

Recommended Roadmap for Reopening

Given that the state has amended its tier system so that PURPLE now allows for indoor, in person worship with up to 25% of the building's capacity (or up to 100 people, whichever is less),

And being mindful that not everyone has been vaccinated,

And being mindful that while the state has made amendments, we are still at widespread risk,

And wanting to ensure, to the best of our ability, the safety and well-being of those in our care,

And knowing that this is not a "one size fits all" model,

The COVID task force amends their recommendations to the diocese as follows:

1. During the Sundays of Lent

- a. Begin to prepare the congregation for returning to in person gathering, review safety protocols as outlined on the diocesan website "COVID reopening protocols"
- b. Distribute survey to congregation members
- c. Prepare the building/facility for a return to in person, indoor worship (as previously determined by COVID task force)
- d. Train ushers to support and enforce safety protocols
- e. Continue with virtual worship and fellowship/formation opportunities

2. Palm Sunday, March 28:

- a. All churches will have the option to reopen for outdoor, in person, Morning Prayer (Outdoor worship or in person worship is not mandated. If your community chooses to continue with virtual worship, that's fine)
- b. The liturgy can/should include: Liturgy of the Palms, procession around building, reading of the Passion Gospel
- c. Prior to gathering, the congregational survey must be completed, giving congregation members up to 2 weeks to complete
- d. All ushers, clergy and congregation members must be trained/informed about safety protocols
- e. Livestream/pre-recorded worship must be provided for those who choose NOT to attend in person
- f. No singing (choir or congregation), no coffee hour, no education/formation/Sunday School/nursery/childcare at this time

3. Holy Week:

- a. Offer services online (pre-recorded or live streamed)
- b. Outdoor Stations of the Cross permitted with masks, social distancing and good hand hygiene

4. Easter Sunday, April 4:

- a. All churches will have the option to reopen for indoor, in person, Eucharist (pre-made/commercially made bread only) with up to 25% of building's capacity, or up to 100 people, whichever is less. (Eucharist or indoor worship is not mandated...if your community is more comfortable with outdoor or Morning Prayer, that's fine. If your community is more comfortable with virtual worship, that's also fine.)
- b. Prior to reopening for indoor worship, all cleaning and safety protocols must be completed and the reopening checklist submitted to the Office of the Bishop (again, check the diocesan website for COVID reopening protocols)
- c. Prior to reopening, the congregational survey must be completed, giving congregation members up to 2 weeks to complete
- d. All ushers, clergy and congregation members must be trained/informed about safety protocols, including how to distribute communion
- e. Livestream/pre-recorded worship must be provided for those who choose NOT to attend person
- f. No singing (choir or congregation), no coffee hour, no education/formation/Sunday School/nursery/childcare at this time

5. Moving forward in the Easter Season:

- a. Indoor, in person, Eucharist (pre-made/commercially made bread only) is permitted following state's guidelines regarding occupancy and diocesan COVID protocols
- b. Outdoor worship is permitted following diocesan guidelines
- c. Livestream/pre-recorded worship must be provided for those who choose NOT to attend in person
- d. Continue following diocesan guidelines regarding coffee hour, education/formation, Sunday School/nursery/child care singing, etc.