



SAINT ANNE'S PARISH

*O God, we give you thanks for our parish community of St. Anne's.
We love you and we trust in you.
Our desire is to love you and trust in you more.
Grant us a spirit of holy restlessness
that we may seek to know, love, and serve you more each day.*

*Holy Spirit, guide us to welcome all to encounter Jesus,
to grow as disciples, and to reach out in faith and service.
Prepare the hearts and minds of all we encounter
to be receptive to Jesus' words of eternal life.*

*In this your Church, O Lord, may faith, hope, and charity flourish;
and as you do not fail to feed us with the Body of your Son
and with your word,
so also never cease to guide us
under your protection.*

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Mary, Star of Evangelization, pray for us.
St. Anne, mother of Our Lady, pray for us.*

Covid Protocol

Table of Contents

About this Protocol	2
Celebration of the Mass.....	2
When you arrive.....	2
During Mass	2
Church Capacity	3
Food and Drink.....	3
In Case of a Positive Test	3
Masking.....	4
Music Ministry	4
Non-Mass Ministry with Adults	4
Non-Mass Ministry with Children and Youth	4
Online and In-person Events.....	4
Reception of Communion	5
Reception of Communion – Sundays 12:15 to 1:00	5
Instructions for Ushers.....	6
Safety Protocols	6
Sanitization.....	6
Work from Home	6

About this Protocol

This protocol describes the application of Covid guidelines from the Government of Saskatchewan (GS) and the Diocese of Saskatoon (DS) at Saint Anne's Parish. Every effort is made to keep this protocol up to date as the guidelines change. In the unlikely event that a change in Government or Diocesan protocols is not reflected here, the practice will be to follow the Government or Diocesan guidelines and update this protocol as soon as possible.

Celebration of the Mass

Mass will be celebrated according to the guidelines established by the DS. The current guidelines, available on our website and posted in the church, are:

Instructions for Attending Mass

We are very excited to be able to celebrate Mass together again! In order to keep our Masses as safe, joyful, and prayerful as possible, please follow these guidelines. They are based on the instructions of Bishop Mark on reopening Masses in the Diocese of Saskatoon.

When you arrive

1. You will see hand sanitizer by both entrances. Please sanitize your hands or wash your hands in a bathroom. All doors will be blocked open to minimize touching of shared surfaces.
2. The collection basket will be waiting in front of the altar. If you wish to make a contribution, please place your donation in the basket before Mass begins.
3. If you need to receive a low gluten host or from the chalice, talk to Fr. Matthew.
4. For weekend Masses, please sit in the section you have signed up for.
5. For daily Masses, you can sit wherever you want, respecting social distancing rules.
6. Throughout this time, as you are entering the church and choosing where to sit, everyone must respect social distancing rules. Always remain six feet apart from anyone not in your household.
7. Masks are now required for all Masses and other indoor activities at St. Anne's.
8. We will all be happy to see each other and eager to have time to pray in the church. Please greet people warmly (at a safe distance) and take time to pray. Pews will be sanitized before and after each Mass.

During Mass

1. The government's reopening plan asks us to restrict singing. When wearing masks, singing is allowed but not recommended. At this point, we may include some congregational singing and chanting.
2. During the sign of peace, please maintain distancing from anyone not in your household. A kind bow or wave is a great way to offer the sign of peace at a distance.
3. Communion will be distributed after Mass has ended. This will feel strange at first, but please remember that the most important thing is that we safely and prayerfully receive Jesus together. The reception of communion will go like this:

- a. All communion ministers will sanitize their hands and wear masks.
- b. Using markings on the floor, maintain distancing while coming forward.
- c. When you are in line with the front pews, the minister will say “The body of Christ.” Still at a distance, you will respond “Amen,” and then step forward to receive communion.
- d. Ministers may resanitize their hands between communicants.
- e. Anyone wishing to receive communion on the tongue must only do so after everyone else has received.
- f. After you receive, please return to your pew for a time of prayer.

Church Capacity

Every staff member or leader of ministry is responsible for ensuring that their events remain within allowed capacity.

For larger rooms, Church and Hall, we determined the limits based on GS guidelines.

For smaller rooms that cannot accommodate the allowed maximum, we have capacity limits posted that allow for necessary distancing.

In situations where demand is expected to exceed capacity, we'll use signups and registrations to ensure attendance is managed properly. In situations where there is no reason to expect demand to exceed capacity, we may not require signups and registrations. In those occasions it is still the responsibility of the staff member or ministry leader to ensure capacity is not exceeded.

Food and Drink

Food and drink will only be offered in accordance with GS guidance and with utmost care.

When GS does not allow food and drink to be served, food and drink is not served.

When GS requires individual packaging for any food and drink, food and drink may be provided, but only in that way and only with utmost care for sanitization, distancing, and overall safety.

For the purposes of this item, the Eucharist is not considered food and drink.

In Case of a Positive Test

In case of a positive Covid test in connection with Saint Anne's, our commitment is to communicate this information as fully and quickly as possible to the Saint Anne's community in cooperation with public health.

Sanitization, testing, self-isolating, temporary closing of facility, etc. will be fulfilled in cooperation with public health.

Masking

Masks are used in accordance with GS guidelines.

In times of mandatory masking, masks are required. Volunteers will hand out masks to anyone not wearing them.

Outside times of mandatory masking, use of masks is strongly recommended and required when distancing cannot be guaranteed, such as for a minister of Communion.

Music Ministry

All live music, whether in Mass, rehearsals, or other ministries, will be done according to GS and DS guidance.

Leaders of song will be at an appropriate distance, taking into account those living in the same household.

Congregational singing is not allowed at all without masks and is not encouraged even with masks.

Non-Mass Ministry with Adults

For ministry with adults, the staff member or ministry leader is responsible for upholding all the protocols listed here.

Non-Mass Ministry with Children and Youth

For ministry with children and youth, in addition to the protocols listed here, our practice is to reflect the safely protocols used by schools.

Online and In-person Events

Determination about whether to hold events online or in person is made based on (in order of importance):

1. Current GS guidance
2. Ability to ensure capacity and safety procedures
3. Member comfort levels

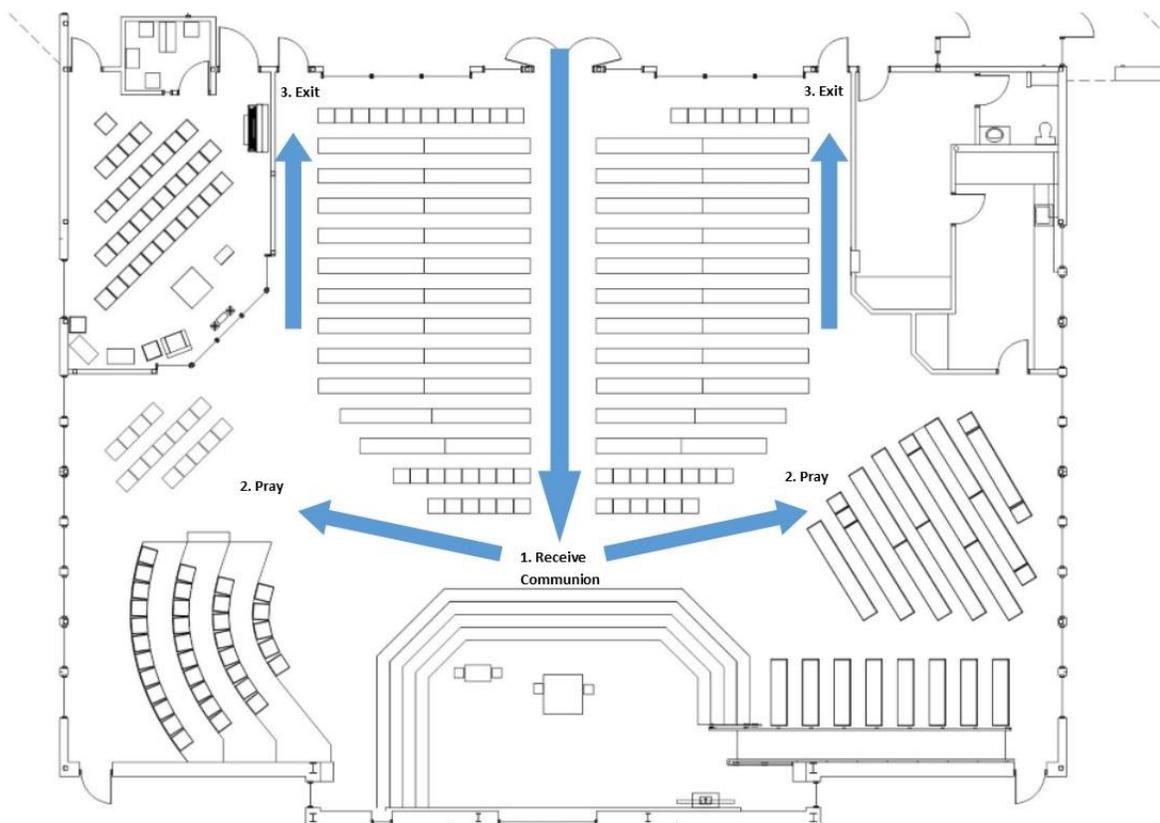
Reception of Communion

At times of lowered capacity, we may invite parishioners to come to the church after the livestreamed Mass to receive communion. Following are the guidelines for participants and ushers:

Reception of Communion – Sundays 12:15 to 1:00

Because of the decreased numbers for Mass, we're opening up a new way to receive Communion. Every Sunday, from 12:15 to 1:00, anyone who participated in the livestream Mass can go to Saint Anne's to receive Communion. It will go like this:

- Two ushers will be present to make sure everyone is wearing masks and no more than 30 people are in the church at any one time.
- As you enter the church, the ushers will tell you whether you can come in to receive Communion, or (if the church is full) they'll ask you to wait outside.
- When you enter, please walk up the centre aisle to receive Communion. Fr. Matthew will be in the usual spot to administer Communion.
- After you have received, you can find a place in the church to offer a prayer of thanksgiving. If the church is mostly empty, feel free to pray for as long as you want. If close to 30 people are in the church already, please offer a short thanksgiving prayer and then leave the church so more people can enter and receive Communion.
- When you've finished your prayer, please exit the church by going up the side aisle.



Instructions for Ushers

As ushers, your main job is to help people understand the instructions listed above. In addition, you will need to:

1. Keep a count of people in the church. If we have more than 30 people in the church at one time (including the priest and yourselves), you will have to not let anyone else in until some people have left. Please be as kind and fair as you can while doing this.
 - a. If a different group is meeting in a separate part of the church, such as the KCWL room, and will have no interaction with us, they don't count toward this 30 person limit.
2. Make sure everyone is wearing a mask and sanitizing their hands. If someone is not wearing a mask, you can offer them one.
3. We will provide a sign-in sheet for contact tracing. Please make sure people sign it as they enter.
4. Help people keep distancing while they enter and exit the church. For example, try to make sure we don't have groups entering and exiting at the same time or using the cloak room at the same time.
5. Please help with set up at the beginning and closing up at the end.

Safety Protocols

To ensure use of Covid safety protocols of distancing, masking, hand hygiene, and staying home when sick:

1. We have posted reminders throughout the facility.
2. Reminders are given on website and other communications.
3. Verbal reminders are given at events.
 - a. At events with regular attendance, reminders are given periodically.
 - b. At events with one time attendance, reminders are given each time.

Sanitization

Sanitization is the responsibility of the caretaker. The facility is regularly sanitized, including after each Church service, in accordance with GS and with GS approved cleaning supplies.

Work from Home

Determination about whether to work from home is based on (in order of importance):

1. Current GS guidance
2. Ability to ensure capacity and safety procedures
3. Member comfort levels

Most staff have their own office, so majority of work is done at a distance.

One office was in a public place (the vestry) and that employee has moved their office to a more private space (the meeting room).

One office is shared by two children's ministry coordinators. Their desks are at a distance of approximately five meters. When advised by GS to encourage work from home, those sharing this office will coordinate their schedules so as not to be in the office on the same days.

In case of illness or Covid exposure, we require staff to stay home. Depending on health, staff may choose to work from home or to use sick days. DS has authorized expanded sick days due to Covid.