

# PROCEDURE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Version 2

June 2020



Priory Street, Corsham,  
Wilts, SN13 0AS

## Document Control

This Policy will be reviewed in response to each new government change of guidance.

It is the responsibility of *Operations Manager* to keep the contents updated and to keep the trustees informed of their responsibilities.

Date	Document Change	Version	Approved
27 June 2020	Initial draft	1	No
28 June 2020	Review comments from Facilitation Team (FT): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>place toilets out of use, override at discretion of host in which case thorough cleaning is needed</li> <li>fold-up fabric chairs may be used with clearly marked 72h quarantine for any used</li> <li>all leaflets to be removed except those intended to be taken away and limited number out at any one time.</li> </ul>	2	Approved by FT

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## Introduction

From 13 June the Government allows places of worship to be opened for *independent* prayer.

On Friday 19 June the Oversight Team (OT) agreed to open the church on Priory Street for this purpose. It further agreed that we should be prepared and pray for people not usually part of our congregations to come as well as those known to us. To this end some suitable materials should be available for people to take away.

## Information to share in advance of opening

This procedure will be made available on the church website and a summary for visitors put in the notice sheet.

## Preparing to open

The church should only be opened when two people are available to host the prayer session. These two need not be members of OT but should be mature Christians prepared to pray for and evangelise to visitors as well as ensuring the precautions against virus transmission are followed.

Before opening the Sanctuary:

1. Prop open the following doors:
  - a. External front doors
  - b. Internal front doors
  - c. Door from front of church to Hall
  - d. Doors between Hall and middle room
  - e. External door opening onto the Hut lawn
2. Ensure the exit corridor through the Hall and middle room is clearly signposted.
3. Ensure 'Out of use' notice on all toilet doors. In an emergency the host may override this, and in that case thorough cleaning must take place after *each* use.
4. Ensure all Bibles or other books are placed out of use.
5. Ensure folding chairs are available singly or in pairs (for use only by a single household) with a 2 metre exclusion zone marked out on the carpet around each.
6. Ensure no one else is using the Sanctuary and anyone using the rest of the building is aware of the opening and able to maintain safe distance.
7. Check that a small number of leaflets to be taken away by visitors is available and separated so that picking one up is possible without touching the others. Offer these to visitors but remind them to take any they touch away with them.
8. Check disinfectant and cloths are available for cleaning afterwards
9. Wash own hands with soap and hot water.
10. Pray for those people to be moved to come and meet with God.

## Welcoming people

Standing outside the main door welcome visitors with hand sanitizer and explanation of the route into and out of the Sanctuary. The host should squirt sanitizer directly onto hands of each visitor so that they do not need to touch the bottle.

Observe where visitors go and that they respect the necessary distance from one another. Remind gently if necessary. One host to remain at the front door at all times.

Should more people arrive than there are chairs it will be necessary to explain that they are not able to enter until someone leaves and in the meantime to maintain appropriate distance from host and each other (unless part of the same household).

## After closing

At the end of each session:

1. First shut the doors, starting with the front door.
2. Place any chairs that have been used in the prayer room with a notice of when they may next be used (72h later).
3. Replace new chairs for the next session.
4. Notify Tim if more leaflets are needed.
5. Wipe all door handles and push plates with disinfectant.
6. Once home, machine wash any cloths used for cleaning.