



## COVID Safety Protocols

The Ignatian Spirituality Project (ISP) reopened in-person Spiritual Reflection gatherings on April 1, 2021 and Overnight Retreats on August 1, 2021.

Due to the unprecedented and widespread transmission of COVID-19, gatherings of any kind present a special risk for increasing the spread of the virus. To mitigate risk to its volunteers, participants and the broader community, ISP is implementing the following protocols under the guidance of our COVID-19 Response Committee:

### I. **Overnight Retreats**

ISP strongly believes that "being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 should be considered an act of love of our neighbor and part of our moral responsibility for the common good." (USCCB)

As of August 16, 2021, **all ISP overnight retreat attendees (both volunteers and participants) must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19\***. This policy is in force for all facilitators, drivers, and any other volunteers having direct contact with participants, as well as all guest participants.

ISP volunteers and retreat candidates should be prepared to show **proof of full vaccination** in the form of a vaccine card or letter from a physician in order to participate in an ISP retreat.\*\*

Until further notice, use of **face masks will be required for volunteers and participants during ISP retreats**. This policy is in force during all retreat gatherings and within all public spaces while on retreat, except while eating or when alone in private rooms. At this time, masks are not required for vaccinated persons in outdoor settings, though anyone is welcome to wear a mask at any time.

All those participating in a retreat or volunteering in direct service roles (including driving), must complete the *ISP Retreat Waiver* confirming that they do so at their own risk.

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\*Fully vaccinated is defined as receiving two approved vaccination shots (Moderna, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson) a *minimum of 14 days prior* to the start of the ISP retreat.

\*\*ISP Volunteers: Please see *COVID Volunteer Guidelines* for more information on implementing this policy.

## II. Spiritual Reflection Programs

As of January 17, 2022, during this highly contagious strain of Omicron virus, **all volunteers and participants must be vaccinated in order to engage in indoor spiritual reflection sessions**. This policy will help protect the health of our participants and prevent the spread of COVID within congregate residences, especially among those who are medically vulnerable with underlying health conditions. This policy will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis as we learn more about this newest variant.

As with overnight retreats, all ISP spiritual reflection session attendees—both volunteers and participants—**must be masked at all times**.

The Overnight Retreat and Spiritual Reflection program policies above are in force for all ISP City Affiliates which operate under the organizational and legal auspices of the Ignatian Spirituality Project. ISP volunteers are encouraged to refer to the ***COVID Volunteer Guidelines*** for additional information on implementing these policies, and to contact their **Regional Director**, with any questions or concerns.

ISP Institutional Affiliates who offer ISP programs under separate nonprofit entities may set their own policies and guidelines with respect to COVID-19, but are strongly encouraged to proceed with caution in the spirit of ensuring the safety and health of ISP volunteers, participants and the broader community during this pandemic.