

The Way is open to all teens in 9th-12th grade who have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation. **The Way will meet on Sundays from 7:15pm-8:30pm immediately following the 6pm Youth Mass.** If you are in a high risk category, and cannot attend on campus, we will offer a virtual alternative. In light of COVID, we will be taking the following precautions:

The Way will no longer meet as a large group in the church after youth mass. 9th graders, and new 10th graders, will be placed in a designated small group. The groups will remain consistent for their two years in The Way. Each small group will be assigned a specific entrance/exit and a classroom. They will stay in the same classroom for the entire year. Upon drop off, the teens are to go to their designated entrance and immediately to their assigned classroom.

Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic Church will not allow any person to enter our buildings who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 14 days, has recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, or is experiencing any of the following symptoms:

Fever or chills (Fever 100.4 or greater), Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue, New loss of taste or smell, Muscle or body aches, Congestion, or runny nose, Sore throat, Headache, Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

To minimize the risk of exposure, we will begin the year by limiting access to our campus buildings to only teens in our programs and core team.

Temperature Checks

Before entering any building, all core team and teens will have their temperature taken. Core team or teens, who have confirmed to have a temperature of 100.4°F or above will not be allowed to enter the building.

Screening Questionnaire

Every person will be required to complete a screening questionnaire before entering all buildings. Core team and teens answering yes to any screening questions will not be allowed to enter the building/s.

Physical Distancing

Everyone will be advised to maintain physical distancing by standing at least six feet away from other people while standing in lines or moving around the buildings. Each classroom has been adjusted for increased spacing, keeping six feet of distance between teens. Signage will be in place throughout the school building to remind everyone to remain six feet apart. We will utilize four entrances and exits to help spread out foot traffic. Each small group will be assigned a specific entrance/exit they will use for the entire school year. We will no longer be gathering as a large group in the gym. Upon entering the building, your teen is to go directly to their classroom for small group. We will comply with local or state mandated occupancy limits.

Face Coverings

Face coverings must be worn at all times.

Teens should be able to wear, remove, and handle masks following CDC guidance.

General Hygiene

Please review best practices for the prevention of the spread of germs with your teen. Frequent hand washing for at least 20 seconds is one of the most essential health and hygiene habits you can teach your child.

Hand Sanitizer

Hand sanitizer dispensers are placed at/inside the: school entrances, school office, health room, and all classrooms.

Building Signage

There will be health and hygiene reminders throughout the school. The main entrance of school and the activity building will have COVID-19 information posted to read before entering with signs reminding everyone to wear masks and maintain social distancing while on campus. Hand hygiene posters are in all restrooms and near all sinks in the classrooms, kitchen, and health room. Markings are on the pavement outside the school entrance and on the floors in the hallways to remind everyone to keep six feet social distance.

Cleaning

Classrooms, desks, chairs, and other high-touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day. After STMM school lets out, all classrooms we will be utilizing will be disinfected.

Small Groups

Small groups will be limited to under 10 teens with 1-2 adults per classroom. Classrooms are set up to hold 12-15 people socially distanced in all directions. Once assigned to a small group, teens will stay in that group for their entire time in The Way. We try, also, to keep the same adults with the teens for two years. Teens should only have long term exposure to the teens in their small groups (which again is under 10).

***Please note that the number of small groups we offer is in direct correlation to the number of volunteer core team leaders we will have. The number of core team volunteers drives the number of registered teens we can accept.**

In response to COVID, this will be a one year commitment. We will be unable to take additional registrants or change your registration after the program begins.

Registration Fees

- Registration for registered/contributing STMM parishioners is \$100.00 per teen until September 15th 2020. After September 15th, a \$50.00 late fee will be charged to all teens registering.
- If you are new to our parish your fee is \$175.00 for the first year regardless of date of registration.
- If you are not a registered parishioner of STMM or a registered/non-contributing member your registration fee is \$175.00 for this year until September 15th. After September 15th, a \$50.00 late fee will be charged in addition to the \$175.00 fee.
- Late online registration will remain open until September 30th. Registration will officially close on September 30th and spots will be considered on a case by case basis. The first night of The Way will be October 4th, 2020.