

04/12/2023

Dear Members in Christ,

COVID has disrupted all of our lives and remains a challenge to our community. We at Saint Matthews have always tried to balance the need to keep our faithful safe, while working towards normalization of our spiritual and social interaction within the parish.

The following will summarize the current process for attending services:

- **Masks are Optional** for all services; however, we strongly recommend the following:
  - If you do not feel well, please do not come to church
  - If you are Unvaccinated, the CDC recommends that a mask is worn while indoors
  - If you have any other health concerns, please continue to wear a mask
  - If you feel uncomfortable in any other ways, please continue to wear a mask
- Per recent guidance from His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon on April 7, 2023, "...it is now time for all of our communities to return to the practice of a single spoon and I hereby direct that this take place", we will be returning to a single spoon for the distribution of holy communion.
- We will continue to **Live-stream services** and, on request, will offer a "drive by" Communion & Blessing for those that are elderly or immune compromised or otherwise unable to attend "in-person services. Please contact Fr Constantine if you would like to receive communion in this manner.
- Sunday School will be held as normal.
- We will host Coffee Hour. For those that feel comfortable, we invite you to join us in our hall following Sunday Divine Liturgy services. This is a wonderful time for fellowship and getting to know each other better. Please join us

We also understand that some members will still be uncomfortable with the current guidelines and ask that all Members be respectful of these concerns.

We appreciate your continued understanding and prayers.