



# ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Rev. Father Jon S. Boukis

Presbyter

## ASSUMPTION PARISH (LOUISVILLE, KY) WORSHIP GUIDELINES

REVISED JULY 1, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

The Parish has reopened for services with limited capacity as outlined below. The following procedures have been implemented based on the requirements and guidelines of the Metropolis of Detroit and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

*Note: Due to capacity limitations as mandated by the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the Metropolis of Detroit, attendance and seat assignment at the service will be determined through an RSVP reservation system. Only those with assigned seats will be allowed to enter.*

### BEFORE COMING TO CHURCH

- † **Consider your risk.** Those who are at risk (persons with pre-existing health conditions and those over the age of 65) are strongly encouraged to stay at home.
- † **Assess your health.** Anyone who is currently experiencing any symptoms of illness must stay at home.
- † **Make sure you have a mask.** (Masks for children under the age of 7 are not required but preferred. *Note: Children 2 and under should not wear masks.*)

### UPON ARRIVAL AT DIVINE LITURGY

A Parish Council Member will greet you to:

- † Verify all who enter the church have a mask.
- † Take your temperature with a touchless thermometer (anyone with a temperature of 100.5° or above will not be permitted to enter).
- † Provide hand sanitizer.
- † Ask you the following: Have you had a fever or other symptoms of Covid-19 in the past 72 hours? Have you been in contact with anyone that tested positive or exhibited symptoms of Covid-19 in the last 14 days?
- † Open the door and direct you to your seat.



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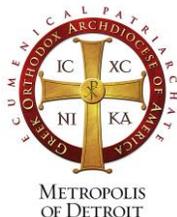
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## AT DIVINE LITURGY

- † The Icons will remain on the Solea. *One may bow to show respect.* Please do not kiss any icon.
- † Seating (social distanced at 6 feet apart) will be numbered and assigned.
- † There will be no choir. (Chanter only)
- † There will only be 1 Adult Acolyte.
- † No paper bulletins will be distributed. *Bulletins will continue to be sent electronically.*
- † No liturgical books will be in the pews.
- † Procedures for receiving Holy Communion will be announced prior to Holy Communion (procedures, given by the Metropolis of Detroit are listed below). *The Eucharist will be distributed to those wishing to partake. Parishioners are reminded not to judge others based on their individual decision in this regard.*
- † No tray will be passed (the tray will be at the candle stand).
- † Antidoron will be distributed in plastic bags. The hand of the priest is not to be venerated with a kiss. *One may bow to show respect.*

## GENERAL APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

- † The Commonwealth of Kentucky allows for 50% of capacity (=120 people). Phase 1 of the Metropolis guidelines stipulate 50% of the capacity allowed by the Commonwealth (=60 people). Phase 2 of the Metropolis guidelines, which will begin (beginning **Sunday, July 19**), allow the capacity permitted by the Commonwealth (=120 people). During both phases, family units must maintain a distance of at least 6 feet.
- † There will be no gatherings on church premises aside from Divine Liturgy. Fellowship groups, religious education and any other meetings that are typically held on church grounds will remain virtual (Zoom).
- † The priest may offer pastoral counsel and provide the sacraments of Communion, Unction, and Confession on an appointment basis. Proper precautions for limiting contact and proximity must be observed.
- † Weddings, Baptisms, and Funerals may also be conducted according to the capacity limitations and rules for each phase.
- † No one is allowed to be in any church facility without the express permission of the priest.



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## HOLY COMMUNION PROCEDURES (METROPOLIS OF DETROIT)

It is clearly understood that the Holy Communion is the very Body and Blood of Christ which cannot be tainted by any harmful thing, and that those who receive it with proper intent of mind and heart cannot be harmed by it. **However, for the pastoral reason that we do not want people to allow their fear of the coronavirus to separate them from the chalice, clergy are to drop the sacrament into the opened mouths of the faithful, being careful that the spoon not come into contact with the person.** If accidental contact with the individual is made, the spoon will be immediately sanitized by dipping it in grain alcohol (140 proof or more) for at least 30 seconds, dipping it in a rinse of water, and wiping it dry prior to the next use.

## RSVP PROCEDURE DURING PERIOD OF REDUCED CAPACITY

At the beginning of each week, the parish will alternate sending out an email to half of our parishioners (Last names A-K or L-Z) for reservations for the next week's Divine Liturgy. On Wednesday of each week, an email will be sent to the listserv opening reservations to the entire parish. In this way, every parishioner will be given the opportunity to attend the Divine Liturgy at least every other week, if one chooses.

Parish Council members will be present at the front door to screen and seat those who have seats assigned from 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM. After 10:15 AM, the Parish Council Members will enter the church and lock the doors. No one will be permitted to enter after 10:15 AM.

## HOLY COMMUNION FOR THOSE NOT HAVING ATTENDED DIVINE LITURGY

For our parishioners who are not able to attend the Divine Liturgy, Holy Communion will continue to be administered following the Divine Liturgy until 11:20 AM (after all those who have attended the Divine Liturgy have departed). During that period, the Parish Council will admit one family unit at a time to approach the Holy Altar and receive the Eucharist.

It is important that no one who wishes to receive Holy Communion is unable to do so due to the reduced capacity of the divine services or choosing to not attend in-person services due to one's elevated risk or age during this challenging period.