



Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church

1723 EAST FAIRMOUNT AVENUE
BALTIMORE, MD 21231

REV. FATHER JOHN VASS, PASTOR

COVID-19 / Re-opening Guidelines

At all times, the safety of our clergy, parishioners and guests remains especially important to us. And so, we ask for your full cooperation with adhering to these COVID-19 precautions:

- Older adults (62+) and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are encouraged to stay at home and watch the Divine Services online until the public health emergency has been lifted.
- All who have symptoms or may have been exposed to COVID-19 must stay home.
- All who have traveled internationally or to a highly impacted area within the United States of America within the last 14 days must self-quarantine at home.
- Everyone should maintain six feet of social distancing while in church and the church hall. The number of persons in each row of pews will be strictly limited.
- We will maintain good hygiene by cleaning/disinfecting all frequently touched surfaces.
- Wearing face masks is required.
- Choir is limited to the same five singers who sang during the quarantine.
- The church will be open only for Divine Services. There will be no other activities.
- General Confession will be offered 30 minutes before the start of each Divine Liturgy. Private confessions remain suspended. They will resume at a later date.
- Panikhidas and molebens will be served upon request.

Limited attendance (Adults and Children): Only 50% maximum occupancy allowed

In order to be fair and equitable in welcoming as many people to church as possible within these new restrictions, we have posted an online reservation form. Everyone who comes to church must complete this online form to reserve your spot for each Divine Service you wish to attend.

- Only 52 people are allowed upstairs in the church – this includes the altar, choir and ushers. And 40 people will be allowed downstairs in the church hall.
- Those who are downstairs will be able to light candles in the church before the start of Liturgy but will participate in General Confession and Divine Liturgy via the TV in the hall. They will be ushered upstairs to partake of Holy Communion and will then proceed back to the hall for the rest of Divine Liturgy.

Each week, make your mandatory reservations to attend Divine Services here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945ABAE2BABFE3-divine>.

You must submit your reservation(s) in order to be permitted into the church building. Persons without reservations will not be allowed to enter. This pertains to everyone - adults and children.

Please be considerate of others. If you and/or your loved ones at home are not feeling well, or if you were exposed to someone with COVID-19, do not make a reservation. If you already made a reservation and symptoms appear afterwards, please cancel your reservation.

What to expect when coming to church

- **Very Important:** The side door to the hall will **not** be used for entering. EVERYONE must enter the church through the main front entrance on East Fairmount Avenue.
- At the entry gate, we will take your temperature with a touchless thermometer. If your temperature is above 100.4°F, you will be asked to leave.
- At the main doors, we will confirm that you have a reservation for the services.
- After entering the church, you may purchase and place candles before the icons of your choice.
- Maintain social distancing at all times while inside the church. Please light your candles and proceed directly to your seat (either in the pews or downstairs in the hall).
- Children must stay close to their parents at all times. Frequent “breaks” to the hall is discouraged.
- Small prosphoras will not be given out.
- Commemoration lists must be submitted online: <https://holy-trinity-russian-orthodox-church.myshopify.com/>. For Sunday Liturgy, requests must be submitted **by 10:00 PM Saturday**.
- Wearing face masks is required.
- Everyone wishing to partake of Holy Communion must attend General Confession which starts at 9:30 AM. Come early to allow enough time for the temperature checks and lighting of candles. For example, for 100 people, we need 25 minutes for the entrance procedure. Plan accordingly.
- The church is opened at 5:30 PM on Saturdays and at 8:30 AM on Sundays.
- At the end of Divine Service, those in the hall will be ushered upstairs for a blessing at an appropriate time. Please wait for the usher to guide you upstairs so social distancing can be maintained.