

To all licensed clergy, LLMs and PtOs  
All Souls' Day, 2020

Dear all

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Saturday evening, I am forwarding [a letter from the Archbishops and the Bishop of London](#). As always, the most up to date information about the implications for us is on the C of E website.

As things stand, there are significant inconsistencies. Discussions with government are taking place today and there is an informal meeting of the House of Bishops tomorrow. We have been promised that the government's guidance will be clear before Parliament debates the lockdown on Wednesday.

The immediate challenge for us will be how to keep Remembrance Sunday, a whole community event, and the weeks into Advent when possibly the only way of doing so will be for those leading worship to do so online. This does underline that worship is not a leisure activity or just for a special interest group but an essential service with and for the whole community. Worship is directly connected to the health and wellbeing of individuals, communities and the nation. It is deeply connected with the capacity of churches to contribute to the common good.

Whatever happens, we will keep the law and continue to be creative and adaptive in the way Christians have been in every time and every place across two millennia.

God bless you and all who are in your care.

*+Nicholas Sarum*