

**PHASE 1 GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING OUR CHURCH**  
**Saints Constantine and Helen Church, Webster**

**Phase 1 of our reopening will begin this Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.** We have received the blessing from His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios, along with the guidelines of reopening from Governor Baker. We are very excited to begin reopening, *but we want to proceed in a very cautious manner.* We are very concerned for the ongoing well-being of all beloved parishioners. Our priority is the spiritual and physical safety and health of each one of us! **Thus, we offer the following guidelines that we ask everyone to please carefully follow:**

- 1. We ask anyone who may be feeling sick or have a household member who is sick, or if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or been in contact with or exposed to someone with COVID-19 to please stay at home and don't come to Church.**
2. If anyone feels uncomfortable or uncertain about being in public gatherings, or if you are in the higher risk categories as indicated by the CDC, then we recommend for you to stay at home and watch our live stream services via our website, Facebook or YouTube. No one should feel guilty about not coming to church at this time. We want everyone to come when they feel comfortable.
3. Although the governor's guidelines allow us to fill our churches up to 40% capacity, which means 90 people, **we want to begin our reopening with our church at no more than 25% capacity, which means no more than 50 people.** We will alternate pews where people will sit at either end of one pew, and in the next pew only one person will sit in the middle of the pew. **Once the church has 50 people no more people will be allowed in. If the ushers tell you the church is at its limit, please respect this.**
4. Please enter through the front doors of the Church. An usher will greet you outside the church, and direct you at safe-distance intervals to enter the church. **Our Church Nurse will take your temperature to make sure you do not have a fever.** Another usher will direct you to a specific seating location in the church. There will be clearly marked signs where one can sit. Everyone will be asked to enter from the side aisles and use the center aisle only for exiting. We ask everyone who attends to begin sitting from the front to the back. Your cooperation is a very necessary part of our effort to protect our community.
5. Family members who live in the same household are asked to sit together as a group. Parents, please always keep your children close to you. No children should be wandering around without their parents.
6. **Everyone is required to wear a mask during their entire time in the church as well as outside in the parking lot.** Once you enter your car you can remove your mask. Please bring your own mask. If someone happens to forget one, we will have some available. For the safety of everyone, please be careful to follow these instructions. We will also have gloves for anyone who may wish to wear them. (If you have a health issue where you can't wear a mask, we ask you to please refrain from coming to Church at this time.)
7. We have hand sanitizers at the entrance for you to use if you forget to bring your own.

8. Holy Communion will be distributed according to our tradition. Please keep your mouth open wide when you receive. If you have any concerns about receiving Holy Communion, please talk with Fr. Luke.
9. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, ushers will dismiss the congregation by rows so we can facilitate social distancing when we exit. We ask you to please wait for the usher to allow your row to be dismissed. Everyone will be expected to leave through the front doors.
10. There will be no coffee fellowship, and we ask that any fellowship in the parking lot be kept at a proper distance and very limited in time.
11. There will be no offering plate passed out during the services. Please put any donation or stewardship offering in the tray at the Candle Stand. Of course, you can continue to give through our online giving options via our website [https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco\\_ver3.vps?appver3=Fi1giPL8kwX\\_Oe1AO50jRtNrCyQTVOI1wwCpYiJXdd3HO3iVYxvvhHjRfLOeq662EvVVAEjqawDomKT1pbouWKmPQLv-CJZsbcnUQ\\_X2aQ=](https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Fi1giPL8kwX_Oe1AO50jRtNrCyQTVOI1wwCpYiJXdd3HO3iVYxvvhHjRfLOeq662EvVVAEjqawDomKT1pbouWKmPQLv-CJZsbcnUQ_X2aQ=) or at our square site <https://my-site-108326-103062.square.site/>
12. There will be no gatherings of Sunday School, Philoptochos, or other gatherings
13. Please refrain from hugging, kissing, shaking hands, and venerating icons with kisses.
14. Please do not congregate in the entrance way, hallway, restrooms, or aisles.
15. Please don't go into the Church Hall. Only use the church hallway to visit the bathrooms.
16. Before and after each service, our church will be carefully sanitized – every pew, every door knob, every flat area.
17. We will have Divine Liturgy every Saturday and Sunday and on any weekday feasts according to our Church Calendar. Look at our website ([www.schwebster.org](http://www.schwebster.org)) or monthly bulletin for service schedule. If you prefer to come during a service with fewer people in attendance, consider coming to a weekday Divine Liturgy, or on Saturday morning.
18. In we have nice weather, we will consider holding some of our services outside

We are very grateful for this re-opening opportunity we have to worship our Lord as a Church Family, and to give our entire community the opportunity to participate more fully in the sacramental life of the Church. **We are still in the midst of very uncertain times, and thus, we deeply appreciate your cooperation, assistance, and support of these guidelines. We want to reopen our church in the safest way possible.**

If you have any questions or concerns, or suggestions on how we could do anything in a safer manner, please call Fr. Luke.

Thank you very much for your help in abiding by these guidelines. God is with us as we are quarantined in our homes, as well as when we gather as a Church Family in His Sanctuary.

With love and hope in our Risen Lord Jesus,

+Luke Veronis