



St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
3230 Washington Pike
Bridgeville, PA 15107
412-221-2277
www.stgeorgebridgeville.org

Directions for Phased Re-Opening of Our Church for Worship Effective June 14, 2020 - "The Feast of All Saints"

Worship services will resume with the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 14, the Feast of All Saints. A maximum of 50 persons can attend including clergy, acolytes and chanters gathered in the church proper. The church hall, classrooms and offices will remain closed.

ADVANCE SIGN UP TO ATTEND IS REQUIRED

Parishioners that are interested in attending a service must sign up online to attend by visiting

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054AABA92CA6FB6-stgeorge> This website will not ask you to create an account, you will simply use your name and email address. When signing up, please enter the total number of people who will attend service with you, including yourself. Please be respectful of allowing opportunities for all those who wish to return to church services at this time. The signup form will be updated if the number of people allowable increases for future dates. Only those who sign up are permitted

to attend services at this time; others are welcome to continue to access our live or recorded online streaming services. If plans change please go back to the online sign up and remove your name, or change the number of people attending, so that there is space for another parishioner to sign up to attend if you will not be there.

Alternatively, parishioners may also send an email to info@stgeorgebridgeville.org or call the church at 412-221-2277 to sign up for a specific Sunday, and someone will get back to them to complete the sign up process.

WHAT YOU AGREE TO BY ATTENDING

By voluntarily entering church, you affirm that you are not currently ill or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms; you acknowledge that while safety measures are being taken by the church, it cannot guarantee the safety of every person present; you agree to abide by the social distancing and safety guidelines being practiced in this church; you consent to hold the church harmless against any damages or claims regarding your voluntary presence. If you are not able to agree to and affirm the above statements, you may not participate in this worship service in person and may choose to join online.

MASKS AND SANITATION PROCEDURES REQUIRED

All parishioners will be required to wear protective face masks. Please ensure that each individual brings a mask with them to church. Exceptions are allowed for those with valid medical exceptions and special needs.

Prior to and following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 14, and moving forward, as well as any weekday services, the church will be sanitized by a select group of our parishioners using an EPA approved disinfectant.

WHO MAY NOT ATTEND

Those with any signs or symptoms of any illness (whether it is COVID or not) **MUST** stay home, as should those who have come into contact with COVID-positive persons within the last 2 weeks. Those who are at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (live in a long-term care facility, underlying medical conditions, etc.) should not enter the church building and should participate in services online. Questions should be directed to your healthcare provider.

ON-TIME ARRIVAL

Parishioners will enter the church through the main/front doors, where you will be greeted by an usher who will verify your party against the roster of attendees for that service. In addition, the usher will take the temperature for all individuals. **If your temperature reading is above 99.5°, you will be asked to return home.**

Due to these additional steps necessary for entry, **we ask that you arrive to the Church no later than 10:15 a.m. Once the Liturgy has begun, parishioners will not be able to enter the Church.**

The following questions will be asked of you by the usher: ***“Do you have any symptoms of illness? Have you been diagnosed with COVID 19? Have you been exposed to anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID 19? Has anyone in your household been diagnosed with COVID 19?”***

The usher will ask to spray your hands with sanitizer before entering the church proper. If you have hand sanitizer, please bring it with you to disinfect your hands, should you touch your eyes, nose, or mouth at any time.

Following the blessing at the conclusion of the service, you will be directed to exit one of the two doors in the back of the church and not through the vestibule.

FOLLOW THE SIGNS

Please follow posted entry points, aisles and designated seating areas. These have been prepared in advance to provide safe social distancing and need to be respected for everyone's well-being.

YOUR SEATING AREA

Designated seating areas will provide for spacing between individuals and family sections. Members of the same household may be seated in the same section without social distance between them. Everyone is required to remain in their seating area throughout the service except for receiving Holy Communion and for restroom needs.

HOW TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

As per the directive of our Hierarchs, we will receive Holy Communion in the traditional manner. Please remove your face mask prior to arriving at the Holy Chalice

- When receiving, open your mouth fully and tilt your head back so the priest may place the Communion spoon in your mouth and turn it over to allow the Holy Gifts to drop in your mouth. Please do not close your lips on the spoon.
- Please do not touch the Communion cloth or dab your lips on it. There is no need, since your lips have not touched the Holy Gifts. It will be held by the altar attendants to protect against spills.
- After receiving Holy Communion but before replacing your mask, the Antidoron/Holy Bread will be distributed to you by a clergyman or altar server. Please consume the bread before wearing your mask again. This keeps the Holy Gifts from being expelled on to the mask. Please wear the mask for the remainder of the service. This procedure will be followed also at the conclusion of every Liturgy.

PREPARE FOR OFFERINGS IN ADVANCE

To minimize the handling and exchanging of currency in the church, please consider either making your offerings to your church

through electronic giving available on our parish website; www.stgeorgebridgeville.org, or by preparing your offering in an envelope to be brought to church and deposited in collection trays provided. Collection trays will not be passed around; you will be directed to the location of the trays. You may also mail your offerings to the church.

AFTER SERVICES

Please maintain social distancing on exiting the church. **After receiving the blessing at the end of the Liturgy and receiving the Antidoron/Holy Bread from a clergyman or a designated layman, you will be directed to exit the church through the two side doors located in the back of the church.**

MEMORIAL WHEAT SHOULD BE PRE-BAGGED

If you have offered a Memorial Service, rather than having the Memorial Wheat as a large amount on a tray, please prepare it in individual bags and place all the bags on the tray for the priest to bless during the service. After the service, the tray will be made available at the exit point.

PLEASE DEPART IMMEDIATELY

Much as this goes against our common practice following services, please do not congregate in the Vestibule or other areas of the church building. All attendees are asked to directly depart following the service.

COFFEE HOURS Coffee hours, lunches and other social gatherings are not to be held during this phase. Please understand they will return as soon as possible when restrictions are loosened.

THANK YOU!

Our clergy and the leadership of St. George thank you for your understanding, support, and cooperation during these temporary and necessary measures.