

Coronavirus Disease 2019

COVID-19

GUIDANCE FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP

For many of us, our faith and spiritual community are critical to our well-being, especially in a time of crisis. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment supports the necessary transition to electronic platforms during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, places of worship with adequate parking lot resources may safely hold “drive-in” services as long as the following guidelines are followed at all times. Showing how we value the sanctity of life and are acting to reduce the spread of this deadly virus by being innovative in safely meeting, the pastoral and spiritual needs of Coloradans is the calling of this moment in time.

Guidelines for drive-in type venues (e.g., Easter or other large services for holidays)

- Practice the social/physical distancing requirements outlined below.
- Use electronics that attendees can have inside the car or use a radio channel to broadcast the audio and/or video.
 - If you will be providing devices, ensure they are cleaned and sanitized prior to passing them out.
 - It is preferable for attendees to use their own, personal devices for audio/video.
- Attendees need to stay in their vehicles and not socialize through their vehicle windows.
- Public restrooms must be cleaned and have signage posted that they should be used by only one person at a time. [Cleaning guidance](#).
- There should be no other opportunity for in-person interaction. Do not have food or beverage or any other services at the site. Do not make available gathering spaces at this location for attendees to gather outside of their vehicles.

General guidelines for broadcasting services with a crew of 10 or fewer people

(See [Public Health Order 20-24](#))

Follow all social/physical distancing requirements

- Direct those having symptoms of COVID-19-- as well as people who have had close contact with a person who has symptoms like dry cough, chest tightness, and/or fever-- to refrain from participating in any aspect of in-person services and stay at home at all times unless they need medical care.
- People must be at least 6 feet apart at all times while seated and standing.
 - Brainstorm virtual alternatives to handshaking, handholding, hugging, communion, passing the peace, etc.
 - Remember, the smaller the group, the larger the space, and the healthier the people are beforehand, the lower the risk of transmission.
- Those most at risk, including people over age 65 and anyone with a pre-existing immune or respiratory condition, are urged to remain home at all times unless they need immediate medical care.
- Consider providing hand sanitizer and tissues in convenient locations.

- Ensure attendees wear coverings (e.g., cloth mask or bandana) over their mouths and noses while attending services.
- Consider taking attendees' temperatures and asking about signs of illness before admitting them into the place of worship. Disallow individuals with elevated temperatures or signs of illness (coughing, runny nose, sneezing).

Clean and disinfect all surfaces before and after any in-person gathering.

- [Follow these guidelines.](#)