

Dear Parishioners,

New Guidelines from the Archdiocese of New York, the CDC, and the State of New York and, most of all, the increasing number of fully vaccinated individuals, have made it possible for us to make significant changes in regards to worshiping relatively safely at St. Paul's Church. We all need to be aware that this "loosening" of Covid restrictions does increase somewhat the risks in coming together and requires that we all act responsibly for our own safety and the safety of others.

Beginning this coming weekend, more spaces will be opened for seating at St. Paul's and you will no longer need to be taken to a seat. Arriving parishioners will be asked to seat themselves, and maintain social distancing as well as they can - just as most of you do now in other public venues. Hand sanitizer will still be available at the doors of the church.

Please speak to an usher if you need assistance finding a seat where you will feel comfortable.

We continue to encourage all our vaccinated parishioners to wear face coverings at all times in church. Hymnals and song sheets will once again be available so that all can sing as long as masks remain on. Please return hymnals to the racks on the pews so the pews can be sanitized.

We still will not be using Holy Water. Communion from the chalice will not resume right now.

At the urging of the Archdiocese, we will not reinstate the Sign of Peace at this time.

It would be good if all socializing be done outside of the church.

We are still in an enclosed environment with many people and people from different households. And, out of consideration for others who are praying, talking should be kept to a minimum coming into and leaving the church. Please do not linger in the church after Mass.

Deacon John Hall will still be available for live streaming and the Mass will still be available on livestream at home using the same link.

We will continue to make adjustments as we see how things go, and we welcome your feedback as always and thank all of you for your continued flexibility.

Fr. Sean

