



Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA
(Ecumenical Patriarchate)

Street Address: 7581 Rockfish Gap Turnpike, Greenwood, VA 22943

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Revised COVID-19 Pandemic Protocols – March 16, 2022

From your Parish Board: Our bishops have recently recommended that each parish set its own guidelines based on best practices and local circumstances. According to the CDC, at this time Albemarle County and all contiguous counties are currently in the medium or low range of risk. (Please see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html> for updates in real time.) Only in areas of high risk is it recommended that everyone wear a mask indoors in public. In areas of medium levels of risk, it is recommended that individuals who are personally at high risk for severe illness talk to their health care provider to find out whether they should wear masks.

Consequently, the Board has decided that:

- masks are now optional at St. Nicholas parish
- we will be removing the tape from the floor in the nave and social hall
- a portion of the social hall will continue to remain available for those who desire to continue social distancing during services
- we will continue to keep track of attendance on Sundays for the time being
- we will continue to maintain a supply of masks for those who would like them
- we will continue to run the air purifiers in the nave and continuously circulate air throughout the building when it is occupied

It is important to note that if anyone desires to wear a mask for services or activities, they are welcome to do so.

We are hopeful that these improving circumstances represent a turning point in the course of this pandemic! *However, we will continue to be vigilant and monitor the situation. If local conditions take a turn for the worse, the Board will be ready to adjust policies again in accordance with those circumstances.*

Your Parish Board continues to be deeply grateful for the patience, grace, understanding, and profound Christian charity that everyone in the parish has extended to one another throughout this difficult time.

Thank you!