

December 1, 2021

Dear Sundries,

**RE: UPDATE ON OMICRON VARIANT AND IMPLICATIONS FOR FOUNTAIN OF PEACE (FOP) MINISTRIES, UK.**

**Background**

On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the U.K Prime Minister, Boris Johnson made an announcement regarding the newly discovered Covid-19 Omicron variant. Due to the risks that the variant presents, the UK government has laid out some precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the virus. These include:

- PCR testing for everyone returning from travel overseas,
- Compulsory face coverings in shops and on all forms of public transport; with associated penalties for non-compliance (effective from 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021),
- Compulsory self-isolation for all Omicron cases regardless of vaccination status. The *NHS Test and Trace* team will contact and follow-up such cases.

**What is FOP Doing About It?**

At Fountain of Peace Ministries, your safety is of paramount importance to us. We seek to make our premises – sanctuary and other facilities – as safe as possible for all users. We use this opportunity to thank all our members and visitors who have done a great job so far in complying with FOP’s Covid operational procedures.

However, we cannot let down our guard now; so, to ensure that we can keep our commitment to “in-person” worship and other activities, we will be re-instituting some safety measures for your protection. These are **effective from December 1, 2021**:

*FOP COVID Safety Measures*

- a. **Face Masks** - All worshippers and visitors must wear face masks at all times while on the premises; unless if medically exempt, or when eating or drinking. This applies for all spaces in the building, including offices, sanctuary halls, and communal areas. Spare face masks are available at the church reception desk. Officiating ministers may wear face visors, to allow for more effective communication with their audience.
- b. **Temperature Reading**: Church ushers have been equipped with infrared digital thermometers to measure body temperature of all entrants. (Entry can be denied in cases where body temperature reading is 37.5oC and above)

- c. **Track and Trace Logbook:** Entry records will be maintained by FOP's Administrative department with names and contact details of entrants to the building. These records will be retained for a minimum of 21 days.
- d. **Sanitising and hand washing** – Hand sanitizers and surface wipes are available at “sanitizer stations” set up across the building. All members should continue to practice good hygiene by regularly washing their hands with soap and water. Hand sanitizer can be used in addition to this or when washing isn't an option.
- e. **Testing** – We encourage members to take regular lateral flow tests. Test kits can be ordered from the NHS or collected from a pharmacy/test centre. Details on how to order a test kit can be found on the NHS website.
- f. **International travel** - Follow all Government guidelines for international travel and monitor the UK's *Red List* destinations, as this list is regularly being updated.

### **What Does All These Mean for You?**

Currently, all FOP programs are expected to continue as planned. However, we are closely monitoring government directives and our program schedule will be adapted accordingly. We will promptly notify you if there are any changes to planned events. Hence, kindly ensure that the Administrative department has your latest contact details.

Also, please remember that some people are medically exempt from wearing face masks, so be polite and courteous in interactions with one another. If you are exempt from wearing a face covering, you can download an Exemption card from the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

If you have COVID or are exhibiting COVID symptoms, please immediately report this by sending an email to [covidreport@fountainofpeace.org](mailto:covidreport@fountainofpeace.org), and make sure to notify your Department Head. Guidance on self-isolation rules can be found on the NHS website. For further enquiries, kindly contact FOP's Covid-Wellbeing team via email at: [covidreport@fountainofpeace.org](mailto:covidreport@fountainofpeace.org) or [academy@fountainofpeace.org](mailto:academy@fountainofpeace.org).

Thank you once again for your continued cooperation; your adherence to the guidelines stated in this note will help in safeguarding our families, friends, and facilities as we navigate through this period. Remain Blessed.

On behalf of Fountain of Peace (FOP) Ministries,

*M. Amadi*

Dr. Mark Amadi

Senior Pastor, Fountain of Peace Ministries