

St Elizabeth – COVID-19 Guidelines & Clarifications

This communication serves as guideline & clarification of our current procedures and requirements regarding COVID-19 relative to anyone at St. Elizabeth Church either contracting the coronavirus or coming in contact with an individual who has tested positive for the virus. All the information is in accordance with the current guidelines provided by the State of Ohio, Ohio Department of Health, and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Symptomatic Employees

Any employee who has exhibited any of the symptoms of COVID-19, is to stay home until they are free of fever or symptoms (without the use of medication) for at least 72 hours (three full days) AND symptoms have improved for at least 72 hours AND at least seven days have passed since symptoms first began. We do not require a healthcare provider's note to validate the illness or return to work for employees sick with acute respiratory illness.

Any employee at work who show symptoms of any kind of an acute respiratory illness or symptoms of COVID-19 should notify his or her supervisor and go home immediately. Their access to the buildings will be removed until they meet the criteria in the above paragraph.

COVID-19 Exposure - Employee*

Any employee who has taken a COVID-19 test MUST remain at home and quarantined until the results are obtained. If the results are negative, the employee may return to work after notifying and receiving permission from the pastor. If the results are positive, then the employee is required to do the following:

- Notify immediately the pastor
- Begin a 14 day quarantine
- The employee cannot return to work until a follow-up COVID-19 test is completed AFTER the 14 day quarantine. The follow-up test MUST be negative and the affected employee must obtain approval from the pastor before he/she is permitted to physically return to work

COVID-19 Exposure - Building

If we have a confirmed positive test for COVID-19 amongst our employees, parishioners or visitors who have entered our building, the following protocol will be followed:

- The area the person was in will be closed immediately.
- All employees of that building will be notified that a positive case has been identified
- The area and all possible points of contact will be disinfected at an increased level
- The area will be reopened once all the above has been completed.

PLEASE NOTE: While this information is comprehensive, it is a summary description for handling these types of situations. Specific questions about individual situations that may arise will be addressed by an employee with the pastor, who will use these guidelines for direction on determining particular courses of action on a case-by-case basis. If the pastor needs assistance with these determinations, he will consult with the diocesan offices.

*Exposure is defined as an individual who has had close contact (< 6 feet) for ≥15 minutes with a person who has symptoms or who has tested positive for COVID-19 - irrespective of whether the person with COVID-19 or the contact was wearing a mask. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>