



ST. SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΚΑΘΗΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΣΠΥΡΙΔΩΝΟΣ



Phase 1 Guidelines for St. Spyridon Cathedral

May 19, 2020

Christ is Risen! It's a day of hope, a day that we've anticipated for more than two months. We are thrilled to begin the Phase 1 Reopening at St. Spyridon this Sunday, May 24. We have reopened our offices this week, allowing parishioners to come in to conduct any necessary business they may have. At this point though, it is important to understand the following guidelines:

1. Please do not come to the office or to the church if you are feeling sick or have a household family member that is sick, or if you have any symptoms of the COVID-19 infection or have been in contact with or exposed to someone with COVID-19.
2. Until further notice, we are asking everyone to make an appointment before coming to the office. Only one visitor will be allowed in the building at any one time. Any and all visits should be for the purpose of conducting business and not for simple conversation. Once inside, we are requiring that everyone observe the social distancing protocol as we have been since March.
3. We continue to recommend that you stay at home and watch the live stream services if you are still uncomfortable being in public gatherings or are in the higher risk categories as indicated by the CDC. Even though our churches will now be open, we will continue to ask that those at risk do not attend until further notice.
4. Please enter through either the Russell Street entrance or the "new" Parking Lot entrance and please do not enter the building in large groups.
5. Our Parish Council members will greet you at the door and direct you at safe-distance intervals as you enter and will then direct you to a seating location in the church. Everyone will be asked to enter, from the side aisles. The center aisle will be for exiting only. Every other pew will be open for seating in the center portion only, with limited seating in each row. Please note that all window seats against the walls will be blocked off. Those who attend are asked to begin seating from the front to the back per the instructions we have received from authorities. Your cooperation is a very necessary part of our effort to protect our community.
6. We also require that you wear appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) such as a mask during the entire service. There are two hand sanitizer dispensers in the church entrance way for your use if you are unable to bring your own. If for no other reason than out of respect for others, please consider wearing PPE at all times inside the building.
7. Family members who live in the same household will need to be seated together to help conserve seating space and will need to make sure to keep 6 ft. of space between their family and the next individual or family in the pew. Parish Council members will be available to help with this. Children should always be with you.
8. Holy Communion is a matter of concern for some. Our method of distribution has not changed. If you have any concerns at all, we recommend that you simply refrain from receiving. For those who do receive, we kindly ask that you keep your mouth open wide.



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9. Following the service, antidoron will not be distributed. The Parish Council will dismiss the congregation by rows so we can facilitate social distancing as we exit. Again, please do not congregate in the aisles, hallways, restrooms, entrance way, etc. Everyone will be expected to leave through the front or side doors immediately.
10. Offering plates will not be passed during the services but Offering Baskets will be located at exit for your contributions. Of course, you may continue to give through our secure online portal at our website.
11. There will be no Sunday School, choir, dance practices, or gatherings of any type until further notice.
12. Please refrain from hugging, kissing, shaking hands, and venerating icons.
13. For the foreseeable future, public areas will be sanitized before and after each service.
14. The only open areas of the building will be the entrance ways and restrooms. All other areas of the facility should be considered off-limits.
15. Please do not congregate in the entrance way, halls, restrooms, or aisles.
16. Weekly services will continue to be limited to Sunday morning and usually one other service per week for the time being per our monthly newsletter, *The Cathedral News*.
17. We are so thankful to begin meeting again, even in this somewhat restricted manner. We appreciate your cooperation, assistance, and support of these guidelines as we seek to reopen services in the safest way possible and with the best possible testimony to our community, state and local law enforcement and leaders.
18. If you have any questions, contact us via phone, email, or our social media channels.