CORONOVIRUS PANDEMIC

PARISH OR SVP CONFERENCE ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

UPDATE 25 MARCH 2020

> **Although this document will be updated regularly, please check**
> **https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus for the latest guidance before considering**
> **any parish action.**

1. **The tools at our disposal: which resources do we have in the parish or conference that we could contribute?**
   These may be volunteers, existing partnerships with local charities, financial and material resources. Volunteers who are themselves needing to socially distance might be willing to spend an afternoon on the phone with others.

   Generous people may wish to respond to a need but may not know how to do so safely and in an effective way. Can you help by addressing any barriers to volunteering?

   [*There are a number of ways to volunteer in a managed way e.g. through GoodSam and RVS https://www.goodsamapp.org/nhs; the British Red Cross https://www.redcross.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/uk-emergency-response/coronavirus##]*

   Which technologies are at your disposal? Can you find other ways to meet face-to-face without being in person? [Have you ever tried using Zoom https://zoom.us/ or Microsoft Teams?]

2. **How might the pandemic further affect those in need?**
   At this time of great uncertainty, we are expecting to see a rise in material poverty, financial poverty, the poverty of isolation and indeed the poverty of hope. What are the greatest needs in your local community and what support might you be able to contribute? [You must not visit people unless working with a recognised charity which has infection control measures in place]'

3. **How can we care for isolated members of our own community but respecting Government guidance on staying at home?**
   Are there people you are already aware of?

   Does your parish priest, or other clergy or religious need help?

   How will you coordinate your responses? Which means of communication will you use? Is there merit to having a designated phone number?

4. **How can we make this support effective and lasting?**
   It looks as if the pandemic will last for some months. The needs will change, so how will you review your plans?

   Have you considered safeguarding and GDPR considerations to ensure that people are protected?

5. **More resources can be found at:**
   www.csan.org.uk/policy/coronavirus
   https://www.svp.org.uk/svps-response-covid-19