

All Saints Parish COVID-19 Re-Opening Plan

Effective: March 21, 2022

General Items of Concern:

Monitoring for Symptoms

Those who will be involved in ministry during the Mass (or any other Sacraments) should ensure that they do not have any symptoms of the virus, e.g., cough, fever, headache, etc. If the individual shows ANY such symptoms, they must not enter the church. Parishioners are strongly encouraged to self-screen before attending church. Those who exhibit fever or any other indications of a viral infection must stay home and seek out medical attention.

Proof of vaccination

Proof of vaccination by clergy and staff is no longer required. However, the “Archdiocesan Vaccination Policy” will be continued requesting those who are not vaccinated to continue providing proof of a negative COVID-19 test twice a week until the end of May 2022. Social Distancing Social distancing has been discontinued; however, if room permits, please consider providing an area of the church for those seeking to social distance.

Masks

Masks are no longer mandatory. We know that the removal of restrictions, including mandatory masks, may feel unusual, especially in the beginning. Wearing a mask is an individual choice. We welcome parishioner’s choice to wear a mask. Please respect individual choices and remember to treat one another with kindness and understanding as we all adjust. While masking is optional, Public Health recommends wearing a mask indoors. Whether staff or parishioners choose to wear a mask or not, they will be supported in their decision.

Rapid Tests

Public Health is recommending the use of rapid tests to help protect people at increased risk of severe disease, such as those who are older or immunocompromised. These people and those who live with them or are around them are encouraged to do occasional or regular rapid testing, even if they don’t have symptoms.

Public Health does not recommend testing for people who have recovered from COVID-19 within the past 90 days.

Specific to the Liturgy

Entrance Procession

The entrance procession can resume from the entrance of the church. Consideration should be given to processing in a single file.

Hospitality

Sanitizing stations are to be placed at the entrance of the church; however, their use is optional.

Altar Servers

The ministry of altar server is encouraged.

Singing

Singing is permitted without masks. Choirs are encouraged to keep a six-foot distance from the congregation. Choir members are no longer required to maintain social distance from each other.

Collection

The monetary collection can resume with the preference to use a basket held by the usher, not passing a basket through the pews.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion will continue to only be distributed under one species, the consecrated hosts, at this time. The presider and extra-ordinary minister of Holy Communion are to sanitize their hands before distributing communion and wear a mask during distribution. The congregation will receive communion by coming forward to the sanctuary, not in the pews. Communion on the tongue is not permitted at this time.

Communion to the Sick and Homebound

Communion to the Sick and Homebound may commence by qualified and commissioned ministers.

Formation Classes

Formation Classes may resume

If you have any questions regarding these guidelines please contact me.

Chris Manuge,

COVID-19 Co-ordinator, All Saints Parish