Developing Protocols for Cleaning and Disinfecting
Background

Cleaning vs Disinfecting - Why Does it Matter?
Cleaning vs. Disinfecting

Cleaning

• The removal of dirt and impurities, including germs from surfaces.
• By removing germs, this decreases their number and reduces the risk of spreading infection.
• Can be done with soap and water or a cleaning solution

Disinfecting

• The process of using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces
• This is done after the surface has been cleaned
Disinfecting

Things to consider:
How Do Disinfectants Work?

• Destroy the cell wall of a bacteria or the lipid around a virus
• Interfere with the pathogen’s metabolism
• Disinfectants do not kill pathogens on contact.
• Some disinfectants will kill rapidly, minimizing dwell time.
• Read all labels to determine the length of time needed to kill pathogens and leave on the surface for the appropriate amount of time.
• Disinfecting lasts for a moment in time – no long term protection
Considerations for Disinfecting

- Is the product appropriate for use on multiple surfaces, including wood, metals, marble, etc.?
  - Many disinfectants are very corrosive and will destroy certain surfaces.
  - Read all labels carefully to ensure it is safe to use.
  - Test product in multiple places to be sure fabrics will not discolor, wood finishes remain intact, and no damage occurs to metals.
Considerations for Disinfecting

• Is the product safe to use without causing secondary health issues?

• If using a product that requires the use of PPE to apply, respirators, gloves, etc. must be provided and worn.
• Read all labels carefully to determine if there are exposure warnings.
• We don’t want to use products that trigger asthma, respiratory, or dermal issues.
• It is not necessary to choose disinfectants that are used for industrial, hospitals, or other applications.
Considerations for Disinfecting

• Supply and Cost

• Make sure that you are able to procure enough disinfectant supply to adequately deploy your protocols.
• Supply chain issues are real – consider having a primary and a secondary option if one is not available
• It is not necessary to buy the most expensive product. Simple, everyday cleaners and disinfectants are all that is needed.
Considerations for Disinfecting

• How often do disinfectant protocols need to be deployed?

• After every Mass, disinfection protocols should be implemented.
• All high touch points should be disinfected continuously.
• As parishes and facilities re-open, additional protocols will need to be established for classrooms, offices, and parish centers.
• Disinfectants act at a moment in time – there is no long term protection.
What is the best for my site?

- High potency, hospital grade bacteriocides, virucides, and fungicides are OVERKILL.
- Look for products that are residential and light commercial grade.
- Consider those that carry an EPA, category IV label. These are:
  - Non-toxic
  - Non-corrosive
  - Have no human health concerns
  - Require no PPE
Category IV Disinfectants

• Hypochlorous Acid
  • Anolyte water
  • Electrolyzed water

• Chlorine Dioxide

• Name Brands:
  • Sniper
  • Envirocleanse
  • Pure and Clean
  • Clean Smart
Methods and Procedures for Disinfecting
Methods for Disinfecting – Pros and Cons

**Electrostatic Sprayers**
- Pros –
  - Fast
  - Anyone can do
  - Full 360° coverage
- Cons –
  - Sprayers are unavailable until Fall 2020
  - Initial cost is high

**Outside Vendor**
- Pros –
  - Someone else is responsible
  - Do not have to worry about manpower, PPE, procuring supplies
- Cons –
  - Expensive
  - May pay double for weekends

**In-House w/Staff and/or volunteers**
- Pros –
  - Labor cost is low
  - Supplies can be bought in bulk
- Cons –
  - People must be trained
  - Must have enough staff or volunteers
  - Need to procure supplies and ensure safety protocols followed
Guidance Procedures

• Use an approved, appropriate disinfectant and cleaner.
• Perform routine cleaning tasks first – emptying trash, dusting, and vacuuming.
• Wipe down all surfaces with a cleaner
• Begin sanitizing/disinfecting procedures when cleaning is complete
• Disinfect from high areas to low areas so that pathogens that drop onto lower surfaces are picked up
• Disinfect from “cleaner” areas to “dirty” areas to minimize cross-contamination.
• Continually disinfect high touch points
• Follow all directions on labels