SAINT ANASTASIA
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Dear Parents,

Saint Pope John Paul II said, "*I plead with you--never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid.*" These words are needed now, more than ever. Since early 2020 we have encountered so many unknowns. These unknowns brought changes that caused many to doubt the course of daily life, become discouraged and fear the unknown that COVID-19 brings.

With the help of many of our doctors and researchers, we know some ways to help curb the spread of this virus. I intend to follow each of the recommended guidelines given by the CDC as well as those given to me from the Diocesan office. I have always kept the safety of the children and families a high priority in our programs. This is no different. Two major guidelines to assist in limiting exposure to this pandemic are:

1. **Social Distancing:** The CDC recommends people maintain a distance of 6-feet from one another. In order to comply with this guideline, there will be changes to the weekly PREP program. Many of our Wednesday PREP grade-level numbers exceed the number we can hold in the classroom in order to adhere to the 6ft. guidelines.

Therefore, **this year's PREP families, who wish to continue to participate in the classroom learning, will be divided into two groups. Meetings will alternate every other week or as indicated on the enclosed schedule.** Parents will be provided take home review materials to work with their child(ren) on the Wednesdays they are not in class.

Group I—The Saints
Group II—The Angels

Drop-Off and Pick-Up changes *will take place to minimize traffic in the hallways of the building in order to maintain social distancing.*

More information on these changes and which group you will be assigned will be given once registration forms are completed and returned.

2. **Masks or Face Shields:** Are required at this time for those attending on Wednesday evening.

In the past, some of our families have opted for our **Home Study program** due to conflicts on Wednesday night. This option is offered to those who prefer to remain home during this pandemic. If you choose this option, please be sure to mark it on your registration form.

Enclosed in this packet are the following forms:

A. **Parish Religious Education Program Registration Form** for 2020-2021: Complete and return

B. **Child Photography Release Form**: Sign and return

C. **Safety Procedures in Religious Education due to COVID-19**: Read in its entirety

D. **Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to COVID-19:** Read, sign and return

E. PREP Calendar for 2020-2021

Through all of the unknowns, changes, and challenges COVID-19 has brought and continues to bring, God has stayed his course. He has been with each of us as we struggle to live a 'new normal'. His Love, His Son, and His Spirit is the hope that we can lean on, rely on and depend on to guide us through these days. Keep the hope strong!

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Denise Pressley
Denise Pressley, M.P.S
Director of Religious Education