

## WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU RETURN TO ST. PAUL'S FOR WORSHIP DURING PHASE 2-A

(8:00 & 10:30 AM Services—beginning August 23, 2020—revised compared to June version)

1. We are asking you to **please wear a mask**/face covering. (This is a change from June when masks were only "encouraged".) As you know, the State of Texas is asking all of us to wear masks/face coverings in public.
2. There are hand-sanitizer dispensers installed in the entry-hall, and there will be sanitizer available on a table in the narthex—there will also be masks available.
3. All prayer books and hymnals have been removed from the pews—we will have everything in a full-text bulletin at both 8:00 and 10:30—those bulletins will also be available as pdf files on our web-site and Facebook page if you wish to download to your electronic device—you may also want to bring your own prayer book from home.
4. There will be no nursery or children's chapel available since it's impossible to have them while maintaining social distancing—please be understanding when parents bring their young ones into church.
5. Every other pew must be left empty—and we'll be using a different set of pews at each service—at the 8:00 service congregants will sit only in pews marked with a red shield—at 10:30 congregants will only sit in pews marked with a blue cross—this helps us by not having to completely re-sterilize the whole church between services on Sunday, since congregants won't be in the same pews—**this means you may have to sit one row in front of or behind your "usual place"**.
6. Family groups of 1, 2, or 3 can sit at the ends of pews only, maintaining an empty 6 foot space in the middle (which will be marked off with blue tape)—mathematically, a pew can only contain 2 unrelated groups on either end, which can only total 4 people maximum (various combinations are possible: 1 & 1; 1 & 2; 2 & 2; 1 & 3)—unless you're in a family group of 4-7 individuals (which means you will have the whole pew to yourself) please do NOT sit in the middle of the pews.
7. There will be no processions at the beginning, gospel, or end of service—they aren't compatible with social distancing.

8. At 10:30 there will be no congregational singing—music will be instrumental or sung by soloists and small ensembles only.
9. We will shorten both services slightly, at least at first, and only do one reading, then psalm, then Gospel (as we have been doing in streamed worship since March).
10. People can stand up in place for birthday/anniversary blessings, but won't be able to come forward, and we won't be using the small white church bank for birthday offerings (you can put them in the plate or send them in separately).
11. We won't be passing the plates—you can give online, mail in your gifts, or place them in the stationary offering plate in the chancel (area with piano).
12. At the consecration, the priest will only touch the bread that he will be consuming—the bread for the congregation will be consecrated while in a lidded container—the priest will be alone at the altar, and he alone will partake of the wine—he will then mask up and sanitize hands before distributing communion (he will not be gloved, since it offers no additional protection versus sanitized hands).
13. Communion for the congregation will be administered by the clergy, and will be bread only, given in a touchless manner via tongs, and the bread will be dropped a short distance into congregants' hands only (not mouths)—congregants will remain in their pew—communion will be brought to them via the empty pew in front of them—congregants may receive standing or kneeling (or seated if there are medical reasons)—those wishing to receive a blessing can cross their arms and receive one in a touchless manner—if there is overflow, the clergy will then take communion to those in the parish hall.
14. Please keep your mask on while you are being brought communion. Then after the clergy have passed and given you your wafer, you can lift your mask and reverently consume it.
15. Because of the complications of doing any kind of food or drink service, as well as logistical issues, we'll abstain from Coffee Hour for the foreseeable future. If you want to greet people after the service, please do it outside on the lawn or in the parking lot (while observing appropriate social distancing).