



ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI
Office of the Superintendent of Schools

October 29, 2021

Dear Catholic School Parents and Guardians,

The Archdiocese of Miami continues to monitor community statistics as they related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. While COVID continues to impact many individuals and families throughout South Florida, recent trends have improved significantly. I am therefore pleased to announce a number of revisions to our existing COVID policies as they relate to Catholic schools. More information about these revisions can be found alongside this letter. Elementary parents should be particularly mindful of our decision to make masks optional for fully vaccinated students in grades 7 and 8 (with verification of vaccination status), effective Nov. 8, 2021.

Please note that, while this is good news, it is important that COVID-related protocols remain in our Catholic schools for the protection of all students and employees. These protocols include such practices as masking for unvaccinated individuals, social distancing, etc. Likewise, we will continue to closely monitor COVID trends and may need to reintroduce more restrictive practices if trends worsen.

Perhaps most crucially, it is very important that all eligible individuals receive a vaccine. While vaccinations are not required for attendance or employment at a Catholic school, we highly encourage you to receive a vaccination if you have not already done so. We anticipate that vaccines will be available for children as young as 5 years old in the coming days.

As always, I am grateful for your partnership and trust during this complex time. May God continue to bless and protect our students, employees, and families.

Yours in Christ,

Jim Rigg, Ph.D.
Secretary of Education
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of Miami