



AD CLERUM – 6th March 2020

Dear Colleagues

Coronavirus – guidance on the Common Cup

Following the issuing of new national guidance on the use of the Common Cup: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>, I am writing to inform you that I am advising local clergy that they may wish to undertake the following as a precautionary measure, according to local circumstance:-

- Suspend the administration of the chalice and offer Communion in one kind only i.e. the consecrated bread/wafer/host, with the priest alone taking the wine.
- Suspend handshaking or other direct physical contact during the sharing of the peace.
- Suspend direct physical contact as part of a blessing or ‘laying on of hands’.

Where the priest has not suspended the administration of the chalice, communicants may nevertheless decide to receive in one kind only at their own discretion.

Good hygiene practices remain vital to help limit the spread, so please do review these regularly within your own situation.

I know that we are all committed to the loving, faithful ministry and support of our communities. The church has an important role to play at this time in offering spiritual, pastoral and practical support. At the same time, this needs to be balanced with protecting the health and wellbeing of the individuals within our communities.

Attached to this email are a set of prayers authorised by the Church of England which I hope you will find useful.

Be assured of my very real thanks for all you are doing at this time.

With my thanks for our partnership in the Gospel

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Paul Exon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

If you would like further advice, please contact: The Venerable Andrew Beane, Archdeacon of Exeter: 01392 425577;

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If you would like communications advice, please contact:

Chloe Axford, Director of Communications: 01392 294905

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Advice for individuals

If you are concerned about your health, phone NHS111 - the number to call is 111.

Public Health England guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>