Our Lady of Fatima Russian Byzantine Catholic Church

Safety Protocols for Attending Services in the OLF Chapel

Your personal safety is of the utmost importance as we begin our reopening process. We will follow current coronavirus health and safety guidelines issued by the State of California, San Francisco Department of Public Health and the San Francisco Archdiocese to the maximum extent possible. These regulations may impact the manner in which we conduct services for the foreseeable future. We ask for your understanding and cooperation in our efforts.

Following are our guidelines and safety protocols when our attending services in the OLF chapel:

- All attendees must read, complete and sign the OLF informed consent form before entering the church.
- The Geary Boulevard / front entrance is the only entrance open and available for entrance to the chapel. There is no access to the chapel from the rear/parking lot entrance.
- Only the chapel and restroom are open and available to attendees during services. The remainder of the OLF complex is closed at this time.
- Based on current social-distancing guidelines, the maximum parishioner capacity for services is limited to ten people. Availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. When the capacity is reached, no additional persons will be admitted.
- Only the rear parking lot is available for use at this time.
- The side hallway adjacent to the chapel is closed to the public at this time.
- No social gatherings or group activities will be allowed inside the church.
- Coffee fellowship and agape meals are suspended until further notice.
- The first-floor restroom near the stairway will be open for use. The only entrance to the restroom is through the rear door. There is no access to the restroom from the chapel via the side hallway.
- Masks must be worn and social distancing guidelines must be followed at all times inside the church. Icons may be venerated but not touched.
- All social interaction (e.g., personal greetings, etc.) must be conducted only outside the church.
- Congregational singing or chanting is not allowed at any time under any circumstances (not even brief responses such as “Lord have mercy” or “Amen”).
- In order to provide sufficient ventilation, some windows and doors may need to remain open during the service. Please dress accordingly.
- Parishioners must leave the church immediately following the post liturgy prayers.
- Instructions for receiving the Holy Mysteries will be announced prior to distribution. Individual sterilized spoons will be used for the distribution of the Eucharist.
- Those who are at higher risk of coronavirus or feeling ill should not attend services at this time.