

Rector's Update – June 5th

Greetings to the saints of St. Paul's,

Alleluia! Alleluia! We're coming back to church this Sunday! Trinity Sunday on June 7th, we're opening the doors for the 10:30 service! We're going to lower our capacity to ensure that we have physical distance between people, and seating will be first come, first seated basis. We're going to continue with our online streaming for the foreseeable future for those who aren't ready to return. The Bishop has encouraged that those 65 and over (and those with underlying health conditions) to continue watching the livestream, rather than attending the service in person. Those who come on Sunday will note some differences, as we're going to worship in compliance with Diocesan strictures. Here are some of the more obvious changes:

- Masks worn by all at worship (except dogs). Please bring your own!
- Sanitizers located at the entrance and exit.
- Worshippers/households separated by 6 feet.
- No tactile passing of the Peace.
- The collection plate placed in an open location, rather than going hand to hand.
- Bread only communion distributed within Diocesan protocols.
- No usual coffee hour.
- Indoor services won't have congregational singing.
- Only one entrance will be used to ensure that we stay within lowered capacity requirements.
- Overflow seating will be available in the Parish Hall with a video projector and speakers.
- When we go to multiple services, there will be a cleaning between services, including bathrooms.

As mentioned previously, we have started distributing consecrated hosts (i.e. the wafers) to those who let me know they'd like to receive them. Each Sunday, I will consecrate extra wafers, and have them distributed to those who let me know that they would like to receive it. During the service, I'll ask that those watching online to consume the host with me during the Eucharist. We'll continue to do this as long as we need to do it. If you want to receive the host, you must let me know by the Thursday afternoon prior to the Sunday you'd like to receive the Eucharist. Please let me know the number of people receiving, and how often you'd like to receive. The best way to let me know is via email: fathernickfunk@gmail.com.

Here's St. Paul's news for the week:

- "For the City" is coming! Our annual ecumenical outreach "For The City" is being shortened to only two days - Friday, June 19th and Saturday, June 20th. All volunteers are asked to come to the Ridgecrest Baptist Church parking lot (6801 Wesley Street) at 8:00am on Friday and Saturday morning to receive a work assignment that matches your skill and ability. There will also be a Prayer ministry going on too. See <http://forthecity.info/> for more information.
- Our St. Paul's Audio/Visual Team looking for members! We've been able to broadcast our service due to the commitment of our Audio/Visual Team, and they'd like to train up a crew to share the workload. Please contact Jeff Faunce at 903-413-7791
- We're livestreaming our Sunday services. These are broadcast via YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCmlrRFxbQF7CSAnFS8H9FA>) and Facebook (<https://facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalgreenville>). Our recorded Sunday service is broadcast on the GEUS community Channel (Channel 34) on Wednesdays at 8 am and 6 pm, and can be accessed anytime on our Facebook and YouTube page. The recorded sermon may be found on our website as an MP3.

- The St. Paul's Zoom Meeting may be found at <https://zoom.us/j/9037772020>. Our Meeting ID is: 903 777 2020. To call in, use one tap mobile: +13462487799,,9037772020# or to dial: +1 346 248 7799. This is the same meeting information as I use for all my meetings.
- We are offering Noonday Prayer on Wednesdays at noon via a Zoom meeting, and upload it live if Zoom and Facebook work together (right now, it's below 50% success rate).
- Our Friday morning Bible Study continues at 8:00 via Zoom. We're studying 1 Corinthians, chapter 1.

Peace,

Fr. Nick