

Drive-In Service Instructions

The purpose of this document is to provide detailed instructions for the drive-in service at Village Church of Barrington on Sunday May 31, 2020.

Special instructions are needed. We have never had a drive-in service before. So the congregation needs to know how certain things will work. Also, this is our first large in-person gathering since the start of the COVID crisis nearly twelve weeks ago. We need to put certain protocols in place to limit the potential for spreading infection. These are covered below.

Prior to Arrival

We urge caution in a couple of circumstances. First, if you have a condition that puts you at increased risk for COVID-19, you might want to consider sitting this one out or else taking extra precautions (i.e., remaining in your vehicle the whole time with your windows up and/or wearing a mask). Second, if you show symptoms of being ill Sunday morning, please stay home. The service will be available online.

Since we will be outside, it should be safe to sing congregationally. You can download the lyrics at the following link: <https://storage.snappages.site/FZQ8QJ/assets/files/May-31-lyrics.pdf>. You can either print them in advance or save them to your mobile device.

Arrival

Plan to arrive early. We are expecting about 150 vehicles in the north lot. You will need time to park and get situated. The parking lot will open at 8:00 AM; the service will start promptly at 9:00. Stragglers will be mercilessly mocked (not really, but late arrivals may have to be parked in locations with obstructed views—like right behind Ron Velleuer's big van).

As you drive onto church property, attendants will direct you where to park. Please follow their lead and be content with the spot you get. Pastor David and the worship team will be on top of the portico by the gym. To make it easier to see, vehicles will face the back of the church (perpendicular to our normal way of parking). Smaller vehicles will be parked closer to the front; larger vehicles toward the back. Convertibles with their tops down could get front-row seating! We will be parking you in such a way that you will be able to leave at any time, if the need arises.

Once you have gotten situated, please shut off your car. We do not want to give carbon monoxide poisoning to the worship team! It will also make it easier for everyone to hear.

Tuning In

Turn your car to the accessory position (so as not to drain the battery) and tune your radio to FM 87.9. You should hear the broadcast. Starting at 8:00 AM, we will begin broadcasting music and other fun stuff, so you can make sure you are connected. If you are having trouble, flash your lights and we will send someone (with a facemask) to help you. If for some reason you cannot use the FM radio in your car, please contact jim@vcweb.org or arlon@vcweb.org before the event, and we will send you alternative ways to connect. We will have jumper cables on hand, in case anyone cannot start their car when the service is over.

Physical Distancing

Please stay at least six feet away from non-family members at all times. If you cannot maintain physical distance, then wear a mask. Some people in our congregation are at greater risk and need to be particular about personal space; others have different comfort levels with physical proximity right now. So, out of love for one another, give space. No handshakes or hugs. Smile and wave instead.

Originally, we were going to require everyone to remain in their vehicles for the duration of the service. In light of the relaxed restrictions now in effect, it is permissible to sit by your car in lawn chairs. Keep in mind, however, that the service will not be broadcast on speakers in the parking lot—only on the radio. So you might hear better if you remain in your vehicle. If you do choose to sit outside, be diligent *to keep at least six feet away from any non-family members*. Parents with children need to ensure that their children maintain adequate social distance from others. Please do not put the leaders of the church in a situation where we must police this.

Masks

As long as you are outside the building and maintaining proper physical distance, you are not required to wear a mask. But you should have one with you, in case you need to go into the building or cannot maintain proper distance for some reason.

Restrooms

We had previously announced the building would closed, and restrooms would not be available. In light of the governor's reversal, however, our deacons decided to open the building during the service. So if you need to avail yourself of that opportunity, enter the building through the Main Entrance (the new glass doors on the left, looking at the back of the church). The lower level restrooms will be open for men and women, as well as the family restroom in the children's lobby area for children and special needs. *You must wear a mask to enter the building*. Please only one person in a restroom at a time (unless you are a parent helping a child, or assisting an adult with special needs). If a line forms, remember to stay at least six feet apart. Also use the Main Entrance for exiting the building. Do not enter or exit through the Gym Entrance under the portico.

Guests

We have notified the neighbors around the church of this event and invited them to join us by listening in from their homes. We have also notified the Barrington police and invited them to join us. So if you see a police cruiser in the lot, welcome them—from a distance—and let them know how much you appreciate their service of our village. They might have to leave suddenly, if they get called away.

Departure

The parking crew will dismiss you by rows. The staff will leave first, so they can position themselves at the exit and wave farewell to you as you leave.

Conclusion

We are doing our best to make this experience memorable. But we have never done this before, so if things are a little rough, please be patient. May the Lord bless this time together. May it bring honor and glory to him. See you Sunday!