

SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIPPING AT HOLY CROSS CHURCH!

Dear Family and Friends of Holy Cross Lutheran Church:

"I was glad when they said unto me, 'let us go into the house of the Lord'"
(Psalm 122:1).

Like David, we ALL long to be back at Holy Cross Church. Our last service was Sunday, March 15, the 3rd Sunday in Lent!

Prince Georges' County entered Stage 1 of reopening, Monday, June 1. As we prepare to reopen on Sunday, June 7, we still must follow certain guidelines.

FACEMASKS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES!

- If you do not have one, masks will be available at the door!
- Handshaking and hugs are to be avoided.
 - While you might feel comfortable doing these activities, others might not feel that way.
- If you are running even a slight temperature or experiencing some of the other signs of the virus, we ask that you not attend for that Sunday.
 - Please be considerate of others!



SOCIAL DISTANCING

- To ensure that safe distancing (6 feet is maintained) we will ask that those attending services will only sit in designated pews.
- Only family members should sit together.

- Since all pews will have to be cleaned following services, some pews will be taped off.
- Bulletins will be available in the pews that are open for sitting
- Bulletins cannot be reused.
- Offering place will be at the back of the pew
- Following the service, the congregation will leave starting with the back row
- The Fellowship Hall is reserved for Christ Is My Refuge use.
- Thrift Store is closed and is not accepting donations at this time.

COFFEE HOUR / FELLOWSHIP

- We will not be able to have coffee hours at first.
- Hopefully we can resume this as soon as health authorities give approval

TIMES OF SERVICES

- To accommodate the guidelines for social distancing, Holy Cross Church will offer **2 services each Sunday morning:**

9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

- You will be asked to indicate the service you are planning on attending so that we can maintain county guidelines for the number of people attending
- Please contact me by
 - Pastor's cell phone **301-785-0800**,
 - Church's phone number **301-345-5111** (leave a message)
 - respond by email **Stephen.mentz@gmail.com**
- **ADDITIONAL SERVICES WILL BE ADDED** according to needs
- The Church will be cleaned between services
- Each service will be no longer than 45 minutes

NO SINGING

- Various studies have indicated that singing is one of the major ways the virus is spread at church gathering.
- Liturgy will be spoken

BATHROOMS

- Please take note of the fact that bathrooms will be closed at the beginning.

PASTOR

- Pastor will begin and end the service standing at the altar
- There will be no processions
- There will be no greeting or receiving lines before or after service

HOLY COMMUNION

- Holy Communion will resume July 5.
- We will share the procedure that will be followed as we get closer to that date

ANOINTING

- Unfortunately anointing involves touching closer than 6 feet and we will not be able to anoint at first
- When conditions are more favorable, this service will be resumed

We realize that these rules seem to be rather negative. We need to remember that this pandemic is serious. We are trying to follow guidelines that will ensure the safety of all, and will help to make those attending feel safe.

All of these guidelines are subject to change.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding!