



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Guidance re-shared as Catholic schools prepare for fall return

GREEN BAY, Wis. (July 27, 2021) – Todd Blahnik, Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Green Bay reiterated today that guidelines are in place for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Like last year, all Catholic Schools will be open and providing in-person education for students. At this time, however, the wearing of masks will be at the discretion of the school or parent.

“With 54 schools from Antigo to Oshkosh, it is impossible for us to create one set of standards that all schools must follow,” said Blahnik. “We know data can change from county to county, and we are relying on the good judgement of our administrators and parents when it comes to providing a safe environment for staff and students.”

The Office of Catholic Schools is asking that all schools adhere to the minimum requirements provided by the CDC. These include keeping a child home when they are sick, promoting hand washing and covering a cough or sneeze, daily cleaning and disinfection of common surfaces, and providing information on where to obtain a COVID vaccination to any staff or parent that requests it. Schools will also be required to follow all local, county, state and federal ordinances should any be issued.

The Diocese of Green Bay continues to monitor the spread of COVID in its 16 counties. For more information on the guidelines or for parents that would like to find the nearest Catholic school, please visit [www.gbdiocschools.org](http://www.gbdiocschools.org).

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**Who we are:** As friends and followers of Jesus, the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay is devoted to fostering households and communities of discipleship through the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church. We are missionary disciples striving to lead all people to the Kingdom of God. Established in 1868, the diocese is composed of 324,000 Catholics in 16 counties: Brown, Calumet, Door, Florence, Forest, Kewaunee, Langlade, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago.

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