



March 2, 2020

Dear Valley Catholic Community,

Since our last communication with you on Thursday, February 27, regarding the coronavirus, known as COVID-19, there have been new developments, including one confirmed case of COVID-19 in Oregon. We continue to closely monitor developments in this rapidly changing situation.

Below are some frequently asked questions and answers:

What is Valley Catholic doing to keep students safe and healthy?

- Over the weekend, our custodial staff performed additional cleaning, wiping down door handles inside and outside of offices, building entrances and classrooms, as well as elevators and handrails. We routinely use bleach in restrooms as part of our regular daily cleaning routine. We will continue to enhance our efforts to keep surfaces as clean as possible.
- We continue to be in close contact and follow the guidelines of the Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Department of Education and the national Centers for Disease Control to monitor new developments and implement steps to ensure the safety of our students and community.
- We are ready to implement our Digital Learning Platform in the elementary, middle and high schools should the current situation change and require students to stay at home.

How can our families and the Valley Catholic community help stop the spread of COVID-19?

- The Oregon Health Authority recommends that schools take “common sense precautions” that help prevent the spread of all diseases. These practices include: keeping children home if they are sick until a fever has been gone for at least 24 hours without the use of medicine; seeking medical care immediately if symptoms, such as a high fever or difficulty breathing, become more severe; covering coughs with a sleeve or tissue; keeping tissues and “no touch” trash cans close by; washing hands often and keeping soap dispensers filled; and routinely cleaning surfaces that are frequently touched.
- Here are a few online resources to learn more:
 - [Coughing and Sneezing Etiquette from Centers for Disease Control](#)
 - [SAMHSA Coping with Stress During Infectious Disease Outbreaks](#)

How will this virus affect planned school-sponsored trips?

- We are closely monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department travel advisory information. If it is safe to travel, trips will go forward as planned. If it is deemed unsafe to travel, trips will be canceled or re-scheduled. We will keep all students and families informed of travel statuses as decisions are made.
- If your family is planning to travel, please check the [State Department Travel Advisories](#).

Here are a few more resources to find the latest information about COVID-19:

- [Statewide tracking of COVID-19](#)

- [Centers for Disease Control information about Coronavirus](#)

Valley Catholic will continue to update FAQs and post information concerning COVID-19 as the situation evolves. Please do not hesitate to contact school administration with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

John Matcovich
President
Valley Catholic School