

## Sisters and Brothers,

I am grateful for your patience, support, and respect over the last five months. We have maintained a safe and healthy environment for staff and parishioners. During this time, we have made several updates and adjustments to the campus. We have tried to stay fiscally responsible and mitigate the financial impact of COVID-19. Mass attendance continues to increase but is still not at our maximum capacity. We have had numerous parishioners step up in volunteer roles for us to celebrate Mass every day, as we could not have celebrated Mass without them.

As we start to open the campus to school, events, meetings, and activities, your patience, creativity, and flexibility will be essential to provide a safe environment. Please remember if you are experiencing any symptoms of illness, please stay home. Wash your hands regularly and repeatedly. Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth and avoid touching your face.

During the last few months, we have made a few changes on campus.

- A member of our maintenance team cleans the Church after every daily Mass and works with volunteers in cleaning the Church after every Sunday morning Mass.
- High traffic and frequently touched surfaces are regularly cleaned on campus and in the offices.
- The campus has some new furniture that replaced broken or hard to clean pieces.
   St. Paul VI High School donated some of their furniture because of their move to the new campus. Some of our furniture and items were donated to a local church and charitable organizations.
- Staff offices have been rearranged, cleaned, and painted, so no one shares an office, and our staff conference room is larger for physical distancing.
- When you enter the Parish Administration Office, our receptionist Tommy Miossi is straight ahead with a window, so he can assist you with whatever you need.
- Maria Romero, our Welcome Coordinator/Hispanic Community Liaison, continues to be in the front office.
- OLGC School's 2020-21 reopening plan was approved by the Virginia Council on Private Education (VCPE) and the Diocese of Arlington's Office of Catholic Schools. This plan includes in-person classroom instruction five days a week. For more details, please visit the School website.
- OLGC's CCF (Catholic Christian Formation for Children) will begin virtually. The
  goal will be to meet in person as soon as possible, but right now all of the sessions
  will be online, through Zoom with additional videos and supplementary materials.
  Fore more details, please visit the <u>CCF webpage</u>.
- OLGC's Adult Faith Formation opportunities will begin virtually; see website for details.
- OLGC's Youth Ministry is planning a combination of in-person and virtual events. More details to come.
- The staff has developed guidelines for in-person meetings and events which can be read on the <u>website</u>. The guidelines for sports activities are forthcoming.
- OLGC organizations that have submitted requests for space will receive notifications from Cheryl Jones regarding their event. Any organization wanting to meet virtually can schedule to use one of our Zoom accounts if available.
- We also made a few changes to attending Mass. These changes were sent out in last week's email update.

We remind everyone that these are uncertain times, and the environment is everchanging. We have progressed through Phase One, Two, and now Three, because of our support and faith. Please continue to follow these essential guidelines and hold each other accountable to be sure we keep heading in the right direction.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. I hope that you and your families are safe, healthy, and happy, and I look forward to seeing you.

Live Jesus! Fr. Matt frhillyard@olgcva.org All through love, nothing through force or fear.

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