

# COVID-19 Policy Update (March 9, 2022)

Love for neighbor has been, and continues to be, both the primary and motivating concern for all discussions and subsequent decisions related to gathering in person for worship. Paul's writing that "love does no wrong to a neighbor (Romans 13:10)" continues to guide the Congregation Council.

Members of St. Marks,

I am writing with an important announcement about worship at Saint Marks. After considering the current CDC recommendations, the mask requirement for fully vaccinated members and guests will be suspended: any person who has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 will no longer be required to wear a mask or to social distance either inside or outside of any church facility at any time.

1. "Fully vaccinated" means that a person has received ALL recommended doses of the vaccine (including any recommended boosters) and at least two weeks have elapsed since they received the final dose of the vaccine.
2. However, any person above age 2 who has NOT been fully vaccinated will STILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK and social distance from all others except those in their family unit.
3. Any person who has been fully vaccinated and who wishes to continue wearing a mask and social distance, for whatever reason, may do so. All others should respect each member's decision about these matters.
4. If you know that you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days, you should not enter the church facilities unless you: A) have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and show no symptoms of the disease, or B) you have had COVID-19 illness within the previous 3 months, have recovered, and remain free of COVID-19 symptoms.

All of the above changes will be made effective immediately.

5. You should not enter the church facilities if you have a fever or are feeling ill. This was previously announced and it remains unchanged, even if you are fully vaccinated.

6. Fellowship time after services will resume, on a purely voluntary basis, and it will be held in Hart Hall.

7. Duval County is currently classified, by the CDC, as a county of moderate COVID-19 transmission. If we begin to have another increase in COVID-19 cases locally and CDC reclassifies us as an area of higher transmission, we will immediately return to our previous practices of masks required for everyone, social distancing, and no fellowship time after service. If that happens, I will make an announcement to inform you of the change.

If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing you at Saint Mark's!

Ray Booth  
Congregation President