

Dear Friends:

July 31, 2020

On Sunday, August 9 we will reopen for worship with ONE Eucharist at 9 a.m.

The Plan:

- Christ the King will continue to offer video worship for adults and families and messages for children until, at least, the end of the year. We will continue to make new videos available late on Saturday. Videos will continue to offer the first part of the Holy Eucharist: The Liturgy of the Word. This includes readings, sermon, music and prayers.
- Beginning August 9 at 9 a.m. we will offer one service in church, consisting of the Eucharistic prayer and distribution of communion.
- Our maximum capacity is 24 to 26 people including clergy. This service will take approximately 20 minutes thus limiting the time we are together.
- **Reservations will be required to attend.** How odd that sounds and reads! Because we must limit our numbers we don't want to be in a position of having to turn people away. We ask that you call the office by noon on Friday if you wish to attend on the following Sunday. We will create a wait list if necessary and will be sure that over the course of several weeks, all who wish to attend will be accommodated. We may come up with a better way to handle this; if/when we do we will update these directions. We expect to learn as we go along. Reserve your spot(s) by calling the parish office: **845-687-9414**. If your plans should change please call us so that we may invite others to take your place. You will be notified if you cannot be accommodated on the Sunday you ask for. We plan to stream these services on FaceBook as they are happening. If someone arrives at church but can't be accommodated you may wait outside and I will distribute communion to you after the service ends.
- Safe distancing will be implemented. Families and people who live together may sit together. All others will be seated at a six foot distance from other congregants.
- **All will be required to wear face masks (including the clergy)** and sanitizing stations will be abundant. We will also have extra masks available for any who may have forgotten theirs.
- Communion will be distributed in the form of small wafers and not the usual homemade bread that we have become accustomed to. These wafers come pre-packaged and only the presider will handle them.
- The bread will be on a paten (plate) on the altar and covered with a cloth. The paten will not be directly under the celebrant face and the celebrant will sanitize hands before beginning or wear gloves.

- Communion from the cup – sipping or intinction, will not be available until it has been deemed a safe practice.
- At the conclusion of communion we will be dismissed to go in peace to love and serve the Lord. There will NOT be coffee hour. You are free to mingle with each other outside, socially distanced and wearing masks.
- Entrance to the church will be through the main double doors and exiting will be through the automatic door opposite the parish office. Signs will be up to remind us of these special directions.
- Rest rooms will be open and available.
- As I indicated above will stream the church service on FaceBook Live. We are also working on purchasing equipment that will allow us to stream, record and make available all services on our website. It's interesting to note that our capital campaign plan called for purchasing and using such equipment for this very purpose. It will be some time before professional caliber equipment can be installed as everything is on back order.
- The church complex will be sanitized each week and more often if we add services.
- We will maintain a list of all who attend from week to week and will check off your name when you enter. Should we have a visitor we will ask for their name and phone number. This information is required so that in case a participant tests positive for COVID-19 we will be able to notify the Board of Health for purposes of contact tracing.

This doesn't return our practice and fellowship to "normal" but it is an important first step. We'll be able to share the Eucharist with each other and fed with the bread of life. It's a good start. I very much look forward to seeing those of you who will venture out and I'll continue to pray for the day when we can all be together.

Blessings,

The Rev. Janet Vincent
Interim Priest-in-Charge
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