Grade will stay as three homerooms and be placed into three larger classroom spaces.
- Grades 7th/8th will stay in homeroom groups and occupy larger areas (Miller Hall Cafeteria and Old Gym) for half of the school day including lunch. For the other half of the day, students will attend classes on the second floor in small cohorts.
- Teachers will teach their students daily. Paraprofessionals will assist students with individual work when the teacher is working with the other group.
- Students in grades 4-8 will be meeting with different teachers at different times. Face mask breaks will be scheduled in class throughout the day.
- Classrooms and hallways will have visual reminders of distancing requirements.
- Doors will be propped open between classes to minimize door handle contact.

ST. PAUL FULL TIME REMOTE OPTION

St. Paul will be providing an option for families who, even with all the preventative measures in place, do not feel comfortable sending their children to school, especially children who are medically fragile. Grade level teachers will deliver content based on a child's age and developmental level. Our goal is to streamline a mix of synchronous and asynchronous content so that in-person and remote students are co-participating as much as possible. This allows our remote students to access the same content as in-person learners and prevents the teachers from needing to prepare different lessons for both groups. We are considering live streaming in-person classes with the camera focused on the teacher using Digital Academy's secure platform. We will provide more detailed logistical information once we have more accurate enrollment numbers. Registration will be due by July 31. [Please use this link to register your child our full-time remote learning option.](#)

- Students must remain in the online program for a minimum of one quarter or 9 weeks before transitioning, if they choose, to in-person learning.
- Internet and computer access are required during the school day Monday through Friday. We will be providing Chromebooks for all students K-8.
- Parental support and supervision is necessary for a student to be successful.

DIGITAL ACADEMY CLASSROOM FEATURES

The new Digital Academy platform allows teachers to create informational pages, to create online content and track student progress, and to create and easily monitor online discussions. It is a fully integrated learning management system, providing a central location for assignments and resources for students whether in-person or remote. Digital Academy also includes a "Live Classroom" area where students and teachers (both in-person and remote) can interact digitally in real-time using audio and video conferencing, a shared whiteboard and a chat feature.

DISTANCE LEARNING (ALL VIRTUAL) PLAN

In the event a classroom or a percentage of students has COVID -19 at one time, the Ohio Department of Health may require students to move to a distance learning instructional model. Students will temporarily learn from home while their teachers work remotely in a classroom and deliver live instruction as well as self-paced activities.

- Students will have a formal start and end time of the school day. Daily attendance will be required.
- Teachers will be in a classroom, delivering live instruction in real time a large portion of the day.
- Internet and computer access is necessary. We will be providing Chromebooks to all students K-8.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Regardless of the learning model, all St. Paul students will receive social and emotional support every day.

Implementation of social and emotional learning will include:

- Teachers will receive professional development related to social and emotional learning and trauma informed classrooms.
- Student in-class and on-line activities will include a focus on St. Paul virtues, social and emotional learning, and will follow SEL competencies (Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship skills, Responsible Decision-Making).



Thank you to the members of the St Paul School Reopening Task Force who helped develop the plan for our safe return to school! The team includes members of the faculty, staff, administration, medical field, our school nurse, parents, parish office, our school cafeteria and after school program who guided the implementation of our reopening.