

Guru Piari Sadh Sangat Ji,

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh,

As you know, we have celebrated the Bandhi Chhor Divas (Diwali) every year with great enthusiasm and tens of thousands of people have attended these functions and obtained Guru's blessings.

This year Diwali is on Saturday, November 14, 2020 and we are planning to celebrate it whole day from 4:00 AM in the morning to 10:00 PM in the evening.

But this year is also different. Due to Covid-19, there are strict county requirements to be met on the size of gathering at a time, social distancing and mask wearing. Please note the following,

1. Please do not come to the Gurdwara Sahib if you have cough or fever or have returned from abroad after October 31, 2020.

- 2. Candle lighting will start at 10:00 AM. Only battery-operated electronic candles can be used. Please bring your own. The battery-operated electronic candles will also be available at the cashier's desk.
- 3. Strictly no fire works or fire crackers of any type.
- 4. We will have Keertan/Kathaa program throughout the day. Number of people in the main hall is limited to only 100 at a time. Please go to this web site http://sjgbcddiwali.sanjosegurdwara.org/ and register for the time slot you will like to come to the Gurdwara Sahib. Each time slot is of 1.5 hours duration. if a time slot is full, please pick another suitable time slot. After you submit the form, you will get a registration confirmation form. Please print 2 copies of the form and bring along. You will hand one to the security sewadar at the gate and keep the other with you. Please note that you may have to wait a long time to enter the Gurdwara Sahib without prior registration if no more spaces are available in the time slot you come. If you do not have computer or email address or cannot print the form or copy it on your phone, please call Sanjiv Singh at Gurdwara Sahib at (669)350-3067 and he can help you register for the time slot.
- 5. Everyone must enter the Gurdwara Sahib from the gate on Gurdwara Avenue and exit from Chaboya Ave.
- 6. The contact information you provide on the form will be used for contact tracing if required or updating you on any additional information.
- 7. Everyone must wear a Mask and practice social distancing. You may be asked to leave the Gurdwara Sahib, if you refuse to wear a mask.
- 8. Once you park the car, please follow the instructions from the Sewadars. You should not spend more than 1.5 hours on the Gurdwara site to allow other Sangat members to get in, so budget your time for mathaa teko, listening Kirtan/Katha, pick up the langar, and do some electric candle lighting; please exit without a Sewadar requesting you to leave. We recommend you spend minimum time at Gurdwara Sahib so more Sangat can come and visit.
- 9. Main hall: If number of people in the main hall exceeds 100 at any time, sewadars will request you to wait outside. Please wait in a line observing 6 ft spacing from each other.
- a. inside the hall, please keep your mask on, wait in line for mathaa teko. Stand only at the marked spaces in the line. Similarly, for listening to the program, please sit at the marked spots.
- b. Pre-packed Parshad will be available on a table.
- c. If there are too many people waiting outside, or there are more than 100 people in the hall, the sewadars may request the Sangat in the hall to leave. Please follow their

instructions.

- 10. Langar: Prepacked langar will be available near the main langar hall and Khalsa School area. Please pickup your box and move. A limited number of tables will be available for Sangat to use and enjoy the langar in Gurdwara premises. If all tables are full, please take the Langar to your home.
- 11. Please note that all social distancing, mask wearing and fireworks/firecrackers/candles rules will be strictly enforced. Police and security personnel will be there to ensure compliance.

We agree that these restrictions sound bad, but we have to follow these to ensure safety from Covid-19. Many churches that have violated the county rules have been fined thousands of dollars. We do not want to be one of them.

But if we follow these rules, we can have a very enjoyable experience.

Wishing you a very Happy Bandhi Chhor Divas (Diwali) and we are looking forward to welcoming you to the Gurdwara Sahib in one of the time slots on the form.

In Service of Sangat, Sikh Gurdwara San Jose Management