

## **All Saints Catholic School CAR DROP-OFF GUIDELINES**

### **Pull all the way up**

When dropping off children, all vehicles need to pull up to the end of the line of cones nearest the exit. We are attempting to minimize traffic on West Rocks Road by starting the line as far away from the entrance as we can. Traffic jams are dangerous, therefore, we must take every precaution to prevent them from occurring. Emergency vehicles frequently utilize West Rocks; if our drop-off traffic hinders their movement, it could potentially be very costly to someone in need of urgent assistance. We need everyone's cooperation.

### **Drop off in designated areas.**

To keep your child safe, pull up to the curb, have them ready to get out of the car. Your little one will walk to the entrance. Please do not wait to get closer to the door your child enters or to have a particular staff member let your child out of the vehicle. Not having additional stops will help the flow of traffic and show more consideration for others waiting in line.

### **All students should exit on the passenger's side.**

For safety reasons, students should exit the vehicle on the passenger's side. In rare situations where this is not possible, students should walk to the FRONT of the vehicle that they exit from again for safety reasons. With the sun glare that often happens in the drop off zone, another driver may not see your child.

### **Once your child is out of the vehicle (and the line is moving), go with the flow**

Once your child is out of the vehicle and the line is moving, please exit the drop off zone immediately.

### **Prepare ahead of time**

Double-check that your child has everything they need for the day and after school plans are set before leaving the house. Try to avoid having your child trying to manage numerous items. Please pack all items possible in the backpacks before arriving.

### **Avoid Road Rage**

Road rage can lead to serious lapses in driving judgment that can endanger the lives and property of everyone around. Avoid this at all costs. This also goes for honking your horn or having angry words.

### **Going around other vehicles is not safe**

Trying to get around other vehicles that are stopped means you may not see everything up ahead including children. Waiting your turn ensures that you won't be the cause of a tragic accident.

It is never safe or acceptable to pull around stopped vehicles between the cones to make a quicker exit unless specifically directed to do so by staff.

### **Obey the posted speed limit**

School zones aren't created just to slow your morning down. The posted limit is to keep the high number of students traveling through the area safe. There is a lot of traffic during drop-off time and sometimes kids may step off the sidewalk into oncoming traffic. If an unexpected child in the road occurs, driving slower gives you more time to react and may save a life.

Going too fast can lead to serious accidents which endanger the lives of others. Slower speeds are also appreciated so that those helping in the drop off zone don't get splashed.

### **Stay in your car**

While in the morning drop-off line, you want the smoothest transition possible. Staying in your car means that when the car in front of you moves, you move. Keeping the flow of traffic moving will keep the parent drop-off from impeding the flow of traffic on public roads feeding into the school.

### **Park when you need to**

If your child is refusing to get out of the vehicle, let a staff member know that there is a problem. They will guide you to a safe area to park, calm your child down, and walk them to a destination once the child is ready to begin the day.

### **Patience is a virtue**

Even if you do everything right, there is always a chance that another parent is having an off day or maybe it is the grandparents dropping off for the first time. If that is the case, take a deep breath and patiently wait your turn. Frustration and raised blood pressure won't get you where you need to be any faster. In fact, it will likely just set you up to have a bad day and hurt your overall health.

### **Help your child grow in independence**

Most students should be capable of letting themselves out of the car once it stops. They should be doing as much for themselves as possible. We are happy to help when necessary but expect to see all students work on exiting by themselves.

### **Safety Is No Accident**

It's not hard to follow the school's drop-off rules. The rules are there for the safety of the staff and students. If you have concerns, report unsafe activity to the school office because safety is everyone's responsibility. If everyone abides by the rules, we will have a smoother drop off and have a happier start to the day. Following the rules is a great example to model for your child.

Safety is a priority at All Saints. Our children are precious!