

Parish Co-Vid-19 Update For The Upcoming Paschal Season!

Here is the latest for all of our faithful in terms of what our Parish is doing, in lieu of the relaxing of Co-vid protocols in the County (masks still required, with 3-feet social distance):

- (1) Starting with the weekend of **Lazarus Saturday/Palm Sunday (April 24/25)**, ALL of our Pews will be uncovered, and parishioners will be permitted to sit together, by FAMILY; Or, for individuals by themselves, with 3-feet social distancing.
- (2) **MASKS are required for ALL faithful attending our Church services.**
- (3) For the time being, the Choir will still be singing from the front (left) side of the Church, but will take up less pews since almost ALL of the singers are now vaccinated.
- (4) The **CHOIR LOFT is reserved** for those individuals who wish to separate themselves, distance-wise, from the bulk of the crowd.
- (5) Parents with children are absolutely welcomed back, but children must be seated with parents at all times. If parents feel that may be a challenge, we will have chairs and the TV set up downstairs in the Church hall for them to watch the services on Live-stream. At the appropriate time, the children can be brought up for Holy Communion!
- (6) The faithful coming to Church **will be directed on where to sit by our Tutors**, given the number in the party, and with appropriate social-distancing.
- (7) Candles will still already be placed on the stands in front for the faithful – just light them with the wooden sticks/matches there. Free-will offerings for candles and Rogation lights are acceptable for the time being.
- (8) **For the Feast Of Palm Sunday – APRIL 25th**: the palms will be given out as you enter the Church, so please take them with you to your seats. At the appropriate time, Fr. Stevo will ask everyone to **hold up their palms** as he invokes the special prayers to bless them, then will walk through the center aisle blessing all the palms with Holy Water!
- (9) **For Great and Holy Friday**: for BOTH the Burial Vespers at 3 PM and the Matins of Holy Saturday at 7 PM, the Tomb of Our Lord, and the Holy Plastica (Shroud) will be able to be venerated in the following manner: you may approach directly in front of the Tomb, bow before the Tomb (or kneel before it) **but do NOT** kiss the Shroud or the Gospel or the Cross on the Tomb. **(Procession will be done with 3-feet social distancing in place)**
- (10) For Great Saturday Matins (On Friday evening at 7 PM), and Paschal Sunrise Matins (at 6:30AM on Pascha), candles will be given to each attendee, and will be lit by passing the Flame on to the person next to you, again, with all wearing masks!
(Procession will be done with 3-feet social distancing in place)
IF there are any questions, please contact Fr. Stevo in advance of Holy Week!