

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Katherine,

We are pleased to announce that we are on target to welcome you back to your spiritual home beginning on August 15. As we prepare for our reopening, please be aware that we remain under the directives of our Metropolitan and the CDC guidelines as outlined below. These directives and guidelines are in place until further notice and are for the safety and protection of our entire parish family.

### **RESERVATIONS**

- Please click on the link at the top of this email for online reservations.
- In order to give all of our parishioners an opportunity to attend church, please select only **ONE (1)** of the four liturgy services; August 15, August 16, August 23, **OR** August 30,
- Attendance is limited to no more than 50 parishioners with advance registrations thereby allowing up to 200 parishioners to attend a liturgy during August. Please note that each family member, including children, counts as one "parishioner", i.e. a dad, mom, sister, and brother count as 4 "parishioners".

### **ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES**

#### **Prior to Arriving to Liturgy**

- Please arrive 20 minutes prior to the start time of the liturgy for check in.
- Please do not attend church if you or anyone in your household has a cold or flu-like symptoms, is not feeling well in general, is at a higher risk for a severe illness, has underlying medical conditions, and/or has been exposed to COVID-19. We encourage you to worship with us via live stream.
- **Anyone who attends liturgy is required to wear a face mask or face covering throughout the service.** A disposable mask will be provided to anyone arriving to church without one.
- If you are unable to wear a face mask or face covering during the entire liturgy, please stay home and worship with us via live stream. Children under the age of 2 years old are exempt.
- Unfortunately, at this time, we are unable to accommodate persons who cannot wear a mask or face covering.
- All attendees agree to practice social distancing.

#### **When You Arrive**

- Entrance to the Narthex will be from the far north door of the church. All other doors will remain locked.
- You will be greeted by the Parish Council member on duty at check in who will confirm your reservation. All parishioners will be required to provide their name and phone number for contact tracing in the event of a virus outbreak. This information will not be shared and will be destroyed after 30 days. Your privacy will be protected and only reported to the CDC.
- All services are paperless so there will not be any books in the pews nor any handouts.
- Sanitizer will be provided for your use.

- We have been away from each other for almost 5 months and it will be difficult to refrain from greeting one another in the traditional manner. Please no hugging, kissing, hand shaking, etc. as difficult as it will be to resist.
- Candles will be handed to you by the Parish Council member on duty; votive candles will be placed at the altar by the Parish Council members on the side of your choice.
- In place of reverencing the holy icons with a kiss, please make the sign of the cross and bow.
- Seating and traffic patterns will be clearly marked, on the floor, walls and pews.
- Ushers will assist with seating as we will be following all social distancing guidelines.
- Children must remain with an adult family member at all times.
- Please note that our nursery is closed until further notice.

### **Holy Communion and Exiting the Sanctuary**

- Your usher will direct you towards the front of the altar at the time of Communion.
- Communion will be given in the traditional manner.
- Remove your mask prior to receiving communion.
- Please refrain from touching the chalice and using the cloth to wipe your mouth.
- Tissues will be made available as you approach the chalice for Holy Communion if you need to wipe your mouth. Parents are to assist their children with the use of a tissue.
- Please refrain from kissing Father's hand.
- All parishioners are asked to exit out of the north side door after receiving their Antidoron.
- Please refrain from visiting and lingering in the parking lot or on side-walks and ALWAYS practice continue social distancing.
- Coffee Hours are suspended until further notice.

### **Offering**

- Baskets for your gifts will be made available in the Sanctuary as you exit exit; we will not be passing a tray during the service.

***Please familiarize yourselves so we can reopen our beautiful church with love, hope, and understanding.*** *There is no doubt that this has been and continues to be a challenging time; but please know, we are doing the best we can to reopen our church as safely as possible and in your best interest.,.* We look forward to when we can celebrate our faith, once again, with limited precautions.

Yours in Christ,

Evangelia Archuleta,

President/Reopening Lead