



HOLY TRANSFIGURATION ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE NEW ENGLAND DIOCESE ✦ ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

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The Very Reverend Steven Voytovich, D.Min., Rector

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June 15, 2021

Dear Clergy and Faithful of Holy Transfiguration Church:

This notice is being forwarded to let you know of some developments to our approach to parish activities in light of the current COVID guidelines of both our church and civil authorities. Please take a moment to read it through.

Starting immediately, in addition to Sunday Divine Liturgy, our standard service schedule will now include services on the eves of feasts and Saturday Vespers. Further service updates will be made as opportunity allows.

Starting immediately, we will no longer be taking temperatures upon entering the church. We will continue to take down names of all attendees for tracking purposes if that were to become necessary.

New Haven civil guidelines still require anyone unvaccinated to wear mask indoors. Out of an abundance of caution and in solidarity with parishioners who may not yet be vaccinated or cannot be vaccinated, we will continue require masks for all attendees through the end of July or when New Haven relaxes its current requirement.

We will be relaxing our approach to physical distancing in church. Specifically, we are looking to have non-related groups try to keep approximately 3 feet of space between them. Anyone who personally feels a need to keep a greater distance of course is free to do so. Please continue to cooperate with ushers and be cognizant of any tape markings indicating a usable space. The choir loft will continue to be a place for those who prefer additional distancing."

We will also return to the physical arrangement of the candle desk with candles and resume making memorial loaves available for purchase at eucharistic services, for remembrance of loved ones. For now, the candle desk will not be staffed, and we will continue to have purchases made on a "self-service" basis until further notice. After communion, antidoron will be available in dixie cups for those who would like.

We will continue to hold coffee hours outdoors through the summer as the weather allows. In the event of bad weather we will hold coffee hour inside, generally following current guidance for dining in at restaurants: i.e. masks while moving about, removed while seated to eat/drink.

Thank you for your patience and sensitivity during this past year as we have worked through successive guidelines and developments related to the pandemic.

Fr. Steven and Parish Council