



Photo credit: Laura Porter

We can't wait to welcome you back!

It has been over five months and we have missed being together! In-person worship resumes September 6, "with restrictions" per the Diocese of Ottawa's *In This Together* plan, to test the waters and make sure we offer a safe experience for everyone. We've dusted and polished and cleaned the house, so here's what you can expect if you choose to join us.

In this first (amber) stage, there will be two services on Sundays at 8 & 10:30am (note the time change!) Attendance will be limited to 50 people total at each. The office will be open during the week 9am – 12noon *by advance appointment only.*

Before Arriving: Pre-registration will be required. Call or e-mail the parish office to let us know which service you are attending and how many in your social "bubble" will be joining you. (We want to make sure you can sit together!)

Please review the self-assessment screening questions on the back of this brochure to ensure you are able to come to church. Of course, if you feel at all unwell on Sunday, you *must* stay at home to protect yourself and others. If you are able to let us know by phone or email that would be helpful.

When you arrive: Access to the building will be via the *Parish Hall* entrance facing George Street. This is a different entrance than we're used to. If you are unable to climb the steps, you may enter via the ramp from the parking lot – please indicate this when pre-registering. Only those with mobility issues should enter and exit via that ramp door.

Please plan to arrive 10-15 minutes before service time, as it will take a bit of time to get checked in and settled.

Masks are *required* for everyone. If you forgot your mask, one will be available for you at the entrance. Please ensure your mask is on *before* entering the building. Please sanitize your hands upon entering and check in at the reception desk to confirm that we have correct information for contact tracing.

The coat racks will not be available. Please keep all your personal belongings with you.

In church: Removable items have been taken out of the church including books and cushions. Offering plates are available at the back of the church and at the exits should you wish to make your financial offering as you enter or exit.

You will have an assigned pew and an usher will guide you to your seat. We have a large building, but limited room to manoeuver. Who would have thought that? Our aisles are narrow, our pews are very close together and our entranceways a bit on the tight side. To help everyone keep their distance, and avoid the stress of trying to figure out which pew is "okay" to sit in, we'll do all that work ahead of time for you.

The Order of Service will be waiting for you in your pew. Both services will be from page 185 of the BAS.

There won't be a procession or any congregational singing or choir. Music will be provided by the organist.

There will be one person assigned to read the readings and lead the intercessions.

Communion will be available in bread only and brought to you in your pew by the priest.

There will not be any Sunday School program in the building. Emily, our Sunday School Coordinator is hard at work preparing programming for on-line Sunday School. If you do have children accompanying you to church, they must remain with you at all times.

Only the washroom at the rear of the church will be available. Protocols require the washroom to be cleaned after *each* use.

After the service: You are asked to exit via the *side* aisles to the front entrance on your side of the church. Those who entered via the ramp are asked to exit via the ramp door. Please take all your belongings with you, including your order of service. If you do not wish to keep your order of service, please deposit it in the blue recycling bin at the exit.

Some other things to note:

Unfortunately, we cannot have any form of coffee hour at this stage.

Areas of the buildings not required for worship will not be accessible.

The church will be disinfected after each service, including the pews, washroom, door handles and other high touch surfaces.

If you are not comfortable returning to in-person worship at this time because you don't feel quite ready to do so, are in a high-risk group because of age, underlying health conditions or because you are caregiver to someone who is at high-risk, then please do not feel obligated. We will continue to communicate via phone and e-mail and through on-line worship and via Cogeco cable.

It seems like it's a lot of rules and regulations and maybe it feels like we're being over-zealous. But things are very different than the last time we gathered. The freedom with which we used to be able to move and interact simply isn't possible at this time. While we've gotten used to a different way of being together in grocery stores, now we're "coming home" and we haven't had any practice being in our beloved sanctuary together. We want you to feel safe and comfortable, and we are doing everything we can to help create that environment for you, and for anyone new who may come through the doors.

If you have questions or need additional information or assistance, please contact the parish office or a member of the Pandemic Task Force and we will do our best to help: PTF Members are: Karen Bryan, Linda Coleman, Lois Dewey, Terry Dillabough, Emily Duberville, Paul Howard, Pat Lee, Garry Rodford, Doreen Watt, Dan Willis, Canon Catherine.

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COVID-19 SELF-SCREENING ASSESSMENT TOOL

Please review the following each week before coming to church, and refrain from attending in-person worship if any of the following apply:

You have travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days;

OR

you have any of the following symptoms of COVID-19:

- fever
- new onset of cough
- chills
- unexplained fatigue
- headache
- sore throat
- runny nose
- stuffy or congested nose
- lost sense of taste / smell
- difficulty breathing
- difficulty swallowing
- pink eye
- digestive issues – nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain) – or for young children and infants: sluggishness or lack of appetite

OR

you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or someone who has developed new respiratory symptoms.

Together, we can all keep one another safe.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." John 15.12