**General Faith Formation Guidelines:**

1. **All youth, employees and volunteers should be advised as follows:**
2. **You should not participate in an event or come to church if you are sick for any reason.**
3. **Mask use by youth is at the discretion of parents or guardians. Mask use by adults is at the discretion of the individual. *In making a decision whether to wear a mask, those who have not been vaccinated must be mindful of their need to take other safeguards for the care of self and others, as recommended by public health authorities.***
4. **Good hand-washing hygiene should be maintained at all times.**
5. **To the extent possible, social distancing should be maintained in classrooms/meeting rooms, and rooms should be well-ventilated with outside air when possible.**
6. **High touch areas in classrooms/meeting rooms should be cleaned once per each day of use and disinfected as necessary.**
7. **For the time being, serving of buffet-style food is discouraged. The use of prepackaged individual servings of food remains the preferred method of food service at gatherings.**
8. **All Diocese of Manchester policies for child safety must be strictly observed at all times. These can be found here: https://www.catholicnh.org/family2/youth/child-safety/**
9. **All locations must follow the state and Federal guidelines on quarantining and isolation for those who test positive, travel outside the United States or on cruise ships, or have close contact with someone who has symptoms or confirmed COVID-19. Relevant guidance can be found here:**
   * 1. [https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/employee-travel-guidance.pdf](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dhhs.nh.gov%2Fdphs%2Fcdcs%2Fcovid19%2Fdocuments%2Femployee-travel-guidance.pdf&data=04%7C01%7Crdunn%40rcbm.org%7C6d72bd1594df4c55228d08d92aa88fcd%7C3b55b6744f934a708091262d87011e7d%7C0%7C0%7C637587725728275400%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=qB1RN%2FGeEAiKlzoS7w9pupwwWeL0alGlilDUI86EZ3k%3D&reserved=0)
     2. [https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/travel-guidance.pdf](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dhhs.nh.gov%2Fdphs%2Fcdcs%2Fcovid19%2Fdocuments%2Ftravel-guidance.pdf&data=04%7C01%7Crdunn%40rcbm.org%7C6d72bd1594df4c55228d08d92aa88fcd%7C3b55b6744f934a708091262d87011e7d%7C0%7C0%7C637587725728275400%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=XBRZoVK5nkZub7CP7Zn5BUEBio2%2Fp3XmntpxjYcM8%2BU%3D&reserved=0)

**Youth Trips:**

**In addition to the general guidelines listed above:**

1. **Parent and guardians should be informed that, given the varying degrees of COVID precautions that different organizations have put into place, it is possible that some or even most of the people who are in attendance at the destination will not have been vaccinated or be taking full precautions against COVID. Further, destination state and local guidelines, precautions, and regulations for out-of-state visitors must be observed.**
2. **Diocesan Policies for Permissions, Waivers, and Insurance. All standard diocesan polices must be followed as contained in Quadra. Permission forms, insurance, and waivers for volunteers and participants must be obtained per the policies. Sample templates can be found on Quadra. Permission forms should also include an understanding on how the child will be picked up by a parent or family member if they develop COVID-19 symptoms or fail a screening test during the trip. Contingency arrangements should be in place for staff members and volunteers, should they develop COVID-19 symptoms or fail a screening test.**
3. **Venue/Event Considerations. Given that the state of COVID-19 in New Hampshire, New England and throughout the country can change rapidly, caution is encouraged when booking youth events in advance. Deposits should be** **refundable or at the very least able to be applied to future event. In a similar way, policies should be developed for the return of funds to participants who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, test positive for COVID-19, or do not pass the screening process (see below) and therefore would be unable to join the trip.**
4. **Screening and Illness Before and During the Trip. Immediately before traveling, and each morning during an overnight trip, participants, staff and volunteers must be screened for COVID-19 in accordance with the screening questions in the New Hampshire Universal Best Practices document. See the Appendix for questions and sample form. If, before leaving, any question is yes, or if they have a temperature of 100.4 or higher, then they must not participate in the trip. If during the trip any question is yes, or if they have a temperature of 100.4, or they exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms, they must be isolated and return home by private transportation. It is important to make arrangement with each parent in advance so that, in the event their child does not pass a screening, or exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, a family member is able to pick them up. Arrangement should be made in advance for staff and volunteers as well. A noncontact thermometer should be available for screening.**
5. **Buses. Buses may be used if current diocesan policies for insurance, contracts, waivers, and guidelines are followed. These can be found on Quadra. Additionally, the bus company must follow all CDC, state, and industry guidelines for operating during the COVID-19 pandemic. See busing information from the CDC in their K-12 Guidance.**
6. **Use of Vans or Cars. If vans or cars are used for transportation, in addition to other requirements each adult who has not been vaccinated must wear a mask while in the vehicle.**
7. **Assistance Contacts. For more information or assistance, please contact any of the following individuals:**

* **Kelly Goudreau, Director of Parish Faith Formation (**[**kgoudreau@rcbm.org**](mailto:kgoudreau@rcbm.org)**, 603-663-0145)**
* **Meredith Cook, Chancellor (mcook@rcbm.org, 603-663-0148)**
* **Dennis Honan, Director Operations and Administration (dhonan@rcbm.org, 603-663-0112)**

***Revised* August 2021**

***Note that all of these provisions are subject to change as events may warrant***