



Our Lady Star of the Sea School
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Dear OLSS Families,

I am following up to the recent letter sent on behalf of the Roman Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools Superintendent, Kelly Branaman. She would like to clarify some of the comments made in this letter.

Here are the responses she provided:

- The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington has historically followed State of Maryland immunization requirements to comply with local health departments. The Archdiocese of Washington is **NOT** adopting its own vaccine policy to include COVID 19 vaccination of students.
- **IF** the State of Maryland requires the addition of the COVID 19 vaccination to the state health immunization form, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington has an existing policy in place for families to apply for an exemption based on any medical reason or moral objection.
- We are monitoring the Maryland Department of Education and Maryland Health Department weekly in the event that the state does make a decision to mandate the COVID 19 vaccination. In preparation, the ADW is working to streamline the process for families requesting an exemption.
- We anticipate a large number of families to seek out this exemption should the State of Maryland require the COVID vaccine next year. We want to be ready to provide families and schools with an easy and manageable way to receive an exemption waiver of the COVID 19 vaccination.

I hope this information eases some of your concerns and allays your fears regarding COVID 19 vaccination policy. If you have further questions, please reach out to me so we can discuss them.

Stay happy, healthy, and holy!

Mrs. Thompson