

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

The latest directive from Metropolitan JOSEPH, posted on the website, regarding a phased reopening of parishes went into effect on May 6. However, it is critical to note that the Metropolitan has requested that parishes follow the directives of their local municipality should that guidance be more restrictive. In light of Governor Wolf's extension of the stay-at-home order for the region including Delaware County, and acting with best practices and the health of our community in mind, St. George will take the following steps to begin a phased reopening of liturgical life to our parish community beginning Monday, May 11:

Move to 10 people (maximum) at each service. All those serving, including chanters, are scheduled and confirmed in advance. We will also begin to allow parishioners to attend services with the following guidelines in mind:

- All attending must be scheduled and confirmed by Fr. Joel via the church office in advance. ***(See instructions below for how to schedule.)***
- Scheduling will be based on household units (singles or families) to limit the number of households represented in the church at one time.
- Those who are elderly, have pre-existing conditions, or currently are not feeling well are asked to remain home. Additionally, those children who are too young to keep a mask on are asked to remain home.
- Those who are scheduled to attend a service are asked to wear a mask, bring hand sanitizer, and bring disinfectant wipes (if possible) to help clean and disinfect the church at the end of service.

Begin to increase the number of services held weekly. This will include weekday Liturgies for feast days as well as weekly services (ie: Paraklesis), specifically the following: Mid-Pentecost (5/12), Sts. Constantine and Helena (5/21), Leave-taking of Pascha (5/26), and Ascension (5/28). The church calendar is being updated with the upcoming service dates and times. We will continue to livestream services for those who are unable to attend in person.

Limited opening of the church for communion and confession.

- **Communion:** On the days when Liturgy is held, Fr. Joel will leave the church open for 1.5 hours after the conclusion of Liturgy to make communion available for those who would like to receive it. These will be scheduled by appointment in 15 minutes increments (for up to 6 appointments per day), and must be scheduled in advance through the church office. For those who make appointments, it is critical that they arrive at the church for their appointed time to ensure we do not exceed the maximum number of people allowed in the church building at one time. ***(See below for additional instructions.)***
- **Confession:** Confession will be held by appointment. Appointments can be made for Saturdays between 4-5pm and 6-7pm, with other appointments available during the week as needed. These appointments must also be scheduled with Fr. Joel via the church office. ***(See below for additional instructions.)***
- Outside of these appointments, the church building will remain closed for the time being.

To schedule attendance at Liturgy and appointments for communion or confession:

- **Liturgy:** If you and/or your family would like to attend Liturgy, please submit your request through the Sign Up Genius form (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4EACA92CA2FF2-attend>). As noted above, we are scheduling by household units (whether singles or families) to

reduce the number of households represented in the church building at one time. When signing up to attend Liturgy, please enter the total number of household members who will be attending (for example, if you have a family of 4, reserve 4 slots).

- **Communion:** If you and/or your family would like to make an appointment for communion after one of the scheduled services, please submit your request through the Sign Up Genius form (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4EACA92CA2FF2-attend>). These appointments can be made for household units (rather than just one person). When submitting your request for an appointment, please list your preferred time(s) in the comment section on the form. For example, if Liturgy ends at 7:30pm, appointments will be made for 7:30pm, 7:45pm, 8pm, etc. After your request is submitted, the office will be in touch with you to confirm your appointment time, and additional instructions will be sent to you at that time.
- **Confession:** To schedule a time for confession, please send an email to the office at office@saintgeorgeupperdarby.org with a few dates/times you are available.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the church office at office@saintgeorgeupperdarby.org.