

Dear Church Family

We are all aware of the global concerns regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) and as a Christian community we want to respond with care and wisdom to the situation.

As a Leadership Team we want to make sure we are doing what we can to protect all in our church and community (especially those who are particularly vulnerable) and to play our part in trying to slow down the virus for everyone's benefit - loving our neighbour.

The latest Government advice if you have symptoms is as follows:

Stay at home for 7 days if you have either:

- a high temperature
- a new continuous cough

This will help to protect others in your community while you are infectious.

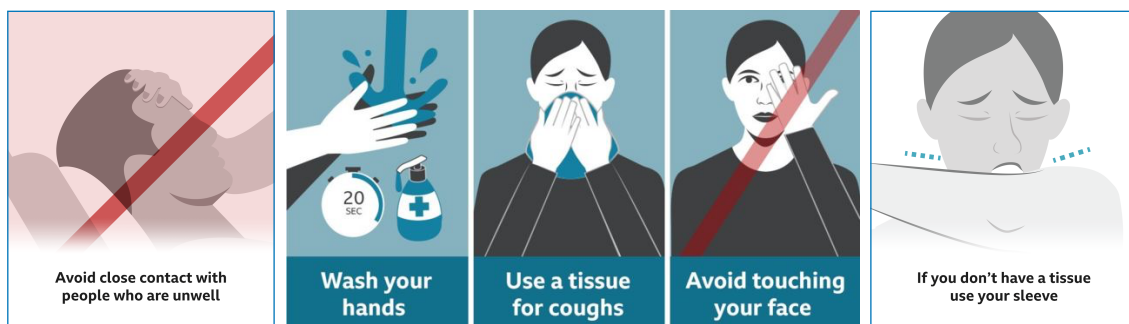
Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital and you do not need to contact NHS 111 to tell them you're staying at home. If your symptoms persist or worsen do dial 111.

People who are self-isolating with mild symptoms will not be tested.

Currently there aren't many incidences of infection in this area but the number of cases will rise as the days and weeks go by.

Here are five thoughts from the Leadership Team/Trustees:

1. As cases in this area increase, if you are elderly and/or have underlying health concerns which make you particularly vulnerable, we will understand if you feel the need to avoid our public gatherings until it feels safe to do so.
2. If you suspect that you might have caught the virus or display the symptoms above please follow government advice and self-isolate for the benefit of all.
3. If you have symptoms it would be a good idea to let us know so we can support you as best we can. Please also think about where you might have been in contact with other members of our church family and communicate that information to us.
4. We've asked our welcome team not to 'shake hands' - please do likewise.
5. Please follow all official advice regarding how to stay safe. There is a lot of advice being shared at the moment but here is a simple summary from the BBC



Please continue to pray, especially for medical and health care professionals and governments for ongoing wisdom in dealing with this pandemic.

The Leadership Team & Trustees

13.03.2020