

Dear **[Volunteer Individual's Name]**,

During these times of the novel coronavirus, we here at **[Name of Parish]** have been actively planning and working toward offering in-person ministries and activities. As permissible and consistent with applicable public health restrictions and guidance, we are continuing to resume some of our Parish ministries and programs. We also continue to remain committed whenever possible to offering our ministries and activities to those who cannot participate in person via remote offerings.

Although challenges created by the coronavirus continue to develop and change almost daily and much remains uncertain, we are certain of the following:

1. The health, safety, and welfare of every member of the Parish community is our highest priority.
2. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO). Medical knowledge regarding COVID-19 continues to evolve, but COVID-19 is reported to be extremely contagious and is believed to spread through person-to-person contact and/or contact with contaminated surfaces and objects, possibly even in the air. The exact methods for spread, contraction, and infection are unknown and there is no known treatment, cure, or vaccine for COVID-19. Evidence has shown that COVID-19 can cause serious and potentially life-threatening illness and/or death.
3. The measures we take to protect the community from COVID-19 will continue to be informed by the most up-to-date advice from federal, state, and local public health officials.
4. Even with the precautions and measures we implement, no one, including the Parish, can guarantee an environment without risk of the spread of COVID-19. It is simply not possible to do so. For more information about the nature of the virus, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.
5. In addition, minimizing the risk of COVID-19 spread or spread of any other disease is a shared responsibility. All members of the Parish community, including volunteers in our ministries and programs, must do their part. In addition to basic hand hygiene (frequent washing and sanitizing) and respiratory etiquette (not coughing into one's hand or in close proximity to others), this includes adhering to any measures that the Parish may deem appropriate, such as temperature checks, social distancing, wearing cloth face coverings, isolating or quarantining away from the Parish when required, and other precautionary measures. Your compliance is necessary not only for your own safety but for the safety of others. Participants should not report to Parish programs or activities if they have a fever or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. For more information about symptoms, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

6. Volunteers with disabilities who think they may need accommodations related to COVID-19 or who, because of age or underlying medical conditions, may be at increased risk should contact the Parish to discuss further. Please contact _____ by calling _____ or e-mailing _____.
7. If you return to the physical Parish campus, there is an inherent risk that you could be exposed to and contract COVID-19. By entering the Parish campus, you indicate your acknowledgement of and agreement to accept and assume this risk.

In the meantime, we encourage everyone to stay safe and pray for those affected by this worldwide pandemic. We kindly ask that you sign and date where provided to indicate your understanding and acknowledgement of the contents of this letter. In signing below, you merely acknowledge that you have received and reviewed this document and that you understand the inherent risks associated with COVID-19 while being present on the Parish campus.

Sincerely,

By my signature below, I acknowledge I have received the above warnings regarding the risks of exposure to and contraction of COVID-19 while present on Parish property and/or while participating in activities and ministries on the Parish property. I further acknowledge and agree that by being present on Parish property, I have assumed those risks.

Name (printed)

Signature

Date