

COVID: NEXT STEPS

We are very aware that the prospect of returning to life as near to normal by the next few weeks have very mixed reactions in our congregations. So we are trying to find a solution to cater for as many needs as possible and to allow as many as possible to feel comfortable to worship in our churches.

So:

1. Clergy and other staff will continue to test for Covid twice a week and wear masks when distributing communion
2. Hand sanitiser will still be used when entering church and receiving communion.
2. Communion will still be offered in one kind: no chalice
3. An area of each church will still be marked up for social distancing
4. The peace will not be shared by handshakes....so as we are at the moment
5. We will ask that people respect each other's needs for social distancing and mask wearing
6. We are suggesting that although we can sing again that we have a hymn/song sung by everyone at the beginning and end of worship only so that those who are anxious can join us after the first hymn and leave before the last one. These hymns and songs will be on the newsletter and screen so that books do not have to be used.
7. We will encourage people still to have refreshments after worship seated at tables

Dear colleague,

I am writing to commend my friend Clifton Andrade to you and your diocese. I know Clifton (Cliff) because he was a fellow gap-year student in South America with my daughter, Rebecca, in 2000/1. He is a fine artist by profession and lives in Glasgow with his family. Cliff has set himself the task of walking from John O' Groats to Lands End during the summer of this year. He is doing this in aid of two cancer charities. This commitment arises from the death of his mother at a relatively young age from a rare strain of cancer which Cliff himself has inherited and which has meant that he had to have major surgery.

This is explained by Cliff on his JustGiving page. (<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/cliffywiffywalk>) For me this a creative and challenging response to his bereavement and his own vulnerability. I am writing to you particularly because, in order to maximise the amount of money Cliff hopes to raise for these charities, he is planning to camp each night and asked me whether I thought he might be able to use a churchyard or the grounds of a parish hall to do that. I have matched up his route with the relevant Church of England dioceses and suggested he contact each Diocesan Office (perhaps their DCO) to seek any assistance that may be available. I have also pointed him to the A Church Near You part of the Church of England website. I need to say, however, that though I can vouch for Cliff's character and admire this 'pilgrimage' he is undertaking, I am not able to vouch for him in DBS terms. In fact, I don't know that would be possible as he is travelling through 11 Church of England dioceses, as well as some in Scotland and Wales. He has set himself quite a physical and logistical challenge. I acknowledge we live in difficult time and your diocesan staff are very busy, but I would be grateful for any assistance that you or your colleagues can offer,

All good wishes, : Chris The Right Reverend Christopher Lawson Bishop of Lincoln.

COULD ANYONE IN PENLEE CLUSTER HELP :? Sian Yates