

May 22, 2020

Dear People of God of St. Monica's,

On 5/21/2020, Bishop Dabney Smith provided guidance and direction for the congregations of this diocese, to move toward LIMITED in-person worship beginning on 5/31/2020, the Feast of Pentecost. The bishop has provided specific protocols that we will follow regarding: (1) the number of people allowed within our worship space, (2) facility cleaning between services, (3) worship traffic patterns after services, (4) the highly recommended use of masks by all attendees, (5) the avoidance of handshakes or hugs during the peace, (6) continuing to receive the offering by mail and E-Giving, (7) Communion in one kind (host only), (8) limiting singing to a small choral presentation only, with social distancing and mask usage, (9) maintenance of safe social distancing. I will stress that we will follow the Bishop's directives related to returning to and maintaining in-person worship during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Last month, the Vestry and I approved a phased plan for very LIMITED in-person gatherings and worship, which complies with the Bishop's guidelines. This plan is subject to change, and our ongoing implementation will be based on the current circumstances now and later. The spiritual and physical health and well-being of God's people is of paramount concern for me as the Rector and for the Vestry, so we ask if you choose to attend one of the three worship services planned that you take all personal precautions:

- 1. The Bishop, Rector, and Vestry strongly encourage all vulnerable and at-risk individuals (elderly, serious underlying health conditions, etc.) please remain at home and continue to watch the livestream service on YouTube, which will move to 10:00 a.m.**
- 2. The Bishop, Rector, and Vestry strongly encourage you to bring and use PPE (face masks, gloves, etc.) and bring and use personal sanitizing wipes.**
- 3. The Bishop, Rector, and Vestry strongly encourage you to please comply with the limited attendance restrictions for each of the three planned services, in order that we might help to protect the safety and well-being of your Sisters and Brothers-in-Christ.**

This phased plan will begin on **5/31/2020 "The Feast of Pentecost"** and it will include a new schedule of services, a limit to the number of parishioners who will be allowed to attend any one of the three services, and mitigation protocols regarding seating, distribution of communion, and other revised elements of worship.

## Sunday Worship Services beginning 5/31/2020 The Feast of Pentecost

- Worship Schedule: Three (3) Sunday Holy Eucharist Rite II Services (**8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm**) will be offered.
  - Live Stream worship on our YouTube Channel will continue to take place each week, but **it will be moved to the 10:00 am service time.**
  - Music and choral presentation will be offered at the 10:00 am service.
  - Saturday 5:00 pm and Sunday 7:45 am services will **NOT** resume at this time.
- Limited Attendance: Parishioners will need to choose one of three services to attend each week and must register in advance.
  - **Only 40 parishioners** (plus support servers) will be permitted to attend any one service.
  - There will only be forty (40) chairs available in the sanctuary, and individual seating will be spaced, a minimum of six feet apart, and seating for couples will be available if signed up as a couple.
- Registering for a Service: There are two ways to register for a service each week (ONLINE or CALL IN).
  - **ONLINE SCHEDULING**
    - You can use the online event scheduler called **EventBrite**.
    - See directions at end of this letter.
    - Links to register
      - **8:00 am** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/105628000192>
      - **10:00 am** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/105629498674>
      - **12:00 am** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/105629769484>
  - **CALL IN SCHEDULING**
    - Please call the Parish Administrator (239-591-4550) to schedule the service time you wish to attend.

**PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND A DIFFERENT SERVICE ONCE REGISTERED. WE MUST MAINTAIN SAFE DISTANCING GUIDELINES and YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND A SERVICE THAT HAS REACHED CAPACITY.**

- Name Badges: We will not use name badges.
- Bulletins: Weekly bulletins will be placed on each chair by the usher before the service. Please take your bulletin home after the service rather than leaving them in the church or in the totes.
- Singing: A small choral group of four choir members will sing the hymns at the 10:00 am service only. The bishop encourages "No singing close to anyone else. You might choose to offer one verse of a hymn and invite humming or just listening."
- Offering: Please continue to utilize U.S. Mail and EGiving for your gifts/pledges as we will not pass the offering plate, nor receive cash/check gifts during worship.
- Peace: We will not pass the peace. Instead please remain at your seats and follow our Bishop's guidance in which, he suggests "reverent bows (or a wave) to one another are elegant gestures."

- Holy Communion: Communion will be in one-kind only (host only) with no common chalice being offered.
  - Six (6) feet spacing will always be maintained in the communion line.
  - The priest will wash hands before distribution and will wear a face mask during the distribution.
  
- Worship Team Members: Only a Lector, Camera Operator, Altar Guild member, and one Usher will be asked to serve at each service.
  - **NOTE: If you are scheduled to serve in one of these positions, it is not necessary for you to register online. Please make sure though, if you make a schedule change after the schedule is posted, please contact Jennifer Flint, Parish Administrator as soon as possible.**
  - Four Choir members will serve at the 10:00 am service (to be scheduled by Dr. Ron). Choir members will wear facemasks and maintain social distancing seating.
  
- Healing Team: Our Healing Team will **NOT** serve at this time however, if you need special prayer, please let the priest know after the service.
  
- Dismissal: The priest will dismiss the service from the altar and you may leave through any of the three exits in order to maintain social distancing. (10:00 am service will leave after the Postlude). The priest will not greet attendees as they leave.
  
- **There will be NO COFFEE HOUR for any service at this time.**

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### **Campus Meetings and Small Groups**

St. Monica's Internal Groups such as Bible Studies, DOK, WOSM, Centering Prayer, etc., and All External Groups (Preschool, BNI, Weight Watchers, New Horizons) will continue to meet virtually and will not meet in person on the campus.

- At this time, we are only addressing a return to in-person worship.
  - For now, all internal groups will continue to meet through virtual gatherings using Zoom.
  - Once we have additional guidance from the diocese, we will address our plan to return to in-person gatherings for internal and external groups.
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The vestry and I will continue to monitor and consider the data and recommendations and guidelines of the *Centers for Disease Control (CDC)* and *Florida Department of Health*. We will make adjustments to this plan as necessary, if criteria indicate that circumstances merit a move to even more relaxed or even a more restrictive set of protocols, we will inform the parish. We will in all cases follow the diocesan directives for in-person worship. I realize we all have a desire to return to "life as normal" and "church as normal," but right now and in the near future, we must remain cautious and slow about the way we come back together as God's people. In my last letter to the congregation, I expressed that my primary concern is, and will always be, the physical and spiritual health and well-being of our parishioners, staff, and affiliate ministry partners. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me or any member of the vestry. You all are in my prayers, and you have my love and support.

Love, peace, and blessings,

Fr. Eric+

## Directions for Registering using EventBrite

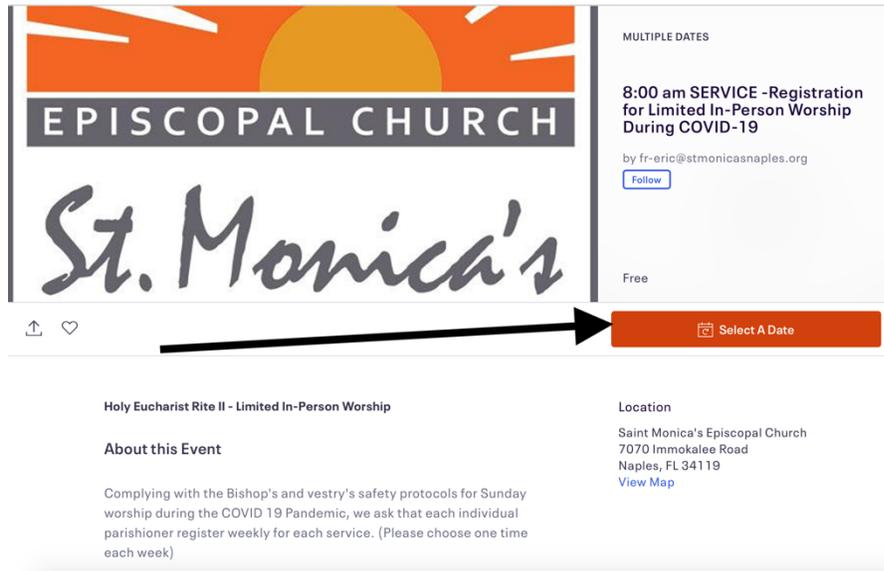
\*\* IF YOU EXPERIENCE PROBLEMS with THE SOFTWARE, Contact Jennifer Flint 239-591-4550

1. Choose which worship service you wish to attend, by clicking one of the links below:

- **8:00 am** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/105628000192>
- **10:00 am** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/105629498674>
- **12:00 am** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/105629769484>

\*\* If that worship service is full for that date, please choose another service.

2. Click Red Button "Select a Date"



**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
*St. Monica's*

MULTIPLE DATES

**8:00 am SERVICE -Registration for Limited In-Person Worship During COVID-19**

by fr-eric@stmonicasnaples.org

[Follow](#)

Free

[Select A Date](#)

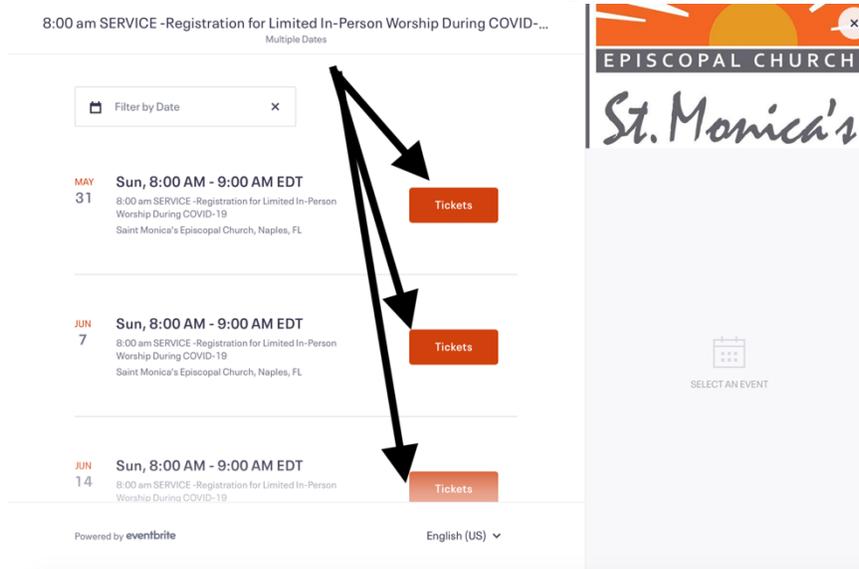
**Holy Eucharist Rite II - Limited In-Person Worship**

**About this Event**

Complying with the Bishop's and vestry's safety protocols for Sunday worship during the COVID 19 Pandemic, we ask that each individual parishioner register weekly for each service. (Please choose one time each week)

**Location**  
Saint Monica's Episcopal Church  
7070 Immokalee Road  
Naples, FL 34119  
[View Map](#)

3. Choose which Date for which you are Registering click "Tickets" button:



8:00 am SERVICE -Registration for Limited In-Person Worship During COVID-19

Multiple Dates

[Filter by Date](#) x

<b>MAY</b> 31	<b>Sun, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM EDT</b> 8:00 am SERVICE -Registration for Limited In-Person Worship During COVID-19 Saint Monica's Episcopal Church, Naples, FL	<a href="#">Tickets</a>
<b>JUN</b> 7	<b>Sun, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM EDT</b> 8:00 am SERVICE -Registration for Limited In-Person Worship During COVID-19 Saint Monica's Episcopal Church, Naples, FL	<a href="#">Tickets</a>
<b>JUN</b> 14	<b>Sun, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM EDT</b> 8:00 am SERVICE -Registration for Limited In-Person Worship During COVID-19	<a href="#">Tickets</a>

Powered by **eventbrite**

English (US) v

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
*St. Monica's*

[SELECT AN EVENT](#)

#### 4. Choose the Number of Attendees in your Household (1, 2, 3, ... etc.) and click "Register"

← 8:00 am SERVICE -Registration for Limited In-Person Worship During COVID-...  
Sun, May 31, 2020 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM EDT

Register for One Service Time per week  
Free  
46 REMAINING Sales end on May 30, 2020  
Please complete one registration for each member of your family attending.

Powered by eventbrite English (US) ▾

Register

EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
St. Monica's

Order Summary

1 x Register for One Service Time per week	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b> <small>Price includes tax</small>

#### 5. Fill out your name, email and confirm email and click "Register"

← Checkout  
Time left 14:58

Complying with the Bishop's and vestry's safety protocols for Sunday worship during the COVID-19 Pandemic, we ask that each individual parishioner register weekly for each service. We will limit the number of people (40) who can attend each service, so if the time you choose is full, try one of the other three times (9:30 am, 10:30 am, 11:30 am). Seating for each service will be limited to 40 people. If your preferred time is unavailable, you will need to choose another service. (Please choose one time each week) □ The Rector and Vestry strongly suggest that vulnerable and at-risk individuals (elderly, serious underlying health conditions, etc.) consider remaining at home and watching the 9:30 am livestream service on YouTube. □ The Rector and Vestry strongly encourage you bring and use PPE (face masks, gloves, etc.) and to bring and use personal sanitizing wipes. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND A DIFFERENT SERVICE UNLESS SCHEDULED, BECAUSE WE WILL MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES and YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND A SERVICE THAT HAS REACHED CAPACITY.

Contact Information

First name \* Last name \*

Email \* Confirm email \*

Register

EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
St. Monica's

Order Summary

2 x Register for One Service Time per week	\$0.00
Delivery 2 x eTicket	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

#### 5. Fill out Name, email, and Age for each attendee in your household and click "Register"

← Checkout  
Time left 14:05

Ticket 2 - Register for One Service Time per week

Copy data from Other attendees ▾

First name \* Last name \*

Email \* fr-eric@stmonicasnaples.org

Age \* 62

Keep me updated on the latest news, events, and exclusive offers from this event organizer.

Eventbrite can send me emails about the best events happening nearby.

By clicking "Register", I accept the [Terms of Service](#) and have read the [Privacy Policy](#) agree that Eventbrite may [share my information](#) with the event organizer.

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Register

EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
St. Monica's

Order Summary

2 x Register for One Service Time per week	\$0.00
Delivery 2 x eTicket	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

#### 6. You will receive a confirmation email of your registration.