

The Diocese of The Arctic

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



June 16, 2020

GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING ANGLICAN CHURCHES IN THE DIOCESE OF THE ARCTIC

The Covid-19 pandemic is not over. There is still risk involved in any gathering, therefore we must be careful to ensure our people are safe.

As of today, the Minister-in-charge/ Lay Leader-in-charge and the wardens of each parish may apply to the Bishop to reopen their church buildings, as long as the following conditions are met. Churches wishing to apply must sign this document and send it to exe_officer@arcticnet.org.

Church leaders are responsible to ensure these guidelines are in place and may be held liable if they fail to do so.

We reserve the right to revoke these permissions.

GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING

1. Sanitizing the church building before and after every gathering:

- Surfaces that are touched regularly **must be** sanitized.
 - Doorknobs
 - Tables
 - Handrails
 - Light switches
 - Microphones
 - Musical instruments
 - Sound boards
 - Pulpits and lecterns
 - Pews
 - Bathrooms
 - Remove garbage

2. Entering church buildings:

- Those who are sick, with flu like symptoms (coughing, sneezing, aches, fever, sore throat) or who have been in recent contact with sick people, are asked not to enter church buildings.
- Face masks covering nose and mouth **must be** worn by all people over the age of 2 years.
- As people enter church buildings, their names **must be** recorded on a list.
 - This list must be sent to the Diocesan Executive Officer (exe_officer@arcticnet.org) every Monday.
 - **If this list is not received permission to keep church building open will be revoked.**
 - This list will be kept confidential and will only be shared with health authorities if a church attendee contracts Covid-19.
- Church leaders **must** appoint volunteers to monitor and apply 70% alcohol hand sanitizer to all who enter the church building.

3. Follow territorial/regional health directives to limit number of people permitted in the church building at one time.

4. Gathering procedures:

- Respect social distancing (2 meters)
- Books **are not** to be distributed and shared. We encourage people to bring their own books for personal use and if possible for the service to be projected.
- No sharing of microphones.
- No shaking hands/passing the peace.
- Rather than passing around offering baskets,
 - Please use another method which allows for social distancing.
 - Those counting the offering must wait 24 hours and must do so with gloves and/or hand sanitizer.

5. No celebration of Holy Communion without further permission from the Bishop.

6. Baptisms, marriages, and funerals **must abide by the above guidelines **and** public health guidelines.**

By signing below, you are indicating that you have put these procedures in place and are committed to following them, and wish to apply to the Bishop for approval to reopen your church building. Please send it to exe_officer@arcticnet.org and await approval from the Bishop.

Date _____ Signed by Minister/Lay Leader In Charge _____

People's Warden _____ Minister's Warden _____

Date approved by Bishop of The Arctic _____

Signed Rt. Rev. David W Parsons _____