



At A Distance – “Episcopal Time”

Greetings Saints! Good News...this coming Sunday, June 21st, Father’s Day and Third Sunday After Pentecost we will re-commence in-person Sunday Services at All Saints. Sunday will be Day 99 of our hiatus, our “time in the desert,” our “time away,” our personal introspective “Vision Quests.”

We welcome our congregation back to in-person worship with great joy and also great caution. The COVID-19 virus has the continued potential to decimate our church family so we must be vigilant and intentional to protect the health and safety of our people. We will re-commence in-person worship in accordance with our approved All Saints “Safe Church Plan,” which we shared with you last week, and is available to review on the All Saints website. The “Safe Church” Plan was developed in accordance with CDC guidelines, Diocesan procedures and guidance from the State of Washington and Clark County Health Departments. We take these precautions and set these intentional safety standards not to be harsh or demanding or prescriptive but simply because we love you all deeply and don’t want you to get sick, or possibly be the cause of sickness in another. Please know that our Sunday Morning Virtual Service on Facebook Live at 9:00 AM will continue. So now, Saints, you can choose to worship in person or worship with us virtually.

“Episcopal Time” is an interesting phenomena. At 9:00 o’clock the church is relatively empty; at 9:03 the church is full. Episcopalians are late comers; late bloomers; seem to be liturgically tardy by nature. But once we all get going, we are unstoppable. However, for the coming Sundays, if you are choosing in-person worship, I ask you to put “Episcopal Time” away for now and start a new practice of “coming early” ...between 8:30 and 8:45am would be perfect. Set your phone, set your clocks, set an alarm if you need to. Please....

Our safe entry procedures (temperatures, contact tracing data logging, safe distribution of liturgical materials and escorted, socially-distanced seating) all take

time. We have a commitment to our Virtual Congregation to begin promptly at 9:00 am. So please, please come early. Get checked in; get situated; get seated; get comfortable; and get centered and prepared to worship in plenty of time to be ready for a 9:00 am start.

And a reminder to always, always, always bring and wear a facemask when you are at church!!!

It will be joyful to welcome you back in-person to our Sanctuary this Sunday in the safest and healthiest, way possible. Our Leadership Team is standing by to serve you both in-person and virtually. Come Early – Wear Your Mask – Social Distance – Wash Your Hands. Together we can again, Gather-Transform- Send safely and healthfully.

Respectfully, Father Joe