

What you Need to Know When You Return to Church

The sanctuary will reopen for worship on Sunday, October 4. Our regathering committee consisting of Michelle Brito, Adrienne Campbell, Judy Graham-Robey and myself, have been working for two months to make sure that we can open safely and effectively. The diocese has approved our plan to regather and reopen our offices to regular business. Please note that this does not mean that it is our expectation that everyone will return to public worship, nor should they. I want to reiterate our bishops' message that **no one should feel compelled to return to church unless they feel safe and comfortable.** We do not want to put anyone at risk unnecessarily. We will continue to offer online worship. For those of you who decide to return, please be aware of the precautions we have put in place for your safety. We will be taking the temperature of everyone upon entering and asking you to use the hand sanitizer provided at the back of the church.

1. No one should attend services who is experiencing any possible symptoms of COVID-19, such as high fever, persistent coughing, shortness of breath, flu-like symptoms, or loss of taste and/or smell. No one should attend who has been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID until a 14 day period has elapsed.
2. Face masks must be worn at all times throughout the building.
3. There will be no congregational singing.
4. Communion will be offered in one kind only (bread) – Those wishing to receive communion will remain standing and the host will be brought directly to you.
5. Seats will be marked for safe distancing and there will be separate entrances and exits.
6. There will be no coffee hour or social gatherings until further notice.

In the event that anyone tests positive after attending a service, we will close the church for deep cleaning and quickly notify everyone in the parish as well as local health authorities. In order to make sure we have the correct contact information for you, I have included a form in this mailing for you to mail/bring back to the church or scan and send directly to me (evanovich40@aol.com).

In addition to our services, Crosstown Church and St. John St. James will be resuming services on October 4 and will observe the same precautions. Our other tenants have been cleared to resume operations as of September 21. We are continuing to host St. Stephen's Youth Programs YLC for middle school students though with fewer students and modifications.

Rev. Evan Thayer, Rector
September 29, 2020