

November 20, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of St. Augustine's:

After careful consideration and daily monitoring of the current COVID-19 infections and hospitalization rates, the Reopening Committee met this week and recommended that we modify our current schedule of services to eliminate our weekly in-person services. With the latest recommendation from Mayor David Holt as of Thursday, November 19th, we are now further modifying our plans to cease in-person worship for the time being. **Beginning immediately**, our schedule will change as follows:

- The 8:30 service will be suspended;
- The 10:45 service will be a Morning Prayer service (with music) **online only**.
- **All Christmas Eve services will be online only**. Father Joseph and the worship team are already planning meaningful and joyous services for that day.
- The church office will be closed during the week. Our office staff will work remotely as much as is feasible. We ask that if you have business at the church please **WEAR YOUR MASK** while you're in the building to keep the premises safe for the employees and volunteers who help keep our church running smoothly!
- In-person youth activities will be suspended.

We plan to follow this schedule until Ash Wednesday, February 17th. We will, of course, continue to monitor conditions and modify this schedule as circumstances or Diocese or governmental guidelines warrant. With skyrocketing COVID infections and hospitalizations taxing Oklahoma's hospitals and caregivers, we want to do our part to slow the spread of COVID in our community by limiting the number of large gatherings we hold.

Our congregation has been very diligent in adhering to the safety procedures put in place in September and we continue to be dedicated to protecting the health of not only the congregation, but also the many support persons who make our in-person services possible, i.e., ushers, musicians, clergy, acolytes, readers, altar guild, camera operators, etc. and caregivers and at-risk people in our broader community.

We so appreciate the cooperation and understanding of our wonderful members! Even though we will again be physically separated, we will continue striving to provide you the support and spiritual nourishment that will help and uplift you during these difficult times and in the upcoming liturgical seasons.

We look forward to the fellowship and fun of being back together again!

Amy Smith
Reopening Committee Chair