PHASE 2: Ongoing COVID-19 Safety Protocols Update for our St. Nicholas Church

Dear Saint Nicholas Family,

His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas, has provided us with guidelines for the 2nd Phase in the reopening of our Church. They are within the guidelines offered by our Archdiocese, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the State of Michigan directives. The continued safety of you, your loved ones, and our staff is of paramount importance. We ask that you share the link with anyone who may not receive our Eblasts.

### How can I attend church on in person?

- Once you arrive at church, we will have mini health stations led by licensed health care professionals to scan your temperature and ask you a few COVID-19 health questions.
- **Wearing a mask in church is MANDATORY** (except for medical reasons, i.e. COPD which then must be accompanied by a note from a licensed healthcare provider, MD/DO, NP, PA)
- Please try and arrive promptly by 9:30AM to limit disruptions to the Liturgy

### What will church look like when I arrive?

- Once you arrive at church and pass the COVID-19 mini health assessment, you will proceed to the Narthex.
  - Central trays will be provided in the Narthex for your candles and offering, as no basket will be passed in church,
  - Please light your candle, Venerate the icon, please do not kiss the icons,
  - **Our ushers will guide you to a designated seating area based on our social distancing policies and the number of members in your family**.
  - Please follow posted entry points, aisles, and designated seating areas.
  - Please do not alter or remove any of the social distancing material in the pews or aisles.

### How will my family be seated at church?

- A family unit can be seated together if they have been quarantining together. Special care must be made to ensure that the family is 6 feet from other parishioners.
- Please follow the guidance of our ushers so we adhere to the social distancing guidelines.

### Can I receive communion?

- Father Paul and Father Michael will provide direction on how communion will be distributed following guidelines offered by His Eminence and Archbishop.
- Communion will start at the back of the church and proceed forward. Please follow the direction of our ushers so that the church maintains social distancing and safety for our parishioners.

### What happens after divine liturgy?

- Antidoron will be blessed by our Priests and distributed via plastic bags in the aisles. This is to prevent congregating around the Priests during distribution.
- Please do not kiss Father Paul or Father Michael’s hand
- **Upon exiting the Nave, please exit the church immediately; do not congregate in the Narthex. Please keep your mask on until you fully exit the church building.**
- Upon exiting, please follow the directions of our ushers maintaining proper social distancing guidelines while respectfully exiting church.

*For those of you in attendance, you acknowledge that while the Church has taken the necessary safety measures, we cannot guarantee the safety of everyone present*
**Additional information for attendees:**

- At risk persons (those with pre-existing health conditions and those over the age of 65) are strongly encouraged to stay at home.
- Anyone who is currently experiencing any symptoms of illness must stay at home or will be refused entry into church.
- The cry room will only be available for the use of the restroom, which will be the only one available. If it is occupied, please wait in the Narthex area.
- The choral duties will continue to be performed by chanter singing on opposite sides of the Church.
- Until further notice, coffee hour is be suspended.
- We will continue cleaning and sanitizing our Church after every service.
- Until further notice, all printed materials and liturgical books will not be used. Bulletins will be provided at the end of the service. The church’s website also has the bulletin available at [www.stnicholastroy.org](http://www.stnicholastroy.org).

*Please be patient, kind and respectful and we’ll get through this together as our St. Nicholas family.*

**General information:**

- The broadcasts will continue and are available via our website: [www.stnicholastroy.org](http://www.stnicholastroy.org).
- The Event Center is available for parishioner events. Please contact Sam Backos, our caterer, for information on how to use the Event Center.
- You can also virtually light a vigil candle for $5.00. Please visit our website OR call the church office and a donation check can also be mailed, writing vigil candle on memo line. A Parish Council member will light the vigil candle at the next Divine Liturgy, after the request is received.

**Important Contact Information:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fr Paul Patitsas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:FrPaul@stnicholastroy.org">FrPaul@stnicholastroy.org</a></td>
<td>(248) 525-0711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fr Michael Manos</td>
<td><a href="mailto:FrMichael@stnicholastroy.org">FrMichael@stnicholastroy.org</a></td>
<td>(313) 590-0354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Administrator: Maggie</td>
<td><a href="mailto:office@stnicholastroy.org">office@stnicholastroy.org</a></td>
<td>(248) 362-9575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Office: Nicole</td>
<td><a href="mailto:finance@stnicholastroy.org">finance@stnicholastroy.org</a></td>
<td>(248) 362-9575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caterer: Sam Backos</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sales2@erniesmi.com">sales2@erniesmi.com</a></td>
<td>(586) 286-8435</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Church Office Hours**

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

*Please continue praying to our Lord during these challenging times.*

*Your patience and continued understanding are greatly appreciated.*

November 13th, 2020