

Official COVID–19 Update to Church Policy, as of December 8, 2020

On December 8, the Government of Alberta introduced new province–wide restrictions in an attempt to help reduce COVID–19 case numbers and protect the health system. In particular, as they relate to places of worship, the following measures apply province–wide and are effective immediately:

- Mandatory masking in all indoor spaces including workplaces
- All indoor & outdoor social gatherings are prohibited (previously, outdoor gatherings were limited to ten individuals maximum).

The following measures apply province–wide and are effective as of Sunday, December 13:

- Worship services capacity is restricted to 15% of fire code occupancy for in–person attendance.

These measures will be in place for at least four weeks and will be reviewed in early January. The faithful are encouraged to follow liturgical services via livestream or recording on the internet.

Because of these new regulations, those who wish to attend the Divine Liturgy in person must pre–register. The limit of 15% of our maximum occupancy works out to 46 faithful, plus the priest, lector and sacristan. Please pre–register with the link on our website at www.holytrinitychurchveg.com, or email/call the Parish Office. Please pre–register for the Christmas services you plan on attending.

- **Masks are now mandatory, unless you have a medical exemption. Those choosing not to wear a mask will not be permitted to enter the church for the safety of other parishioners.**
- Two–metre physical distancing between households must be maintained
- Hand–sanitizing at entrance/exit to church is required.
- The faithful are required to sign–in upon entry for tracking purposes should someone present as COVID–19 positive.
- Ushers are to remind the faithful of the above requirements.
- Recited liturgies are encouraged. Where singing is practiced, no congregational singing. Rather, a single cantor may lead the responses, while the faithful remain prayerfully silent.
- Online liturgical services are encouraged
- Receptions are not permitted
- **Maximum of 10 people for weddings, funerals and baptisms**
 - This includes the officiant, bride/groom and witnesses
 - This does not include staff or organizers who are not considered an invited guest
 - This applies to any facility, including places of worship and funeral homes.
 - This includes services held indoors or outdoors, seated or non–seated.