



Association of the Hellenic Community – Founded 1897
Over a Century of Ministry
Serving the Hellenic Orthodox Community of Chicago
HOLY TRINITY HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH
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June 19th, 2020

COVID-19 has had a profound impact on how we worship and we can expect that this virus will alter our lives for the foreseeable future. Currently we are making preparations to allow our parishioners to return to our Parish Chapel in River Grove.

At Holy Trinity, a COVID-19 Parish Safety Team has been established to ensure we are following all of the guidelines established by our Metropolis and by the governmental authorities, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

While we are currently worshipping at Transfiguration Chapel, we have initiated specific safety procedures. We have, and will continue to have, the Chapel professionally cleaned and all surfaces sprayed with an anti-bacterial solution. The air conditioning system has been serviced and all filters replaced. A new exterior toilet has been delivered with an outside hand sink.

Due to social distancing requirements, we will be limited, initially, in the number of individuals available to attend services. Members of the Parish Council will contact you for available dates to attend services at the Chapel. If you are sick or a family member is sick, or feeling sick, *please stay at home*. This virus is most dangerous to our elders and those with compromised immune systems. Please feel free to review the CDC guidelines at [cdc.gov/coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.gov), and/or the guidelines established by the Chicago Metropolis at [Chicago.goarch.org](https://www.chicago.goarch.org).

While inside the Chapel, facemasks and hand sanitizers will be offered to all those who attend services. Everyone **must** wear a face mask while in the Chapel. Social distancing (6-foot distance between individuals) will be observed inside the nave and the narthex and directed seating will be observed inside the Chapel building.

Currently only Divine Liturgy and scheduled funerals are celebrated at Holy Transfiguration Chapel. As certain conditions are met, additional sacraments may be permitted.

While we are excited to be able to welcome you to the Chapel, please note that there will be no fellowship hour after services at this time.

Finally rest assured, after each service, the Chapel building will be properly sanitized in accordance with safety guidelines.

Your safety and the safety of our community are very important, while we continue to uphold our sacred tradition of worship. I will continue to update you from time to time as the situation evolves. We are all aware how difficult and challenging these past months have been, and I am sure you all wish to see each other and worship as a family. In the meantime I wish you and your family safety and good health.

James G. Lakerdas

Interim Parish Council President