



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Dear St. Nicholas Parishioners,

June 29, 2020

The state of Pennsylvania has moved to the "GREEN PHASE" of COVID-19, and now St. Nicholas parish will implement new guidelines for church attendance. The primary difference between the **"YELLOW PHASE"** and **"GREEN PHASE"** guidelines, is the amount of people that can attend church. Therefore, please keep the "YELLOW PHASE" protocols that you originally received for a detailed reference.

Moving to the "GREEN PHASE" means we will no longer limit attendance for Divine Liturgy to 25 people or use the Group A - K and Group L - Z process to sign up for services.

Beginning July 4th, Fr. Matthew will offer 2 Divine Liturgy services each weekend with up to 48 attendees per service. One Divine Liturgy service will be held on Saturday at 9:30 am, and the other one on Sunday, at 9:30 am. Parishioners will sign up for one service each weekend. Families with children are encouraged to attend Divine Liturgy on Saturdays. Access to all other areas of the church remain restricted. Currently, Vespers services are available online.

The church Administrative Assistant will send an email the Monday before Divine Liturgy services. You must RSVP to indicate if you will attend Divine Liturgy on Saturday or Sunday. Provide the day of the service you will attend, your name and the names of all family members that will attend by noon, on Thursday, of that week. "Maybe attending" is not an option. All RSVP's will receive a confirmation to attend services by Friday. If you do not receive a confirmation, do not attend services.

We will continue to emphasize the safety and well-being of our laity and clergy until a vaccine is available and will do this by following best practice protocols for both Divine Liturgies on Saturdays and Sundays. Without a vaccine, we must prepare to take decisive action in the case of COVID-19 flare-ups and implement continuous best practice recommendations by state/local government and health authorities.



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To help mitigate community exposure to COVID-19, continue these best practice measures when attending church during the "GREEN PHASE":

1. Please arrive at the church no later than 9:15 am to participate in a temperature and health screening check before Divine Liturgy. The doors will be locked, and no one will be admitted after 9:30.
2. Wear a mask.
3. Practice social distancing before, during and after services.

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, Jennifer Bzik, at Assistant4StNicholas@outlook.com.

Yours in Christ,

St. Nicholas Parish Council
Reactivation Committee