

Reopening Calvary May 2021!

Calvary plans to reopen in time for in-person Sunday worship at 8 and 10 a.m. on Mother's Day, May 9, 2021. In accordance with diocesan [Reopening Guidelines](#), Reopening New York's [Guidelines for Religious and Funeral Services](#), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Considerations for Communities of Faith](#), the following measures have been implemented to mitigate the risk inherent in regathering. *Church staff will monitor COVID-19 related communications from Erie County and New York State and alter this plan as necessary.*

- All those at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are encouraged to participate in the life of Calvary Church through the church's weekly streamed service, available at www.calvaryepiscopal.net beginning at 10 a.m. each Sunday morning. Other remote offerings are available by Zoom, including Compline and many meetings.
- Persons entering Calvary Church confirm that they have not, within the past 14 days,
 - experienced COVID-19 symptoms;
 - tested positive for COVID-19;
 - had close contact with any confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases;
 - traveled to an area with significant community spread of COVID-19 for longer than 24 hours.
- Persons testing positive for COVID-19 after being at Calvary will notify the office.
- Attendance for any given service or event is limited to 50% maximum occupancy. Therefore, church attendance will not exceed 135, and other event attendance will not exceed 116.

Healthy Hygiene Practices

- All are asked to maintain good hand hygiene, specifically to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after attending church.
- Hand sanitizer stations are available at the doors of the church. Please use hand sanitizer immediately upon entering the building, after use of the elevator, and upon exiting the building.

Masks

- Cloth or paper masks must be worn at all times on Calvary Church property, indoors and outdoors. Children younger than 2 years old are the only exemption to this mandate. If you cannot tolerate wearing a mask while on church property, please join us for the streamed service on Calvary's website, Facebook page, or YouTube channel.

Promoting Social Distancing

- Keep a minimum of 6 feet of distance from anyone from a different household to maintain social distancing guidelines.
- The parking lot and entrance to the Lobby Link are available for those who face mobility challenges requiring use of the elevator. Only members of the same household may use the elevator at the same time. After using the elevator, riders should sanitize their hands at the station provided.
- NYS currently prohibits shared food and beverage. Therefore, there will be no in person coffee hours, receptions or any other meeting or event with shared food.

Cleaning, Disinfection, and Ventilation

Out of an abundance of caution, the following precautions will be taken:

- Frequently touched surfaces, i.e. handrails, door knobs, light switches, etc, will be disinfected frequently.
- The church pews will be sanitized with an EPA "List N" disinfectant cleaner following each use. Please note that while a disinfectant cleaner will be used, it is impossible to completely disinfect wood surfaces.

- As weather permits, doors will be propped open. When weather does not permit the propping of doors, door handles will be disinfected frequently.
- To increase ventilation within the building, the windows will be open as weather permits.
- As needed, please use designated trash receptacles, located at the doors of the church.

Reopening for Worship

- All those who attend worship at Calvary agree to follow the guidelines set forth in this document.
- Persons entering Calvary will sign in and out upon entering and exiting the building.
- Calvary Church will offer five services per week:
 - Sunday, 8 a.m.:** Holy Communion in person, spoken
 - Sunday, 10 a.m.:** Holy Communion in person, with music and live-streamed at www.calvaryepiscopal.net
 - Wednesday, 7 a.m.:** Holy Communion in person, spoken, starting June 2
 - Wednesday, 8 p.m.:** Compline via Zoom
 - Saturday, 4 p.m.:** Holy Communion in person, spoken, starting June 5
- Fully vaccinated ministers of communion and clergy will distribute communion bread (wafer only) to members of the congregation in their pews. No wine will be distributed at this point.
- At this time, only choir members will sing in the building.
- An usher will be stationed at the door to greet those attending the service, indicate the sign-in sheets, and offer hand sanitizer. Please note: it is highly unlikely that you will be able to sit in the seat to which you have become accustomed. In order to maintain social distancing for the health and safety of our community, foot traffic and seating patterns have been developed. Please follow the guidance given by the usher.
- Please remain in place for the duration of the service. If a sign of peace is exchanged, please avoid physical contact with anyone not in your household. Instead, please exchange peace through a nod, wave, or text message.
- No offering plates will be passed. Offering plates will be available in the back of the church for use before or after each service.
- At this time, access to the chapel, library, reception room, coat room, kitchen, classrooms, and lower level of the Scaife Building will be restricted on Sunday mornings. In order to facilitate the cleaning and disinfection of our facility, please be diligent in not entering these spaces, and keep all of your belongings with you in your pew.
- Beginning May 23, nursery care will be available at the 10 a.m. service on Sundays. Families must sign up in advance.

Reopening for Meetings

- All those who enter Calvary's buildings for a meeting or other event agree to follow the guidelines set forth in this document.
- Persons entering Calvary will sign in and out upon entering and exiting the building.
- Groups are reminded to keep Calvary Office informed about meeting plans. Do not announce meeting dates and times without first checking availability with the office.
- Meetings and groups are encouraged to continue to meet remotely by Zoom as much as possible.