

DIOCESE OF MARQUETTE
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Date: May 29, 2020
To: All 2020-2021 Legacy of Faith Grant Recipients
From: Most Reverend John F. Doerfler, STD, JCL
RE: COVID-19 Precautions for LOF Grant-funded Programs

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At the time of 2020-2021 LOF grant approvals, the Diocese of Marquette has just begun the second phase of reopening by resuming the public celebration of Mass, which does not mean a return to normal. In collaboration with clergy and lay leaders, we are currently in the planning phases of how various parish ministries, religious education, Catholic schools, etc. can continue while minimizing the risk of spreading the disease. These grant approvals were made with an awareness that we still need to observe social distancing precautions for some time as we strive to extend the love of Christ to one another.

Therefore, it is expected that all parishes, Catholic Schools and organizations receiving Legacy of Faith grant funds for 2020-2021 will adhere to all applicable directives at the time the grant-funded program occurs.

To access the most recent Diocese of Marquette directives and recommendations, please continue to regularly visit our website at <https://dioceseofmarquette.org/response>.

It was assumed that Faith Formation grant applications for bus trips and similar travel with unrelated persons would not be allowed in the near future because of the risk of spreading COVID-19; therefore, such programs planned for Fall 2020 were not funded. Approval of in-person programs is predicated on the program coordinators taking precautions to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 as much as possible. If grant recipients do not believe the grant-funded program can be effectively carried out in compliance with the directives for our diocese, grant funds should be returned. The mission of faith formation remains of utmost importance, and I wish to commend all those earnestly engaged in this mission in the new and creative ways needed to adapt to our current circumstances.

Established policy options for using or returning Legacy of Faith grant funds remain in effect. If you have any questions or wish to talk through the options for a particular program, please contact Terri Gadzinski at tgadzinski@dioceseofmarquette.org.