

# WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH

**IT IS EXCITING TO BE ABLE TO GATHER TOGETHER AGAIN WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY!**

In order to have a safe, smooth re-opening, please read the following information carefully.

Included in this attachment:

- Welcome back to church information
- How to register to attend services
- Entering/exiting the church building
- Behaviors and Expectations
- Frequently Asked Questions

## WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH INFORMATION:

On Sunday January 23, 2022 Faith Sanctuary will reopen for worship services at a seating capacity as permitted by the Province of Ontario.

Please understand that although we are very desirous to meet again in worship and fellowship, we must proceed with a great deal of preparation, cooperation and civic responsibility. We would like to present the parameters, instructions and behaviors we must **all** abide by in order to accomplish a safe re-opening. Please read **ALL** attachments carefully.

There will be one (1) worship service on Sundays, beginning at 11:00 a.m., which will also continue to be live streamed at [faithsanctuarytoronto.online.church](http://faithsanctuarytoronto.online.church), and on our mobile app, Facebook, YouTube and telephone at 1-844-268-4848. The Sunday morning Bible study will also continue online. All of our church members and guests are strongly encouraged to sign up for each week's service through our website at [www.faithsanctuary.com](http://www.faithsanctuary.com). You may also call the church office at 416-244-4898, and leave a message with your name, phone number and the number of persons in your household intending on coming to the service.

All services will be held in the main sanctuary, with access to the building through the front lobby. The rest of the building will be closed, except for the washroom facilities adjacent to the lobby. At this time, the ATM machine will not be available for use.

Inside the sanctuary, you will be directed to specific areas for seating you and your family. Please cooperate fully with the ushers and respect the boundaries for physical distancing. We all understand that these are temporary measures that are necessary until there is no longer a threat to our public health and safety.

## HOW TO REGISTER TO ATTEND SERVICES:

It is crucially important for each person to register in advance each week to attend our services. This will ensure we do not go over our capacity limits and also facilitate contact tracing if it ever becomes necessary. There are four ways to register:

### Church Website:

- Visit [www.faithsanctuary.com](http://www.faithsanctuary.com) and click the link provided at the top of the homepage. This link will take you directly to Eventbrite where you can register your desire to attend a service or volunteer to help.

### Facebook.com:

- Visit our Facebook page and navigate to our Events section. You can get to our Facebook page by entering [www.facebook.com/faithsanctuarytoronto/events](http://www.facebook.com/faithsanctuarytoronto/events) in your browser.

### Eventbrite.com:

- Please click the following link: <https://faithsanctuarytoronto.eventbrite.ca/>

### By phone:

- If you do not have access to the internet or experience any challenges using any of the methods above, please call the church office at **416-244-4898** and ask to be registered.

When registering, you will be asked for the following questions:

- Name
- Email
- Phone
- COVID19 related screening questions

More questions are answered in our Frequently Asked Questions attachment. **Please read the FAQ's in their entirety.**

## ENTERING/EXITING THE CHURCH BUILDING:

Please join the queue awaiting entry at the front doors, positioning yourself where the taped markings are in place. You are required to observe the COVID-19 protocol of observing a distance of 2m/6 ft between yourself and any other individual.

The **FRONT** entrance will be the only **entrance** to the sanctuary. Please do not attempt to enter the building any other way.

The **NORTH** and **SOUTH** doors (facing Black Creek Dr. and the Seniors building) will be the only **exits** from the building. Please request help from an usher if you have mobility issues and are unable to use one of the designated exits.

## **BEHAVIORS AND EXPECTATIONS:**

1. A **mask or face covering** is required from entry into the building throughout the entire service. Both your nose and mouth must be covered at all times. Additionally, you will be required to sanitize your hands as soon as you enter the building.
2. Please arrive at church at least 30 minutes before the start of the service to facilitate your timely entrance.
3. Inside the sanctuary, physical distancing of 2m/6 feet apart **must** be adhered to at all times by all attendees. Immediate family members will be permitted to sit together but must maintain the distance of 2m/6 feet apart from other non-family members.
4. The sanctuary will be cordoned off to accommodate our available number of attendees. Please do not sit in a seat that has been blocked off. Only sit in seats marked available and as directed by the usher. We ask that you pray and worship in your designated seat. There will be **no altar call** requesting individuals to come to the front.
5. Prayer requests are welcome but there will not be *laying on of hands* in the altar area.
6. Baptisms can be scheduled to take place after service or at some other arranged time.
7. Guests are still welcome at our services, but they must be registered and follow all the required protocols in order to enter the building.
8. Members, guests and those who are not comfortable with the idea of coming back to the sanctuary are welcome to continue to attend church virtually through our livestreams. Let us continue to pray that the Almighty God will heal the earth so that things will open up to a greater degree in the near future. In the meantime, stay safe and healthy. If you become ill with a cough, a fever or any other flu-like symptoms, please stay home. If you are immuno-compromised, are a part of the vulnerable population, or have a comorbidity, please stay home. Do not feel badly in doing so. Your Faith family cares about your safety. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us to receive love, encouragement, and to share your testimonies with us.

Pastor McKenzie and the rest of the ministry team can't wait to see all of you! Much love and many blessings!

## **Frequently Asked Questions about Faith Sanctuary's reopening:**

**1. Do I have to sign up my whole family including my children?**

A. Yes! If your whole family is planning to attend the service, each person's name must be signed up individually under your family name.

**2. Can I bring a guest?**

A. Yes! However, guests must also register to attend, as do church members.

**3. If I register and find out that I am not going to make it to the service what can I do?**

A. If you find you will be unable to attend a service you have registered for, please let us know right away by emailing [mail@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:mail@faithsanctuary.com) or calling the church office at 416-244-4898.

**4. What if I don't have a mask?**

A. We have a limited number of donated masks that we will have on hand to provide for those who do not have one.

**5. Will hand sanitizer be available to use if I don't have any with me?**

A. Yes, there will be hand sanitizing stations at every entry and exit and at various locations in the surrounding areas.

**6. What can I expect when I arrive at the church?**

A. There will likely be a line-up at the front entrance as we get closer to the start of the service. The best way to avoid this is to arrive at church at least half an hour before service time.

**7. Will children be allowed to come to service, and will their Sunday School classes be in session?**

A. Yes, children are permitted and accounted for in the maximum number allowed, at the discretion of their parents. However, Sunday School classes will not be conducted at this time. Parents will need to take full responsibility of their children by keeping them in their seats and controlling their behaviour.

No other areas of the building will be accessible apart from the front lobby, main sanctuary and washroom facilities adjacent to the lobby.

**8. What will physical distancing look like at church?**

**A.** Seats will be marked off with caution tape in all areas of the sanctuary to accommodate the 2m/6 feet physical distancing rule. Families will be grouped together and must sit together while single individuals will be separated by 3 marked-off seats.

**9. Why can we only have a certain number of people occupying the building for each service?**

**A.** The provincial government has set the parameters for gatherings in houses of worship at a percentage of the building's capacity. We are obligated to honour and obey the guidelines that have been set forth by our governmental leaders.