

These guidelines are recommendations for Places of Worship in our community to begin to meet again inside their buildings in a way that will help protect their parishioners' health.

### Social Distancing

- Parishioners are encouraged to adhere to social distancing recommendations.
- Families shall sit together as a family group but be seated at least six (6') feet from other families. Hugs and hand-shakes should be strongly discouraged for at least the next few weeks.
- Post Social Distancing reminders on doors, on video screens and make announcements. Signage might also include "If you are ill, we invite you to join us for worship online until you are feeling better."
- Places of Worship should limit their attendance to allow for proper distancing between families within their seating capacity. Adding additional service times and opening up fellowship halls or balconies for seating with video screens are a possible solution. A special service time for "at-risk" parishioners is also a good option.
- Avoid offering plates/baskets, provide people with your organization's mailing address so they can send in their donations through the mail, donate at a designated box, or set up online options such as Tithely, Cash App, PayPal, Zelle, and Venmo.
- Remove books and other items from pews. Bulletins should not be passed out. Announcements can be posted online, projected on the screen during service, or announced during service.
- Consider not opening childcare services until school resumes.
- If your organization decides to have religious education classes, and /or small groups, make sure to maintain social distancing.

### Cleanliness

- Offer plenty of hand sanitizer in various locations and encourage usage.
- Increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfection of the facility, especially after each service. It's encouraged to disinfect pews, bathrooms, doorknobs, light switches, and microphones.
- It is suggested to not pass the offering plate from person to person. Some ideas are a "giving box" at the entrances, online giving or if possible, one person holding the plate at all times.
- If your Place of Worship offers communion during services, it is recommended to use individual communion packets. Communion distributors should use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer and/or put on gloves prior to distributing communion.