



Dear St. Nicholas Parishioners,

The St. Nicholas Reactivation Team continues to monitor the COVID-19 recommendations of state and federal health advisors in order to adjust guidelines and to eventually return to our customary worship and church activities. As we continue to update and adapt the St. Nicholas Reactivation guidance, it is approached in a thoughtful and deliberate manner in order to protect the safety and wellbeing of our laity and clergy.

Updates to the current protocols, as of February 26th 2021, include:

1. St. Nicholas Church Choir return to choir loft. (limited to 5 choir members)

Starting, Saturday March 6th, the St. Nicholas Church Choir will return to the choir loft in a limited fashion. 5 members of the choir will be allowed into the choir loft during church services. The choir members will stand in the back half of the choir loft, away from the loft railing, and will remain socially distanced. Microphones will be set up in the loft to ensure those attending the services remotely will hear the choir.

2. Church Library open for Parishioner Children to check out books

Parents may now assist their children in picking out St. Nicholas library books to take home and read. The bookshelves, with the children's books, will be located in the hallway near the church offices. Parents must be present during the selection process and in turn will record the books being borrowed in the library check-out logbook. The following information will need to be recorded; name, book title, and date of check-out. When the books are returned, they will be placed in a box marked for library returns. Once the book is returned, record the date of return in the library check-out log.

Church Attendance Precautions

Due to the continued need for social distancing, the hall will continue to have seating available and the service will be projected.

The church Administrative Assistant will continue to send an email for you to continue to sign up for church services the Monday before the weekend services. You must RSVP to indicate if you will attend Vespers on Saturday and / or Divine Liturgy on



Sunday. Provide your name and the names of all family members that will attend by noon, on Thursday, of that week. All RSVP's will receive a confirmation to attend services by Friday or Saturday. If you do not receive a confirmation, do not attend services.

Having the opportunity to gather for worship again has been a truly wonderful experience, and it is truly something to give thanks to God for.

To help mitigate community exposure to COVID-19, continue these best practice measures when attending church:

1. Please arrive at the church before the start of services to participate in a temperature and health screening check. The church doors will lock at the beginning of Divine Liturgy and Vespers.
2. Wear a mask.
3. Practice social distancing before, during and after services.
4. Follow the guidance of the Parish Council members staffing the church service.

As an additional precaution, if you have attended a church service and later require a COVID test, we ask that you inform the Parish Council President so that proper safety steps may be taken.

While we follow these temporary guidelines for as long as necessary, our continued hope and prayer is to return to normal participation in liturgical worship and parish life.

You will receive updated communications as protocols change. Please direct questions to the Administrative Assistant at Assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com.

Yours in Christ,

**St. Nicholas Parish Council
Reactivation Committee**