

Coronavirus – advice for churches

from Revd Stuart Davison (SEBA Team Leader)



A word to the wise

Proverbs 27.12 *“A sensible man watches for problems ahead and prepares to meet them. The simpleton never looks and suffers the consequences.”* (Living Bible)

Coronavirus is a number one issue for many of our church members especially as a higher age demographic is to be found among them. You may find visitors coming to church in the coming weeks looking for guidance and assurance. Please include it in your intercessory prayers. Please do not exclude it from your preaching. We are not to be those who are afraid, but we are to be those who show love and compassion.

Phil 4.6,7; 1 Pt 5.7

We are in Lent, approaching the Passion of our Lord. Good Friday tells us that our heavenly Father has not turned His face away. His face is towards us. He walks this path with us.

Currently Government advice is that individuals should follow good hygiene practices including:

- carrying tissues and using them to catch coughs and sneezes, and binning the tissue;
- washing hands with soap and water (for 20 seconds) or using sanitiser gel to kill germs.
- avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- if you feel unwell, stay at home.
- cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces, including door handles.

More detail can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

There is no advice about the people gathering
Churches should consider following best-hygiene practices that include advising members with coughs and sneezes to refrain from handshaking and having hand-sanitisers available for all to use.

Best hygiene practice should continue to be observed in all pastoral contacts.



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