

Protocols for the High School Seminary during COVID-19.

As we enter the 2022-2023 school year it is a good opportunity for all of us to watch, ask, and respond to each other in more human, reasonable and faith filled ways. There are many insights and behaviours that could benefit us all if we work and listen to all those involved in seminary life: parents, students, faculty, formators etc. The more we watch, ask, and listen to each other, the more the best ways of meeting and responding to the present situation and the future will be formed.

The year at a glance

- The calendar will be the same as usual with regard to breaks.
- School will open as in pre-covid times with a Family Day.
-

Before the school year begins

- Students are to self-assess to ensure they do not have any cold or flu symptoms <https://bc.thrive.health/>
- Students are not to attend the first days of school if they have any cold or flu symptoms.

Preparation of school spaces:

- Sanitary supplies: A table for disinfecting materials will be placed between the student washrooms. Senior seminarians will be assigned to ensure a steady supply of rags and bleach water.

When school begins

- September 6, the Rector goes to Canada-US border in afternoon to meet and transport US students to seminary. Unvaccinated students from the USA will self-isolate in accordance with *the Quarantine Act*: separate living quarters, meals brought to them etc. **See Appendix p. 2.**
- Each student should have his own reusable mask; if he does not, masks will be available at the school. Students are not required to wear masks unless they have cold or flu symptoms. They may wear a mask if they choose.
- Each student will monitor and note his own health in terms of cold or flu symptoms and report anything significant to the Rector.
- If there is any reasonable concern re: symptoms, after using <https://bc.thrive.health/>, the Rector or other faculty member calls 811 to arrange for testing.
- If any student or member of the monastic faculty tests positive they are to be isolated until they are able to safely return to the seminary community. Parents are to be notified immediately of events. All of the above will be conducted in the order of and in accordance with the Ministry of Health Guidelines and Fraser Health.
- Parents may accompany their sons to their dorms and assist them when they arrive.

Meals

- All students and prefects are to wash their hands **before** and **after** each meal.

- Food carts will be pushed by kitchen staff into the high school dining room. After the meals, the waiters will leave the carts with the food and dishes in the same area.
- After each meal, each boy will take his plate, utensils etc. to the cart one table at a time.
 - Serving food: first round, line up at serving table; second round, waiters take the food and drinks to the tables. Similarly for desert, the waiters will bring it to the tables.
 - Masks are voluntary while waiting.

PE, Gym, sports:

- Try to keep games and work activities as unhindered as is reasonable.
- Everyone wash their hands before and after games such as Basket Ball or Ultimate where there would be a common object that is transferred from hand to hand.
- Hockey, establish the good habit of wearing all required protective equipment at all times on the court.

Sanitising routine for high-touch surfaces:

Students will be assigned and properly equipped to sanitise various areas daily:

- Drinking fountains
- Toaster
- Door handles, window handles, light switches in general
- Telephones
- Computer keyboards
- Sink faucets
- Laundry machines
- Pianos, organ
- Liturgical vessels or books

When leaving and returning the same day

- Students or faculty members who must leave the seminary (e.g. doctor, dentist appointments) must wear a mask while in public and wash their hands upon returning.

Appendix:

Isolation of USA Students.

During Isolation periods – School opening, after Christmas Break, after Easter Break – Unvaccinated Students from the USA will be isolated from the rest of the student population if they are required by the BC Ministry of Health. They will have separate sleeping quarters, washrooms and showers during these times. Food will be brought to them in their sleeping quarters. The high school ping pong room is reserved for their use at all times during the isolation periods.

Isolation of COVID-positive monks or seminarians

Symptoms

If any monk or seminarian shows symptoms of COVID-19, he should notify his superior at once, who will see that he takes the online self-assessment test at <https://bc.thrive.health/>. (For safety, the superior or his delegate should obtain answers from the sick one orally and do the computer data entry.) If results of the above test require it, he should then phone 8-1-1 and book a COVID test.

While awaiting the test, the sick one will need to self-isolate: a monk or a major seminarian in his room, a minor seminarian in the high school infirmary. As needed, the infirmarian of the respective community will bring him meals and the superior or delegate visit him. If a minor seminarian needs to be transported to a testing station, both he and the driver need to wear a mask while in the car.

Quarantine

The results of a COVID test can take 24-48 hours to come in. While he awaits his results, he will remain in the high school infirmary but have meals brought to him. However, if he manifests simultaneously the three most common COVID symptoms (fever, dry cough, and shortness of breath), he should be isolated in the ping-pong room. If he is found to be COVID-positive, we will follow the directives of Fraser Health.