



USF Student and Parent Newsletter

8 January 2021

After a successful on-ground educational experience in the fall of 2020, we have spent the time since Thanksgiving, once again, preparing for the return of our students to campus next week as classes begin on January 13, 2021. Our planning is providing for the safest possible environment given the guidelines from our Federal, State and local governments. The only missing link in having a safe campus is you, the student. I am including the figures from the fall semester that relate to Covid positive tests. As reminder, these figures run from August 24 through December 16, 2020

Total number of positive cases	Fort Wayne campus	Fort Wayne Campus Resident Students	Crown Point Campus	On-Line students
118	105	17	8	5







At no time did the University experience a “hot spot” on campus that would have necessitated making to alter our educational delivery system. We will continue to monitor the health and safety of our community members as we embark on completing this academic year on our campus. However, whether the University must decide to go on-line again at any time in the future rests almost entirely in the hands of our students and their focused efforts to strictly follow the guidelines. Consequently, we strongly encourage all members of the community to continue to WEAR A FACE COVERING, SOCIAL DISTANCE, AND REGULARLY WASH YOUR HANDS!

Academic Affairs

Thanks to the University's COVID Safety Protocols, we had a successful Fall semester with as few disruptions as possible due to the pandemic. In Spring 2021 Academic Affairs will continue its same safety practices and protocols, which can be found in their entirety at <https://covid.sf.edu/classroom-and-lab-covid-19-safety-measures/>. Among these safety requirements are socially distanced classrooms (six feet distance between students and instructors) and the requirement that face coverings be worn in all classrooms.

In addition, faculty will continue to enforce seating charts to assist in contact tracing when needed. Also, the COVID-related absence policies will continue in place to allow students to miss class without penalty when diagnosed with COVID or exposed to others who have been diagnosed with COVID. Additional FAQs regarding this and other COVID-related questions can be found at <https://covid.sf.edu/guidance-for-students/student-faqs/>.

Academic Calendar for Spring Semester 2021

-  Virtual Campus courses will begin on Monday, January 11th
-  On-ground courses on Wednesday, January 13th.
-  On-ground courses will not meet on MLK Day (January 18th), March 11th and 12th (Spring Break), and April 2nd and 5th (Good Friday and Easter Monday).
-  Finals Exams will occur April 26th-30th, with
-  Baccalaureate Mass at the Cathedral on Saturday, May 1st in the morning
-  Commencement at Memorial Coliseum on Saturday, May 1st in the afternoon

Return to Residence Halls Plan

In order to ensure a safe and healthy start to the spring 2021 semester for all members of the USF community, all residential students must take the following steps in preparation for returning to the residence halls in January.

Limiting Exposure Beginning January 1, 2021

In addition to following CDC guidelines for safe and healthy behavior throughout all of Winter Break, residential students must limit exposure to all others beginning on January 1st. This includes limiting contact with others, maintaining a 6-foot distance between oneself and others at all times, and wearing a face covering when in the presence of others. Limiting exposure in this way will greatly reduce the risk of students returning to campus infected with COVID-19, ensuring a safe and successful start to the semester.

Required Testing Upon Campus Return

Upon returning to campus, all residential students will take free COVID-19 rapid antigen test. All residential students must test negative before entering the residence halls. A student who tests

positive will return home to isolate for a minimum of 10 days. To greatly mitigate the risk of a positive test result, students are encouraged to get tested at home within 72 hours prior to return.




Extended and Scheduled Return Days

In order to provide more flexibility for students traveling back to campus, the residence halls will reopen 24 hours early. Residents must return to campus during one of the following days and times in order to ensure testing is available: • Monday, January 11 @ 12 - 4 p.m. • Tuesday, January 12 @ 4 - 9 p.m.

Return & Testing Instructions

Students may return to campus for testing and entering the residence halls anytime on Monday, January 11 @ 12 - 4 p.m. OR Tuesday, January 12 @ 4 - 9 p.m. Upon return to campus, residents must go to North Campus Gym for testing before entering the residence halls. The COVID-19 rapid antigen test takes approximately 2 minutes to administer, and results are given in 15 minutes. Allow additional time for waiting to receive your test. Residents who receive a negative test result will be given a wrist band. Only students with a wrist band may enter the residence halls.


Common Questions


-  I have tested positive for COVID-19 and have completed my isolation period. Do I still need to be tested? If you have received a positive test result since October 11, 2020, you may present proof of this test result at check-in in lieu of a rapid test. You must still check in at North Campus Gym before entering the halls.
-  I am traveling a long distance from home to campus. Are there any options available for on campus isolation if I test positive? To request an on-campus isolation space if you test positive upon return, email reslife@sf.edu by January 4th with an explanation of your extenuating circumstances. No isolation spaces will be available for a student who does not submit a request prior to return.
-  What if I get a false positive result? If you receive a positive result to the rapid antigen test and are asymptomatic with no known exposure, you can overturn the positive test result with a negative PCR test. You must isolate away from campus until your negative PCR test result is received.

Campus Ministry and Spiritual Life

Join USF Campus Ministry February 4-6, 2021 for a retreat experience in the USF Business Center.. We will hear exciting and challenging talks, have intimate small group discussions, fun activities to get to know your peers, meals, and prayer.

RSVP is required. There is a \$20 fee for the Retreat. Please drop off your fee to Campus Ministry (Justin or Sr. Benedicta) by February 1st. Payment will be accepted in cash or a check made out to the University of Saint Francis.

 Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 7pm - 11:00pm - USF Business Center, 3rd Floor (snacks will be provided)


 Friday, February 5, 2021 - 7pm - 11:00pm - USF Business Center, 3rd Floor (snacks will be provided)

 Saturday, February 6, 2021 - 9am - Midnight - USF Business Center, 3rd Floor (meals will be provided)

Fr. John Sheehan, University Chaplain, provides the following information:


Office Hours

Fr. John has regular hours in his office in the Campus Ministry building. He is also available by appointment.

 Monday 9-10:30 AM

 Thursday – 3-5 PM


Mass times:

 Sunday 7:30 PM

 Daily (Monday through Saturday) 11:30 AM

 Special Masses as announced

Confessions (*in the chapel*)

 Sunday from 6:15 to 7:15 PM

 Wednesday 10 AM - 11AM

 By Appointment

A weekly Newsletter, the Chaplain's Chatter, will launch on January 17th, and will be available in print at the Sunday Mass and at the Campus Ministry building, and via email for those who give Fr. John their email. A Facebook page with the same title (Chaplain's Chatter) will also be available.

Student Guidelines for Living on Campus



Updated January 2020

The University of Saint Francis is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy environment in the residence halls to the greatest extent possible. The following guidelines will be in place for



residential students in the halls for the fall 2020 semester. These guidelines are based on local, state, and national guidance, specifically the Center for Disease Control, the State of Indiana, the Allen County Health Department, and Parkview Health.

Practicing Behaviors that Reduce Spread

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette




-  Handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is one of the most effective ways to protect yourself and others, and to reduce spread. Wash your hands thoroughly and frequently. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer stations will be provided across campus for your use.
-  Cover your mouth with a tissue (when possible) when you cough and sneeze. Carry tissues with you if possible. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Cloth Face Coverings





-  Face coverings are required in all indoor spaces and in outdoor spaces where proper social distancing is not possible. Masks are required while in the residence halls (including in all floor lounges and hall lobbies, Bonzel Basement, prayer rooms, etc.). When students are in their private rooms alone or with their roommate, masks are not required.
-  Face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms. Do it for the people around you.

Maintaining Healthy Environments

Cleaning and Disinfection

-  Professional cleaning and disinfection in the residence halls will be enhanced and increased, including increased attention to community restrooms.
-  Additional disinfecting of surfaces will occur on a nightly basis by Residential Life staff.
-  Your own personal cleaning and disinfection of your spaces, including restrooms in Clare and Padua, is critical to maintaining a healthy environment. The health and safety of all members of our community depends on each one of us maintaining a clean personal home environment to the best of our ability.

Social Distancing

-  Residential students have been given the option to request a single room for the purpose of social distancing.
-  Social distancing of 6-feet must be observed in all common space in all halls (including all floor lounges and hall lobbies, Bonzel Basement, prayer rooms, etc.).
-  After move-in, no guests are allowed in the residence halls until further notice. A guest is defined, for these purposes, as any person who does not live in the residence halls.
-  Private rooms and apartments in the residence halls will have the following occupancy limits. This means that no more than this number of people may be in a private bedroom at one time.
 - Bonzel Hall: 4 people
 - Clare Hall: 4 people
 - Trinity Hall: 4 people
 - Padua Hall (bedrooms): 4 people
 - Padua Hall (entire apartment): 10 people

NOTICE ON AVAILABILITY OF QUARANTINE & ISOLATION SPACES

Residential Life at the University of Saint Francis is committed to providing adequate quarantine and isolation spaces on-campus for students who test positive for COVID-19 (isolation) and those who have been exposed to virus (quarantine) for reasons beyond their control. Protocol for isolation and quarantine can be found [here](#).

Residential students who are required to quarantine due to actions that do not align with the above guidelines (i.e., gathering in a private residence hall room with more than four people or not wearing a face covering when required) are not guaranteed on-campus quarantine accommodations.

If you have questions about these expectations, please email reslife@sf.edu or call Residential Life at (260) 399-8101. Please note that the university is closed December 21-January






Multicultural Center

Diversity & Equity Climate Study

Last October, the University partnered with the Higher Education Data Sharing consortium (HEDS) to develop a survey focused on our campus climate in the areas of diversity and equity. 632 students, faculty, and staff provided feedback that will help University leaders identify areas in which USF is doing a good job of creating an inclusive climate, as well as identify opportunities for improvement. An executive summary of the survey results will be available later this semester.

Bias Report Procedure

USF is pleased to announce that an official procedure is now in place for students to report instances of overt and/or implicit bias. To access the report, please log on to my.usf.edu and follow the steps below:

-  Click on Form Central
-  Select Student Forms
-  Select Campus Life
-  Select Campus Security
-  Select Bias Report

Unity Week 2021

In celebration of the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, the university is proud to host Unity Week activities schedule to take place January 18-28. The week will begin with the annual MLK Day of Service event on Monday, January 18th. Please contact Paul Porter (pporter@sf.edu) for more information.

Athletics

Current spectator policy for Hutzell Athletic Center (Men's and Women's Basketball)

In response to Governor Holcomb's most recent guidelines regarding social gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are happy to report that beginning Sunday, December 20, 2020, we will be permitting USF student-athletes' parents/guardians, siblings and grandparents to attend all future home USF basketball games. In order to ensure the safest playing environment for our team and our opponents, please follow the below safety policies when attending any USF event:

- ✚ Masks must be worn at all times while inside the Hutzell Athletic Center
- ✚ All spectators should enter through the main entrance to Hutzell and enter the gymnasium through the south doors, opposite the players bench area. Spectators should not sit behind the team bench area.
- ✚ DO NOT attend if you are sick or have any symptoms related to COVID-19 (temperature, loss of taste/smell, new cough unrelated to another illness, extreme fatigue, etc.)
- ✚ Please sit only with your travelling group and maintain your distance from other families or individuals attending. There is plenty of space in the bleachers so please be considerate of everyone and keep some distance between you all.
- ✚ Please do not arrive prior to 30 minutes before the start of the game and exit Hutzell as soon as the game is completed.
- ✚ Do not congregate and visit with your student-athlete in the gym after the game. They can come meet you outside when they are finished.

Health and Wellness Clinic

Clinic

- ✚ Is open for appointments
- ✚ Appointments will be required
- ✚ Will continue to see any patients
- ✚ No visitors unless parent of a minor, or a patient caregiver
- ✚ Patients will be required to answer COVID-19 screening questions when they arrive
- ✚ Patients with positive screening questions will be moved to separate rooms from those with negative screening questions
- ✚ Patients will always be required to have a mask on while in the clinic
- ✚ Maximum of three patients total waiting in lobby for social distancing (two for clinic, one for counseling)
- ✚ Masks will be provided in the entryway of the clinic

Virtual Visits







- ✚ Must have MyChart account
 - <https://mychart.parkview.com>
 - Complete "Sign Up Now"
- ✚ To schedule, call Parkview Access Center:
 - 260-373-7540

Clinic Visits

- ✚ Longer appointment times to allow for proper cleaning of rooms
- ✚ Not able to test for COVID-19
- ✚ Will assist with information on COVID-19 testing as available

Counseling Services

- ✚ Appointments will be required

-  No visitors permitted
-  Clients will be required to answer COVID-19 screening questions when they arrive
 - Those answering “Yes” to any questions will be asked to reschedule for Vidyo or phone
-  Clients will be required to have a mask on while in the clinic
-  Mask will be provided in the entryway of clinic
-  Three choices for session setting
 - Video telehealth platform
 - Phone
 - In-person
-  To schedule any appointment, call Parkview Employee/Student Assistance Program office: 260-266-8060