

Updated 9/26/2020

Phase I - Church Services Restoration

Starting on Friday October 2, 2020: Liturgy

- Increase Liturgy attendance from 12 to 18 families
- We will use every row in the church (6ft separation between rows)
- Greeters will be present on Saturday and Sunday liturgies to help families find a seat
- 2-week Liturgy registration cycle remains unchanged
- Some liturgy modifications will be restored as normal. Changes include:
 - Sermons will be given during Liturgy on Sunday
 - Liturgy service items (candles, gospel, etc) may be handled by multiple deacons
 - Lectern microphone will be used
 - Fr. Matthias will distribute korbán after Liturgy in Ziploc bags
 - Written prayers may be submitted as normal to priest or deacons
- Church disinfection of church will continue as normal
- **Masks and 6ft separation required**

Starting on Thursday October 8, 2020: Hymns Classes and Bible Study

- Bible Study
 - Will resume on Thursdays from 7PM – 8:30PM starting with Agpeya prayer
 - Bible Study will be in the main sanctuary and offered online as well
 - Fellowship with social distancing after the Bible Study
 - More info about how to connect online will be provided soon
- Hymns classes
 - Adult and Jr hymns classes will resume on Saturdays from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
 - Adult class will be in the main sanctuary and Jr class will be in the dining hall
 - Adult class will be offered online as well
 - More info about how to connect online will be provided soon

Youth Academy

To be announced soon

Rules for Congregants

Registration

- A maximum of 18 registrants may attend each Liturgy (a registrant is either an individual or a family of the SAME household)
- Unlike before, each family is a single registration. Do NOT register each of your family members separately.
- **SINCE WE HAVE A SMALL CHURCH, ONLY ST. PAUL MEMBERS MAY REGISTER**

- A maximum of 5 people per family is allowed. Larger families must register separately.
- Lap infants or infants in a stroller do not count toward this total
- Registration will be done through Signup Genius
 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4CA5AE22A7F94-liturgy>
- Each registrant is asked to use the same email address each time you register
- A person is allowed to register only one time per registration cycle. The system will enforce this as long as you use the same email address.
- A cycle consists of whatever dates appear on the signup page. This may change over time as we increase the allowed registrants per liturgy or new liturgies are added in the current cycle.

Arrival

- **All attendees must arrive within 15 mins from the start of Liturgy. The door will be locked after that.**
- A deacon will keep the front door propped open to avoid door contact until the door is locked automatically
- If a person or family arrive that have not registered, they will be kindly asked to leave and register online

Safety Considerations

- **All attendees, both adults and children, must wear masks the entire Liturgy until communion. The only exception is infants.**
- No greetings or kissing at any time. No kissing if icons.
- Each person must remain at least 6ft away from anyone not in their household
- If you or anyone in your household is sick with COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, muscle pain) or have been exposed to a person suspected to have COVID-19 within 2 weeks, DO NOT COME. Instead, please register online for another time slot that is at least 2 weeks after you no longer have symptoms.
- Sanitizer stations have been installed in the lobby and outside the bathrooms. Each attendee is asked to use them prior to entering the church and after exiting the bathrooms.
- The Dining Hall is off-limits and the water fountain has been disconnected.

Seating

- Every other row of the church has been removed
- A row will consist of either 2 individuals (spaced out by 6 ft) or 1 family (sitting together)
- Please do not allow your children to wander around the church. You may take them to the lobby if they are not able to stay in the church.

Communion

- For communion, one row at time will come forward (starting from the front)
- **Men will take communion first on the men's side followed by women on the women's side**
- **Both the Body and the Blood will be given as normal without any modification. The Blood will be given with the spoon in the traditional way (sipping from the spoon) to avoid spilling.**

- 6ft separation is required in the communion line. There are marks on the ground indicating where people should stand in the communion line
- No communion cups will be provided. Each person may bring their own water bottle.
- No communion veils or head coverings will be provided.
- When approaching for communion kneel down as much as possible and raise your head with mouth open to take communion

Other Services

- All other non-liturgical services remain online only: Youth Academy, sermons, Bible studies, etc.

Updated Church Procedures

General Church Updates

- External metal gate outside church door to remain open at all times
- Communion cups will be removed from the back of the church (congregants may bring their own water bottles)
- All communion veils and women head coverings will be removed (congregants may bring their own)
- There will be no lighting of candles at the door of the church
- The cry room and the dining hall will be locked. The water fountain will not be accessible.
- All access to bathrooms will be through the corridor connecting to the church
- The door of the church and the door leading to the bathrooms from the church will remain open at all times to avoid door contact
- We have installed a sanitizer station in the lobby and outside the bathrooms - each registrant is required to use these as they enter the building as they exit the bathroom
- We are actively working to upgrade the bathrooms to hands-free soap dispensers, faucets, paper towel dispensers, and toilets flushers
- All Youth Academy classrooms will remain locked
- The church will be cleaned and sanitized 3 times a week. A professional company will disinfect all the church chairs using UV light twice a week.

Korban

- The korban servant will enter the building from the front door and unlock the dining hall from the corridor next to the bathroom.
- After the korban is made and delivered to the church, the dining hall will be locked again
- Upon entering Bethlehem, the korban servant will wash their hands thoroughly
- Each servant will wear a mask during the entire process
- We will make 24 korbans (9 oz dough) to cover all the registrants and deacons.
- Each servant will wash hands before removing korban from the oven and handling it
- The korban servant will place 5 korban FLAT in the korban plate and place them in the church
- There will be a towel hamper (with no lid) in Bethlehem
- There will be enough towels for 1 week of use in Bethlehem

- After each use, the towels will be put into the hamper
- On Sunday after Liturgy all towels will be washed and returned before the next Liturgy
- At the end of the Liturgy, one of the deacons, after washing hands, will put each korban in a ziploc bag
- A single family member from each family (or individual) will take a single korban without any contact
- Each individual registrant will get one whole korban and each family will get one whole korban

Deacons

- A maximum of 7-8 deacons will attend each liturgy
 - 1 or 2 subdeacons in the sanctuary
 - 2 spaced out on the north chorus front row (1 Chorus Lead and one adult deacon)
 - 2 spaced out on the south chorus front row (2 adult deacons)
 - 2 child flex spots for kids and deacon fathers, or adults if there are no children in the congregation (second row)
- All deacons are required to wash hands thoroughly in the altar immediately upon arrival
- All deacons must wear a mask the entire liturgy except when taking communion
- Deacons serving in the Sanctuary will wash their hands before touching the censer or anything that another person will touch
- A deacon will keep the front door propped open to avoid door contact until the door is locked automatically at the beginning of the liturgy
- The Sanctuary deacons will stand at the far corners of the altar away from the priest
- There will be no greetings or kissing the priest's hand
- There will be no kissing of gospel, icons, or curtains
- There will be no iPad or Katameros on the lectern, but each deacon is to use their own phone during the readings
- Each of the 4 wireless microphones will be color-coded (North Sanctuary, South Sanctuary, Chorus Leader, and Priest).
- Each assigned deacon is to use only the microphone that they are assigned for the entire liturgy
- No one else is permitted to use the microphones
- No microphone will be used for the readings
- Each microphone will have a disposable microphone cover that should be installed and disposed after each liturgy
- Only the Chorus Leader shall control the iPad during the entire Liturgy
- During processions around the church, no one will hold the incense box. The deacons that will hold the cross and icon will wash their hands thoroughly before the procession. 6ft spacing will be maintained. No kissing of the icon.
- No candles will be used when reading the gospel
- Deacons will not touch the throne at any time
- Only one deacon shall hold the small hand cross and gospel box for all prayers each liturgy
- One person shall be assigned to play the cymbals the entire Liturgy
- One person shall be assigned to play the triangle the entire Liturgy

- During the Offering of the Lamb, the korban basket will be placed on a pedestal. Only the deacon holding the blood will be present.
- The korban plate will be uncovered but no one but the priest will touch the korban
- There will be no kissing the gospel at the end of Matins
- There will be a towel hamper (with no lid) in the sanctuary
- There will be enough towels for 1 week of use (hand towel, towel for altar, and drying towel)
- After each use, the towels will be put into the hamper
- On Sunday after the Liturgy all towels will be washed and returned
- A deacon will make an announcement about how communion will proceed right before communion
- Before the sanctuary deacon touches and dries the vessels, they will wash their hands
- After the set is clean and packed, they will place it under the altar and get the alternate set ready for the next Liturgy

Priest

- The priest will inspect the korban without touching them.
- Only the one that is chosen will be touched.
- The priest will wear a mask while giving communion to the people
- The priest will wash his hands as often as possible