

Nepsis June 2020

Safe Receiving of Holy Communion

Thankfully, we will soon come to the end of the national quarantine, returning to church and commerce. Oh, and getting a haircut.

The Parish Council has established procedures for attending the Divine Liturgy when St. Sophia's opens. All the normal precautions will be followed, with the addition of a few just to be extra careful.

I want to discuss one particular issue today - what about Holy Communion? What will we do at St. Sophia's? I don't want to make any big changes to our liturgical practice, so we will approach Holy Communion as we have in the past and receive from a common spoon, with the following considerations:

1) The spoon cannot touch your mouth. When you receive, look directly at the ceiling of the church and open wide. I will drop the Gifts into your mouth. Note: Fr. Harmand did basically the same thing, but he did not have people look up. You *have to look up* with me. I'm not as good a shot as he was. I need to drop the Gifts into your mouth.

2) If the spoon touches anyone's mouth, I will hand the spoon to the altar server and commune the next person with a different spoon. The altar server will swish the first spoon in alcohol and have it ready in case I need to switch again. Note: the alcohol will be disposed of in the same way that baptism water is.

3) For the first Liturgies after re-opening, the red cloth will be replaced by paper napkins. Each one who communes will hold his/her own napkin, wipe the lips with it after communing, and drop it in a box. Note: they will be burned after the Liturgy. Another note: this is not the "new normal," but a temporary measure.

4) At the time for communion, no one can approach until directed by a Parish Council member. We will strive to maintain safe distancing, and this will involve waiting in the pew rather than in a line. Note: please be patient with us.

I'm so happy to get back to something approximating "normal." I think that this way of communing the Body and Blood of our Lord will be good for us to learn. If you want to discuss it further, give me a call. God bless you! Stay safe and healthy!

See you in Church!

Your affectionate servant,

Fr. David

TV SCHEDULE

On Spectrum channel 98

Sunday program at 7 pm:

June 7: Creation History in Genesis, part 7

June 14: Creation History in Genesis, part 8

June 21: Creation History in Genesis, part 9

June 28: Creation History in Genesis, part 10

Monday program at 7 pm

June 1: The Epistle to the Romans, part 6

June 8: The Epistle to the Romans, part 7

June 15: The Epistle to the Romans, part 8

June 22: The Epistle to the Romans, part 9

June 29: The Epistle to the Romans, part 10

Family Classics TV sponsored by St. Sophia's

Sunday at 6 pm: Sir Lancelot

Sunday at 6:30 pm: The Adventures of Robin Hood

Sunday at 8 pm: The Cisco Kid (2 episodes)

Thursday at 8:30 pm: Sherlock Holmes

Friday at 8 pm: Jim Bowie

On Verizon FiOS channel 29

Sunday at 6:30 pm, with a repeat Thursday at 8:30 pm

June 7: The Epistle of St. James, part 4

June 14: The Epistle of St. James part 5

June 21: The Epistle of St. James, part 6

June 28: The Epistle of St. James, part 7

Sunday at 7 pm, with a repeat Thursday at 9 pm

June 7: Your Prayer Rope

June 14: Holy Trinity Monastery

June 21: Fly Fishing and the Spiritual Life

June 28: Lord, Have Mercy

Please remember: catch up on what's happening at church on our website "stsophias.org". An up-to-date church calendar is there!