

Covid-19 Guidelines Updated October 21st, 2021

In conversation with Carson City Health & Human Services epidemiologist, St Peter's Safety Team has determined the following changes in protocols. We remain mindful of the health of the wider community.

Numbers of reported cases are down in Carson City with the exception of the prisons. For the most part the vaccinated population is not ending up in the hospital with the coronavirus, thereby avoiding an overload of the health care system. Between vaccine-induced immunity & virus-induced immunity, we are as safe as can be expected at St Peter's in relation to the general population. Just as important, there is wide concern for our mental health & our spiritual wellbeing in the wake of pandemic isolation.

~ There is no longer any need to make a reservation for Sunday attendance, previously required by the diocese for contact tracing purposes, with much of the eligible congregation vaccinated.

~ Those who are vaccinated are welcome to unmask during worship services & parish gatherings. If you are immuno-compromised or have any concern, you are welcome to remain masked. No shame or blame here.

~ In exchange for lifting the mask mandate, you are required to bring your vaccination credentials & show them to someone else in the parish. The Safety Team will no longer exercise its previous 'Coronavirus Cop' role. Simply flash your vaccine card upon arrival.

~ Those who are unvaccinated are still required to mask & distance.

~ Children under age twelve are encouraged to remain masked for the time being. Soon the vaccine may be rolled out for children aged five & older.

~ Check in with each other to establish & respect each other's boundaries. "Are you distancing today? Are you shaking hands or hugging today?" remain pertinent questions. Loving our neighbor means paying attention. Do Not Presume. Do No Harm. Ask.

~ We are resurrecting limited singing at Sunday services.

~ We are instituting Communion in both kinds – by intinction only – using grape juice for the time being. You are invited to dip your communion wafer without touching the juice with your fingers.

My undying gratitude remains with St Peter's Safety Team – Lynn Berggren, Donna Murphy-Sharp, Randy Pahl – for their diligence, hard work, humor, & encouragement while navigating the pandemic.

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