

## **Welcome Home / What to Expect**

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

We pray that our e-mail finds you and your families well and enjoying the blessings of this day.

Our goal is to be able to open the doors of our parish for the celebration of services to you, our parishioners on Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. To help prepare everyone for this transition, we will be posting updates as to how this transition will take place. Please remember, although we do anticipate, with time, that things will return to normal, when we do open the parish doors, many restrictions will still be in place. The transition to the full operation of the parish will take place in stages and will take time.

### **Please note the following:**

- Social distancing will still be in place and will impact the seating for services and the overall seating capacity of the Church. Markings will clearly be placed on the pews indicating where parishioners may sit. Seating will only be allowed in the designated marked areas of the pews. This means, at least temporarily, you may be seated in a place that you are not used to sitting.
- As social distancing does not apply to families, households will be able to sit together.
- Parishioners will be invited to sign-up for services. If you do not have a computer and would like to attend services, please contact Penny Peppes and she will add you to the cue for a designated Liturgy. If you do have a computer, you will receive a link inviting you and your family to sign-up to attend a specific Liturgy.
- Initially, we ask that parishioners only sign-up for one Sunday Liturgy per month. On Saturday evening after 6:00 p.m., if there are still slots available for Sunday's Liturgy, you may sign up to attend even if you have already attended a Sunday Liturgy that month. There are no restrictions on the number of times a parishioner may attend a weekday Liturgy.
- There will be forty slots available through the sign-up genius. This number in the future may increase or decrease as we continue to walk this pandemic journey. The number of slots available will be programmed into the sign-up genius by those working to reopen the Church.
- Upon arriving at the Church, please enter the building through the parking lot hall door. To facilitate social distancing, the Narthex will be set up in the atrium. Ushers will hand you a candle and once you have lit your candle and offered your prayer, you will then be escorted by an Usher to your seat. Ushers will be available to provide direction and to answer any questions you may have.
- To facilitate minimal movement as possible in the building, we ask that once you enter the hall, please take the time to use the restroom to wash your hands. Certainly, you may use the restroom during services. Our goal, however, is to minimize the movement within the Church to the extent possible.
- After Services, you will be dismissed row by row by the ushers in a manner that facilitates social distancing. After receiving the Eucharist, you may then proceed to the Narthex where you will be offered anthidoron by an acolyte then depart through the Narthex to your car.

- Chanters and Altar Servers will be limited and assigned by me on a weekly basis. The Choir will resume singing at a future date.
- All parishioners attending Church will need to wear a mask. The only exception to this will be the priest and chanters. The priest will wear a mask when distributing communion and antidoron. The chanters, not wearing masks, will chant at an angle facing the icon screen and will wear masks when not chanting.
- Please remember icons ought to be venerated through just a simple bow. Please no kissing of icons.
- Please, no veneration of the priest's hand.
- The Liturgy will continue to be streamed on-line for those not attending Liturgy in person.
- Communion guidelines will be forthcoming.
- Fellowship Hour and meetings after services will not take place. We ask that all parishioners leave immediately after the conclusion of Liturgy.
- The offering plate will not be passed in Church. Please continue to offer your weekly stewardship gift on-line via our parish website.
- Worship will be paperless. Please use your phone or iPad and utilize the ministry of AGES Initiative (located at <https://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/dcs.html>) for the text of the service. You may also bring your own Liturgy book from home. The blue Liturgy books which were recently purchased use the same translation as the AGES Initiative website.
- Please refrain from all physical touching (handshaking, hugging, no kiss of peace during Liturgy, etc...) and maintain proper physical distancing. All parishioners are asked to acknowledge each other with a simple bow.
- Baptisms, weddings, and confession are now possible. Further details will be forthcoming.

The above are in place to create a safe environment for all participants. As we must comply with all regulatory guidelines, it is our prayer that the above will create a safe environment for all.

We realize that this is a lot of information to digest. Please keep this list in a place where it can be easily referenced. Please let us know if you have any questions.

God bless you and your families and keep you well.

My love and prayers walk with you and your families.

In Christ's Service,  
 +Fr. Dean Kouldukis  
 Niko Pamboukas, Parish Council President