

“Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout (albeit masked) to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods.” Ps. 95

Dear St. Andrew’s Cathedral Parishioner,

We are ready to regather in the Cathedral Nave while maintaining a presence in St. Julian’s Chapel (virtual). For the month of July we will offer Celebration of the Eucharist in the Cathedral Nave at 10:00am and 11:30am for fifty people or less at each service. A full pre-recorded Celebration of the Eucharist will be available in St. Julian’s Chapel (virtual) at 9:00am. The expectation is for those attending the Service of the Table in the Nave to have participated in the Service of the Word at home prior to coming to the Cathedral.

The liturgy in St. Julian’s Chapel allows those who are not ready to regather in person a full celebration with all the readings, a full sermon, and congregational hymns led by our choir. The words of invitation hold true: “Wherever you are, please receive whatever gifts God makes available to you, in whatever form God makes available to you. We are in communion today by our prayers and presence.”

Those coming to the Nave for The Service of the Table are expected to participate in the liturgy in St. Julian’s Chapel through the offertory. When you arrive in the Nave you should expect the following:

- To have made a reservation by the Saturday prior to coming to the Cathedral. (*insert link*)
- To park on the street unless you need the garage for handicapped entrance.
- To enter by the back right side door if sitting on the pulpit side of the nave or the courtyard door if sitting on the lectern side of the Nave.
- To be greeted by an usher who will have a list of those with reservations, hand sanitizer, and a mask for those who did not bring their own. You must agree to wear a mask for the duration of the service unless you are under 2 years old.
- To follow the designated flow pattern for entering and exiting your pew.
- To be seated in a pew designated with 6 feet separation from those not in your family and/or quarantine circle.
- To begin with the instrumental offertory and gathering prayer.
- To participate in the Eucharistic liturgy (with no singing).
- To receive the sacrament in one kind only. You are invited to come to the priest standing by the baptismal font to receive the sacrament. Please maintain 6 feet of separation between you and others coming to the font. You will take the sacrament back to your seat and then remove your mask long enough to receive.
- To exit the Nave by the same door you came in following the dismissal and go directly back to your car. Unfortunately we can not provide fellowship time following the service in order to limit the amount of time people are exposed to large groups. The rest of the Cathedral space will not be open at this time - only the nave.

This plan is designed to balance the risk of exposure to COVID19 with the desire of many to return to our Cathedral for worship. It is not ideal in either. There is a risk to being indoors with fifty people and I pray you will consider your risk in attending. If we are notified that someone attending our service tests positive, those who attended the same service will be notified. The shorter service time while wearing masks and agreeing not to touch, sing, or even be near one another, is an odd way to worship. It is making the best of the current situation and remaining faithful to our community’s need to be connected to one another in various and creative ways.

I ask for your continued prayers and flexibility as we navigate the ever changing tide of our life in the present times. This is a creative time with many joys, and for that, I thank God and all of you.

The Very Reverend Anne M Maxwell