



February 5, 2020

Dear Resurrection Families,

The health and safety of students and staff in our school community is important. We are writing to provide you with an update on the evolving health issue involving the coronavirus that has emerged from Wuhan, China over the past weeks.

The Archdiocese of Chicago has been working closely with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and closely monitoring the advice of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Please note the recommended actions to protect yourself and others from this virus are:

1. Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water is not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
2. Stay home when you are sick. Stay home from work, school and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
4. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw in the trash.
5. Clean and disinfect surfaces or objects. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill.

If you or someone from your family experiences concerning symptoms, such as severe cough; rapid noisy, painful, or other difficulty breathing; and dehydration, please contact your health care provider immediately for advice. If there is a significant diagnosis made by your doctor, we ask that you notify Ms. Bernardin (Tbernardin@reshs.org or Ext 113) or Dr. Piwowarski (Rpiwowarski@reshs.org or Ext 130).

We will continue to provide updates and guidance as needed. You may also learn more through the CDC at: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus. We have also included a link to a fact sheet from the CDC on the Coronavirus.

[CDC Coronavirus Fact Sheet](#)

We ask that you keep those impacted by this virus in your prayers.

**Important Health Information Email blast
Sent Feb 5, 2020**



Preventing the Spread of Coronavirus

The best way of controlling the spread of Coronavirus and any virus is staying home when you are ill. **Therefore, we are asking all staff and students to stay home when they are suffering from the symptoms of flu or virus.** Rest is important for the person suffering from flu or virus and protects others from the virus. It is also a good idea to seek advice from your physician.

The following information from the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* is helpful for understanding Coronavirus and its spread.

Current understanding about how the virus that causes coronavirus disease spreads is largely based on what is known about similar viruses.

Person-to-person spread

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet)
- Via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

Spread from contact with infected surfaces or objects

It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

When does spread happen?

- People are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest).

How easily does the virus spread?

How easily a virus spreads from person-to-person can vary. Some viruses are highly contagious (like measles), while other viruses are less so. Another factor is whether the spread continues over multiple generations of people (if spread is sustained). The virus that causes COVID-19 seems to be spreading easily and sustainably in Hubei province and other parts of China. In the United States, spread from person-to-person has occurred only among a few close contacts and has not spread any further to date.