



OFFICE of the ARCHBISHOP

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

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November 5, 2020

Dear Father,

May God bless you! I have a Thursday update this week.

Pastors with schools may have heard about a recommendation regarding buffers around holidays for our Catholic schools. This recommendation, which involves schools being off or engaged in non-traditional instruction for a limited period of time before and/or after Thanksgiving and Christmas, was prepared by Superintendent Leisa Schulz in collaboration with the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness. I support this recommendation, and I congratulate Leisa and her staff for the very fine cooperation they have established with the Health Department. (I have attached her letter to school leaders.)

Leisa communicated the important point that while this is a recommendation and not a mandate, cooperation in these decisions serves the common good: "Taking this a step further, Catholic schools should understand that a decision that serves only the local level and does not take into account the needs of other schools within the Archdiocese creates tension within the system. While we all have some degree of autonomy, the decision to apply the recommendations of the Health Department and the Office of Catholic Schools does have implications on the system as a whole. Please consider the 'system' and other archdiocesan schools when considering your application of the recommended buffer." I also support this point and urge you to take this recommendation very seriously

Thank you for your leadership. You are in my prayers.

Fraternally yours in our Lord,

Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.
Archbishop of Louisville

Enclosure (1)