



Order of the Mayor

Executive Order JH-01

May 1, 2020

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, I issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency in response to the novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, in response to the Declaration of Local Disaster, City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2020-03-24 on March 24, 2020 extending the Declaration through the end of the pandemic and providing for additional powers to the office of the Mayor consistent with state law;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joe Holt, Mayor of the City of Josephine, Texas, under the authority of Texas Government Code Section 418.108, do hereby order the following:

SECTION 1

While all city services are to remain operational, City Hall will continue to be closed for the protection of our staff and citizens of Josephine until May 8, 2020, unless extended.

SECTION 2

Assembly for religious services in the City of Josephine will be permitted, consistent with Governor Greg Abbott's GA-16 attachment of joint guidance order from the Attorney General which includes the following health protocols:

Ensure all attendees sanitize their hands and put on a mask before entering the building.

1. Church leaders must strongly encourage the at-risk population, those 65 years of age or have underlying health conditions, to watch or participate in the service(s) remotely.
2. Designate an area inside the facility must be reserved for the at-risk population, or a separate service must be offered for at-risk population attendees only.

3. Attendees must keep at least two empty seats (or six feet of separation) between parties in any row, except for two or more members of the same household who can sit next to one another, with two seats (or six feet separation) empty on either side.
4. Two people who are not members of the same household but who are attending together can sit adjacent to one another, with two seats (or six feet separation) empty on either side.
5. Alternate rows between attendees (every other row left empty)
6. Equip ushers and greeters with gloves and masks.
7. Consider keeping child care closed, unless the house of worship can comply with CDC guidelines for child care facilities.
8. Clergy should dismiss attendees by family unit, maintaining social distancing.
 - a. Staff should sanitize seats and frequently touched surfaces between services
9. Consider refraining from passing the collection plates and instead provide a central collection box in the building or encourage online giving.
10. Consider how sacraments can be administered without attendees having to touch the same surfaces or objects.

SECTION 3

All other businesses operating in the City of Josephine are bound to the regulations set forth by Governor Abbott in accordance with expanded reopening of services in Texas starting at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020.

SECTION 4 Prompt Filing

In accordance with Texas Government Code section 418.108(c), this order shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary of the City of Josephine.

Ordered this 1st day of May, 2020.





Mayor Joe Holt



City Secretary Patti Brooks