

What to Expect When You Come Back to ASK In-Person Worship

Preamble

Our main concern is for the health and safety of our community, our clergy, our staff, and our volunteers. We have used the guidelines of the Diocese of Toronto and of Toronto Public Health to inform our plan for a safe return to in person worship of God in our church. This Safe Return to Church plan is based on the principle that the best way to prevent infection with COVID-19 is to avoid being exposed to the virus as much as possible. These measures to prevent exposure are the mainstay of the messaging from public health and include:

- Wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer when soap and water not readily available, especially after touching frequently used items or surfaces
- Maintain physical distance of 2 metres (6 feet) apart in all directions
- Limit attendance at church to ensure that the appropriate physically distancing can occur
- Wear a mask or other face covering that covers your nose, mouth and chin when out in public, especially indoors and using public transit (as per City of Toronto by-law)
- Stay home if you are feeling unwell
- Avoid handshakes, hugs and other physical contact with people outside your household
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- No coffee time or social gathering at church
- Clean and sanitize church daily and disinfect commonly used items frequently

These are the principles that will guide our actions for the provision of in person worship services, including the Eucharist (in one kind only). The service will be very different from usual but we are living through unusual times. We will still be able to worship God with praise and thanksgiving and be the people of God in Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit at All Saints Kingsway.

Greeting Outside the Front Door

- Prior to entering the church you will be met by the Greeters
- Greeters will
 - Greet you with kind words and a nod
 - Ensure you are physically distanced as you wait to enter the church
 - There will be signage to help identify the required 2 metres (6 feet)
 - Screen you for symptoms of COVID-19

- If any concerns are identified, the Greeters will ask you to please return home and access the service on-line
- Ensure you are wearing a mask
 - If you are not wearing a mask one will be provided for you
 - If you cannot wear a mask for medical reasons then we request that you remain at home and access the service on-line
- Invite you to proceed to the Narthex, reminding you to remain physically distanced as directed by the signage
- Remind you to sanitize your hands at the hand sanitizer stations at the top of the stairs to the Narthex
- Those who need to use the elevator will proceed there after their encounter with the Greeters
 - You may have one person and one assistant in the elevator at a time

Registration at Tables in the Narthex

- As you enter the Narthex there will be 2 tables for registration, one on each side
- Sanitize your hands then proceed to the next available registration table
- Your name will be added to the Contact Tracing Log
 - This log is for contact tracing purposes only and will be used by Toronto Public Health in the event of the need to identify contacts of a person who contracts COVID-19
- You can deposit your offerings in the box provided
- You are encouraged to access the service leaflet on your device, but in the event that this is not possible a paper copy will be available on the table for you to take (and take home with you—do not leave in pew)
- When finished at the registration table you will then be met by a Sidesperson who will show you to your seat
- Youth (ages 10 and up) are invited to find a seat with their families first and then go down to the auditorium for their program.

Shown to Your Seats by Sidespersons

- At the door to the Nave you will be met by a Sidesperson
- You will be asked if you plan to take Communion or not
 - We recognize that not all parishioners will feel comfortable taking Communion at this time and that is acceptable

- We will seat those taking Communion in designated pews for the ease of flow and access to the aisle
- Households will be seated together
 - Children under 10 will remain in the pews with their family
- You will notice that every second pew is ribboned off to allow for distancing
- You will further notice purple tick marks 1 foot apart that will help you gauge the 6 feet distance required between you and the next person (except for persons of the same household)
 - If you wish to sit near someone particular (not in your household) we suggest you arrive together and you can be seated the required 6 feet apart in the same pew
- We request that you remain in your seats during the service, except during Communion

Sharing the Peace

- At the time for the sharing of the peace, please do not leave your seats
 - You may quietly say “Peace be with you” or whatever you usually say, then nod or bow to the person/s near you

Special Procedure for Receiving Communion

- If you are planning to receive Communion you will be seated in an appropriate pew
- The Sidesperson will indicate when it is your turn to exit your pew and proceed up the centre aisle
- At the top of the aisle you can re-sanitize your hands and wait at the indicated spot for your turn to proceed toward the Communion minister
- A Sidesperson will indicate to you when to move along the physically distanced spots to the priest
- To receive communion you stand 6 feet away from the priest.
 - He will say the words “Body of Christ...” and you will respond “Amen”
 - Then you move a little closer to receive the bread into your hands and step away
- When you have the bread, move back 6 feet to the designated spot, remove your mask and take the bread, trying to face the altar
- Once the bread is taken, put your mask back on and re-sanitize your hands at the table set out for that purpose and return to your seat

Exit Procedures

- When the service is complete you will exit your pews via the side aisles when directed to do so by the sidespeople and proceed to exit from the North or South doors. We will let the balcony exit first and then work from the back of the church toward the front.
 - If you have a leaflet please take it with you
 - Please remain physically distanced as you walk down the aisles and out the door
 - Please do not congregate around the doors

Cleaning and Disinfecting the Church

- After the service is over, the sexton and trained volunteers will clean and disinfect the sanctuary and areas used during the service
- The church will be cleaned and sanitized once daily
 - High touch areas will be sanitized twice daily, or more often if necessary

In Conclusion

We hope the information will be helpful to you as you decide for yourself whether to return in person or continue to worship online. Whatever you decide, you are welcome at All Saints Kingsway. We are one community, whether worshipping in person or online, brought together in Jesus Christ. Hope to see you soon.