



Dear St Marker,

We are preparing for our Reopening on Sunday 13. After meeting with the wardens and leadership of the church and following the guidelines of the diocese this is a Communication to St Mark Parishioners for Re-Opening for Public Worship.

Below is the diocese video which helps with these guidelines.

Thanks

- **St. Mark's will continue to offer online in addition to in-person worship. No person should feel obligated to attend in-person worship.**
- **The worship space will be cleaned with particular attention to high-touch areas.**
- **Seating in the sanctuary will maintain physical distancing.**
- **Signage and floor markings will indicate directions of movement through the space.**
- **Hand sanitizer is placed at the entrance and throughout the church. All congregants are required to use it when entering the sanctuary and before and after communion.**
- **Currently, only the front door of the church will be used as the entrance.**
- **There will be someone at the designated entrance to make sure there is no lingering or congregating in groups at the door.**

- **All parishioners will wear a mask at all times. Masks will be available at the entrance or you may bring your own.**
- **Worshippers must practice physical distancing. There will be signs and floor markers to demonstrate the 2 m distance.**
- **Attendance will be taken to be used for contact tracing if needed.**
- **No physical contact is to take place: smiles and words only during the Peace**
- **Collection plates will not be passed person-to-person during the Offertory. Parishioners may deposit their offering into plates that will be prominently placed.**
- **Communicants must wear masks and come forward in a physically distanced manner. Floor markings and sidespersons will help ensure distance in lines. Communicants receive the host while still wearing a mask. They will stop at a six foot distance from the communion priest, hear**

the words, “The body of Christ...” (or similar) and respond with “Amen”. The communicant will then move forward to receive the wafer in their hand which will be done by gently dropping it into the open palm. They then move away (two metres) from the communion priest, stop to remove their mask, and consume the host. The direction and space to stop on the floor will be marked. Hand sanitizer will be available in this spot. The communicant will clean their hands and then replace their mask, before returning to their seat.

- Blessings during communion must be given without touch. The worshipper will stand at the two metre (six foot) distance mark in the line before the priest and cross their hands over their chest. The priest will offer the blessing.**
- If you have any questions about the information above or any other concerns regarding the opening of the church, please call the Reverend William Roberts 1 905 933 4499 or email priest@stmarksporthope.ca.**