



## DIOCESE OF AMARILLO

### Catholic Education Office

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to you, the parents and guardians of the children in the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Amarillo, to share valuable information with you about the current Novel H1N1 pandemic situation.

All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Amarillo must be vigilant in providing information and teaching the students about taking safety precautions when coughing and sneezing, not sharing items if they are ill, staying home from school for twenty-four hours without fever lowering medication. Great care is being taken to clean each of the schools on a daily/frequent basis. Periodic educational information is provided to the principals who inform you, the parents, through handouts, newsletters and internet communications.

We are continuing to receive important information and guidelines from the Texas health department as to what we must do to keep our schools safe, healthy and in session. If there is a magnitude of faculty or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function, it will close down until the sickness has subsided. You should plan now for the care of your children during school hours should it become necessary to close a school due to Novel H1N1 influenza.

Each of the school's administrators in the Diocese of Amarillo are notified of the information received by the Diocesan Catholic School Office pertaining to this influenza. In addition, the Diocesan Schools Office consults with the Catholic School Superintendents in the other 14 dioceses in the State of Texas and with the TCCED for their guidance and expertise as we strive to continue to provide a solid, Catholic education for your children under all circumstances in a safe environment.

**Protection begins with each individual:**

1. Cover coughs and sneezes,
2. Wash hands well with soap and water frequently
3. If sick, stay at home
4. Get the seasonal flu vaccine NOW. These safeguards will slow down the spread of this H1N1 virus.

We ask you, the parents and guardians of these most precious children to continue to be vigilant at home and in your lives. You will continue to receive information from your individual schools. Further information can be found at: [www.texasflu.org](http://www.texasflu.org).

Let us continue to pray for our school communities and the families during this global health crisis.

Sincerely,

Bernice M. Nogglar  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools  
Diocese of Amarillo