



EDMOND J. SAFRA SYNAGOGUE

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Sunday, May 24, 2020

Rosh Hodesh Sivan 5780

Dear Kahal Kadosh,

Based on the Governor of Florida's recent executive order, advice of medical professionals and cautiously optimistic news announcing reduced Covid-19 incidence, we have decided to open the Shul on Shabuot evening, in a limited fashion and subject to strict regulations which are tailored to make our re-opening maximally safe for our community. Attached are the regulations that will govern our re-opening for Shabuot and during the week schedule.

Our regulations are based on Miami-Dade County guidelines, as well as recommendations by the CDC, Jewish Organizations and doctors/epidemiologists. The foundation of our regulations is limited capacity in all minyanim, social distancing and stringent sanitary measures. In order to open in a safe and responsible manner, it is incumbent on all congregants to strictly adhere to these rules for the immediate future until we are able to gradually relax the restrictions.

Shabuot and the receiving of the Torah was a unique time in our People's history. We all stood together united at Har Sinai to receive the Torah. The Torah describes this great unity as "*Ke-ish Ehad Be-Leb Ehad*" like one person, like one heart. The unity and love to one another displayed at Har Sinai was the zenith of our people's history and this unity allowed us to merit to receive Hashem's most precious treasure, the holy Torah. With Hashem's help, on this Shabuot, after being separated from each other for several months, we are looking forward to seeing the Kahal in Shul and praying together *Ke-ish Ehad Be-Leb Ehad*.

We thank the Kahal in advance for cooperating with us look forward to a successful re-opening.

Rabbi Yosef Galimidi

Ely R. Levy, President

EDMOND J. SAFRA SYNAGOGUE
REOPENING RULES AND REGULATIONS As of May 24, 2020

Please take the time to carefully familiarize yourself with the below rules and regulations which will be in effect during our opening for Shabuot night and the weekdays following the holiday.

1. Task Force. We have created task force comprising of members of our Kahal to ensure organization and compliance with these rules and regulations. The task force shall be evenly divided in the different Minyaneem. Task force members shall be familiar with these rules and will act to ensure compliance with these rules politely and professionally.
2. Timetable: These rules shall apply during our opening on Shabuot night and continue until further notice. They will be subject to change and revision in the future based on advice from the CDC and doctors, etc.
3. Permitted Attendees: A table will be set up at the entrance of the Shul staffed by members familiar with the congregation to ensure compliance with the following:
 - a. No one over the age of 65 will be permitted to enter the premises;
 - b. Unfortunately, until further notice, women, girls and children under the age of 12 will not be permitted to enter the premises;
 - c. Boys 12 or over MUST be seated in the closest seat next to their Father.
 - d. No child can attend the Shul without his father arriving with him. No children will be permitted to be present in common areas or outside the Shul;
 - e. No one that has traveled within 14 days prior will be permitted to enter;
 - f. Anyone with a cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat or new loss of taste or smell must stay home and not endanger his fellow congregants.
4. Required Protective Gear: All Shul staff, security and congregants will be required to wear masks in the Shul. Congregants should arrive to the Shul with a mask. Congregants will remain with their mask on during services. The Hazzan will remove mask during Hazzanut, Rabbi will remove mask during speech, announcements, etc.
5. Hand sanitizing stands and bottles will be placed at the entrance to each sanctuary and in walkways inside the sanctuary. Hand sanitizer dispenser will be on the Teba so that each person going up to the Torah will be able to use.

6. Temperature Checks: Our security team will utilize wireless gun thermometers to check temperatures of the congregants. This will be done in a way that avoid formation of lines of people.
7. Food/Drinks: There will be no food in the Shul. Only water will be made available in the breakfast room. Access to water fountains will be closed off to congregants. There will be no breakfast or Kiddush following services.
8. Capacity and Social Distancing:
 - a. The main sanctuary and other sanctuaries will only allow up to 25% of normal capacity based on the number of seats. Once the sanctuary or midrash is at 25% capacity no one will be permitted to enter.
 - b. The seating should be set up with the 6 feet-distancing in mind (which means we will have stagger/tape off seating).
 - c. The interior doors of the main sanctuary or small Midrash should remain open with use of doorstops or similar devices, to avoid touching doorknobs or door handles.
 - d. Doors leading to exterior or emergency egress doors typically have push-bars on them, so turn around and back into those doors in order to open them, thus avoiding use of hands.
 - e. At the conclusion of the tefilot there should be no loitering or gathering; congregants should disperse in accordance with the 6-foot distancing guidelines with each section to exit in a staggered manner. Classes will continue via ZOOM until further notice.
 - f. Elevator capacity will be limited to one person at a time;
 - g. Anyone who has a question for the Rabbis should make an appointment in advance.
 - h. All Sanctuaries will be cleaned and sanitized after each service.
 - i. During the weekdays; no valet parking will be provided. Sanctuaries must be vacated to enable clean-up.
9. Portions of the Tefilah that Require Social Distancing:
 - a. Opening the Hechal: The Kahal will remain standing by their seats. There will be no touching or kissing the Sefer Torah. Whoever is honored with carrying the Sefer Torah will wear gloves.
 - b. Torah Reading: Rabbi will stay outside the Tebah for Mi Sheberach;
 - c. Mourner's Kadish: This will be said from each congregant's seat (as opposed to gathering in the center of the sanctuary);

- d. Collection of Sedaka (Vay' Barech David'): Sedaka will be collected by one person from each member's seat (without each congregant walking to the sedaka box);
- e. Departing the Sanctuary: All exits will be used to depart and the Rabbi will announce staggered departures based on each section of the sanctuary.
- f. Birkat Cohaneem: Cohanim shall be careful in terms of washing hands without forming lines and standing sufficiently apart when partaking in birkat cohanem.

10. Siddurim/Tallest: Congregants MUST bring their own siddurim and talitot whenever possible. That being said, all siddurim in the Shul will be wiped down.

11. Miscellaneous precautions: No shaking of hands or kissing, or fist-tapping, etc.

12. Workforce/Employee Protections/Protocols:

- a. Enhanced sanitization efforts will occur throughout all common areas, touch points. Maintenance personnel has "re-trained" regarding cleaning protocols to reflect more frequent cleaning of high traffic areas;
- b. Mandatory facial coverings for all employees;
- c. Employees with flu-like symptoms not allowed to report to work for 14 days after onset of symptoms;
- d. Daily temperature checks for all employees upon arrival;
- e. Hand sanitizer will be available at entry points and throughout the Shul;
- f. We will have increased amounts of cleaning materials and PPE on hand;
- g. Bathrooms will be cleaned and disinfected every 30 minutes during services;

13. Office: Work will continue remotely until further notice. For any office matter please call 305-931-4313 Ext 4 or email office@ejsfl.com

14. Security: All security personnel to wear masks and follow safety rules.

We thank the Kahal in advance for cooperating with us look forward to a successful re-opening.

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