

Guidelines for Religious Education Classes from the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings

It is the decision of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings that in-person catechesis (sacramental prep, ongoing **youth and adult** faith formation, youth groups, etc.) should be permitted this Fall throughout the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. Not every parish or mission will be able to move forward with in-person classes, and any parish/mission **which does must comply with all state, county, and local COVID-19 restrictions and cleaning guidelines.**

A good indicator for whether in-person catechesis should be occurring is whether in-person class is occurring at the local schools.

The general precautions that the catechetical program is taking to ensure the safety of students/participants as instructed by the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings are the following:

- If masks are not required in your county or municipality, social distancing of no less than 6 feet should be maintained by all students/participants and catechists. If masks are required by local authority, masks should be worn by all students/participants and catechists.
- After all classes/gatherings/presentations, all surfaces should be disinfected using proper cleaning supplies proven to assist in eliminating or preventing COVID-19.

St. Matthew's will have a backup plan for remote catechesis should the need arise for the full community or should a parent request it for any reason for his/her child(ren). We are currently checking the available options to best fit our needs.

Please check your email or fill out a survey found in the foyer of the church as soon as possible. We are putting together plans and need to know number of students that will be attending in person.