



OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
MEMORANDUM

November 9, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We pray for everyone to have a joyous and safe time with their family and friends as you gather for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We encourage you to consider the guidance from CDC as you make your plans. Please note the attached REVISED diocesan travel policies which apply across the diocese.

In our October 18th Memorandum we indicated that *“Masks will be required after the Thanksgiving Break (November 29 through December 10) and following Christmas Break (through January 14.)”* However, given the current transmission levels in our counties we have decided that we will relax the mandate for masks following the Thanksgiving holiday and **strongly encourage** those who travel, especially unvaccinated individuals, to wear masks for the two weeks after Thanksgiving through December 10. Provided this does not cause a significant spike in cases in our schools, we will similarly relax the mandate for masks following the Christmas break.

Please remember that if someone is sick, they should stay home. If COVID-19 symptoms are present, please get a PCR test and provide a negative result to the administrator before returning to school. Notify the school administrators if someone tests positive. Please continue to follow the guidance in the FDOE Decision Tree distributed on September 24, 2021.

This protocol adopted by the Diocese of Palm Beach for its schools related to COVID-19 is the product of considered judgement and a function of religious autonomy in the administration of its private religious schools. All parents are expected to cooperate with the school administration on this and all school policies.

We pray for an abundance of blessings for your family this Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Yours in Christ,

Gary Gelo

Gary Gelo
Superintendent of Schools