



Protocols for Regathering for In-Person/On-site Worship and Meetings

St. Philip's Episcopal Church has offered several alternatives to our meetings and worship services. Our leaders have been faithful and resourceful, eager to provide meaningful worship and gatherings to maintain a family connection to God and to one another. We are hopeful that this pandemic will not last forever. However, until it is deemed no longer a threat, protocols and guidelines will be, managed to insure the safety of those in attendance. It is the goal to offer meaningful worship, protect the sanctity of the sacraments and liturgy, and provide a safe environment for our parish family. We offer these protocols and guidelines.

The COVID Team and COVID Task Force created St. Philip's protocols into 2 phases at this time according to the Diocese of Florida Protocols and Guidelines and the Center for Disease Control. The COVID Task Force will monitor all COVID updates and will inform the parish as needed. The COVID Task Force will also meet bi-monthly or when the rate of COVID cases rises to 10% in Duval County.

Phase II

Sanctuary

Worship

- Check-in – The Welcoming Ministry will not conduct temperature checks nor questionnaires, and no reservation is needed. Attendees will sign-in only; may ask if they are vaccinated. Children under 5 and their families may be asked to sit in the Parish Hall/overflow. Breastfeeding babies may stay in the church with their mother, as Mom is providing the baby with protection.
- Mask wearing - optional for the vaccinated and strongly recommended for the unvaccinated; also, recommended mask-wearing for children over 2 to 5 years old.
- Social distancing – will decrease from 6ft down to 3ft. and discontinue blocked off pews.
- Music - Booster choir, 4 - 5 choir members who are vaccinated will serve at each service. The organist is not included in that count. No microphones needed.
- Peace – Continue to remain in your pews and offer peace to those around you with a wave and smile or a peace sign. You are welcome to make physical contact with those in your immediate family.
- Offertory – Offering plate will stay on the back table for parishioners to place their offering. A count of communicants will be placed in the plate.

- Eucharist – The Sacraments (bread, wine, and water) will be placed at the back and brought up at the end of the offertory.
- Disinfecting – The Welcoming Ministry will continue to disinfect the worship space, narthex and restrooms using microban spray supplied by the church.

Meeting Spaces

Parish Hall

- Mask wearing – optional for the vaccinated and strongly recommended for the unvaccinated; also, recommended mask-wearing for children over 2 to 5 years old.
- Capacity - No Limit.
- Room set-up – Use round tables only with a limit of 5-6 people unless from the same family.
- Kitchen staff – Only those preparing food are in the kitchen and they are the only persons to serve everyone (limit the number of servers).
- No food packaging limits.
- Disinfecting – the room will be disinfected by the organizers after the event or meeting using microban spray supplied by the church.

Ministry Center

- Mask wearing - optional for the vaccinated and strongly recommended for the unvaccinated; also, recommended mask-wearing for children over 2 to 5 years old.
- Capacity - No Limit however a social distance must be maintained in each room.
- Disinfecting – the rooms will be disinfected by the organizers or the last person (s) after the meeting using microban spray supplied by the church.

taskforceThe Classrooms

- Mask wearing - optional for the vaccinated and strongly recommended for the unvaccinated; also, recommended mask-wearing for children over 2 to 5 years old.
- Capacity - 2 teachers, 5 children.
- Disinfecting – the rooms will be disinfected by the organizers or the last person (s) after the meeting using microban spray supplied by the church.

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