

March 9, 2020

Dear Families Holy Name of Jesus School,

Governor Tom Wolf announced that two cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) have been “presumed positive” in the Philadelphia area. We wish to reassure you that the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff are a top priority for Holy Name of Jesus School.

While we continue to closely monitor this situation, our school will continue normal operations. For the moment, we plan to act as we do for inclement weather: we will follow the public school schedule if any closures are needed.

Our school and the Diocesan Education Office are closely monitoring this situation. The Education Office is involved in local and state-wide briefings and meetings. We continue to work and follow the recommendations from our state and national health departments, including thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. You and your family can also help keep our school and your family healthy by following these recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (it’s longer than you think - try saying the Pledge of Allegiance twice or silently sing “Happy Birthday” twice, too).
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) if soap and water are not available.
- Apply the “not above the shoulders” rule — avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect commonly used surfaces frequently.

To prevent the spread of disease and for the health of all those at Holy Name of Jesus School please do not send your child(ren) to school if they are sick. As we all continue to monitor this situation, more information can be found at [www.health.pa.gov](http://www.health.pa.gov) or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html).

As always, thank you for trusting Holy Name of Jesus School with the wellbeing of your child(ren). Please know of our continued prayers for all our families during this uncertain time.

Blessings,

Sister Rita Smith, SSJ  
Principal