

**BAPTISM AND COMMUNION**  
**COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES**  
Network Ordinance Team | Spiritual Formation | Sandals Church

**SANDALS CHURCH ON-SITE AND REMOTE BAPTISM COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES**

Below are the guidelines and procedures every Sandals Church campus will be following to ensure our baptisms are a safe experience for those being baptized and those in attendance.

**Current guidelines to be practiced for all in attendance:**

- Pre-screening, stay home if:
  - You have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive in the last 10 days
  - You have tested positive in the last 10 days
- Wear a mask
- Practice social distancing
- Wash your hands frequently and avoid touching your face

**Considerations For Individuals Performing Baptisms:**

- Staff members who have had a positive COVID test in the past 6 months or have been vaccinated, if available.
- Willing volunteers who have had a positive COVID test in the past 6 months or have been vaccinated, if available.
- Staff and volunteers supporting baptism in and out of the pool will wear a mask covering the nose and mouth as well as eye protection.

**Recommended Procedure For Individuals Being Baptized:**

- Wear a face covering until just before entering the pool.
  - Place your mask inside your towel for the pool attendant to hold.
- While in the pool, no face covering will be worn.
- Baptism may be performed as specified by the Spiritual Formation Team.
- Upon rising from the water, the person being baptized will be handed a towel for them to keep.
- When practical and as soon as possible, the person being baptized shall don their face covering.

**On-site: Proper Care for Pool Water**

The number of people being baptized per pool, per service may be limited.

Our baptism pools hold approximately 750 gallons of water and will also have the following solution added during the filling of the pool:

8 oz of household bleach with a minimum of 5% sodium hypochlorite

This dilution is consistent with CDC guidelines for the safe consumption of untreated water. It is not a sanitizing solution and will not completely eliminate contaminants or pathogens that may be present in the water. The solution will not be harmful for submersion.

These recommended guidelines may be modified or rescinded based on the current status from the CDC or local public health agencies.

### **Remote: Proper Care for Pool Water**

Backyard pools are typically treated with a chlorine solution as well as having a significantly higher volume of water. In addition, the number of individuals being baptized may be less than a campus hosted event. No additional additives or procedures need to be applied to backyard baptisms.

[CDC Public Pool Data](#)