November 28, 2020

Dear Mariner Family,

As the number of coronavirus cases continues to surge and hospitalizations on the rise, Los Angeles County officials have issued a new Safer-at-Home order that bans public and private gatherings with people not in your household, except for church services and protests.

The order goes into effect Monday, Nov. 30, and lasts three weeks, until Dec. 20.

The new order advises residents to stay home as much as possible and always wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when they are outside their household and around others. It allows most businesses that were open to remain open, but it reduces their maximum occupancy. Playgrounds (with the exception of playgrounds at childcare and schools) and cardrooms must close.

Schools and day camps can remain open as long as they adhere to reopening protocols, but if they have an outbreak (three or more cases over 14 days), they must close for 14 days.

Additional safety modifications in the order include the following changes:

• Businesses will limit occupancy as indicated:
  o Essential retail – 35%
  o Non-essential retail, including indoor malls and libraries– 20%
  o Personal care services, such as salons and tattoo parlors – 20%
  o Fitness centers operating outdoors – 50%
    (Patrons may not remove facial coverings during exercise, except while swimming.)
  o Museum galleries, zoos, aquariums and botanical gardens operating outdoors – 50%
  o Mini-golf, batting cages and go-kart racing operating outdoors – 50%
    All individuals at these sites must wear face coverings and keep at least six feet from others.

• Outdoor recreation activities, all which require face coverings (except for swimming) and distancing:
  o Beaches, trails and parks remain open, but gatherings are limited to members of one household.
  o Golf courses, tennis courts, pickleball, archery ranges, skate parks, bike parks and community gardens remain open for individuals or members of a single household. Pools that serve more than one household may open only for regulated lap swimming with one person per lane.
  o Drive-in movies, events and car parades are permitted, provided occupants in each car are members of the same household.

Because of the high rates of transmission in the community, restaurants, bars, breweries and wineries remain closed for in-person dining and drinking, as customers are not wearing face coverings during
their visit, which results in an increased change of transmission of the virus. Restaurants, wineries and breweries remain open for pick-up, delivery and take-out. Breweries and wineries remain open for retail sales at 20% occupancy.

Please visit http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/ regularly for the latest information on COVID-19. For campus updates, visit the MCU COVID-19 website.

Institutions of higher education, such as MCU, remain open for essential business. However, we ask that you conduct your university business via telephone, email and/or virtually as much as possible at this time.

Student athletes should continue to follow state guidance, as well as that of the NAIA. We will notify you of any changes through the MCU Compliance Task Force and/or Director of Athletics Courtney Thomsen.

For more information:

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Please do your part to help reduce the spread.

God bless,

Ryan Alcantara, PhD
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Chair, MCU COVID-19 Compliance Task Force