

Advice to Hospital Chaplains

Canon Jane LLoyd who is the Diocesan contact for Hospital and Hospice Chaplaincy has issued the following guidance for our Diocesan hospital chaplains.

Speaking about the approach to the crisis as the team at Poole Hospital, Canon Jane said:

“There will be several layers of visiting depending on the nature of the patient -

“1 We will be following internal advice about routine visiting, ie obeying normal infection control procedures if there is no confirmed or suspected virus.

“2 If we have to visit known coronavirus patients then we will only visit in extremis if we have been 'fit tested' with the appropriate PPE and have been certified to do so. Otherwise we will not be allowed in.

“3 We have purchased a box of individual communion sets of wafer and 'wine' in sealed pots for use where necessary.

“4 Otherwise, yes - the practice of Holy Communion in one kind, no physical touching during the Peace or the laying on of hands, no patients brought to services will remain the same.

“5 We will be able to offer a listening service and a prayer ministry via the telephone from the Chapel Office.

“We will have to adapt as the situation continues to evolve.”