



FLU SEASON UPDATE

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

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SHARE AND TRANSLATE AS NEEDED.

REMEMBER THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO FAX OR E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION.

FALL '09/WINTER '10

Bulletin No. 4

December 4, 2009

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

ONE PETER YORKE WAY, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109

December 4, 2009

Dear Friends and Co-Workers in the Archdiocese,

Statistics and news reports are confirming that while both influenza viruses are still evident, the second wave of 2009 appears to have peaked, and the next wave may not begin until after the new year begins. Through November, 2009, we have seen student absences reach the same levels as normally seen in previous years, while the number of adult absences has been slightly lower than normal.

Thank you for the preventive measures you are taking! Please be mindful that the many Christmas visitors coming our way, along with your own holiday plans, will increase the need for you to clean thoroughly. Many people will have been exposed to close contact while traveling by plane, shopping in crowded malls, and attending holiday events. At the same time, we are expecting our buildings to become even busier with Christmas liturgies and gatherings. Maintenance people and sacristans should be attentive to the extra steps necessary to ensure that our parish buildings are thoroughly cleaned, including door handles, handrails, table tops, microphones, computer keyboards, sacred vessels, pews, and other commonly used areas. Some viruses and bacteria can live 20 minutes, 2 hours, or longer on surfaces like cafeteria tables, doorknobs, and desks. 20% of all people do not wash their hands. Hand washing greatly reduces the transmission of many common infectious diseases that affect the respiratory system (flu, or cold) and gastrointestinal system.

Jose Leon
Building Supervisor
Pastoral Center

For more information:

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION:

www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/ or www.flu.gov; 1-800-CDC-INFO

DEPARTMENTS OF PUBLIC HEALTH:

San Francisco: <http://www.dph.sf.ca.us/>
San Mateo: <http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/portal/site/health>
Marin: <http://www.marinflu.org/default.aspx>

Archdiocesan Task Force for the 2009/2010 Flu Season

Membership: Maureen Huntington, Carl Feil, Patrick Schmidt, Tom Hoffman, Katie Haley, Jose Leon, Anelita Reyes, Tom Burke, Patrick Vallez-Kelly, Father John Ryan, Dr. Lisa Harris, Annabelle Groh

Contact: Carl Feil, info@sfarchdiocese.org (415) 614-5500



Mr. Pat Vallez-Kelly, Director of Worship, demonstrates door handle cleaning at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Redwood City.

Update for Schools and Businesses from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH):

Clean surfaces and items that are more likely to have regular hand contact:

- Frequently clean all workplace/school surfaces that commonly touched by multiple people, such as elevator buttons, shared equipment, doorknobs, etc.
- Use the cleaning agents that are commonly used in these areas and follow the directions on the label. No additional disinfection beyond routine cleaning is recommended.
- School staff should routinely clean areas that students and staff touch often (for example, shared keyboards) with the cleaners they typically use. They should also clean these areas immediately when visibly soiled. Use the cleaning agents that are commonly used in these areas.
- Special cleaning with bleach and other non-detergent based cleaners is not necessary. CDPH does not believe any additional disinfection of environmental surfaces beyond the recommended routine cleaning is required.

Source: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Documents/CDPH-H1N1SurfaceCleaning.pdf>

“Cleanliness is next to Godliness.” - Ancient Hebrew proverb