**CORONOVIRUS PANDEMIC**

**PARISH OR SVP CONFERENCE ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE**

1. **The tools at our disposal: which resources do we have in the parish or conference that we could contribute?**

These may be volunteers, visiting groups, existing partnerships with local charities, financial and material resources. Volunteers who are themselves needing to socially distance might be willing to spend an afternoon on the phone with others. Others may be willing to run deliveries or to coordinate from a distance.

Generous people may wish to respond to a need but may not know how to do so safely and in an effective way. Can you help by addressing any barriers to volunteering?

Which technologies are at your disposal? Can you find other ways to meet face-to-face without being in person?

1. **How might the pandemic further affect those in need?**

At this time of great uncertainty, we are expecting to see a rise in material poverty, financial poverty, the poverty of isolation and indeed the poverty of hope. What are the greatest needs in your local community and what support might you be able to contribute?

1. **How can we find those in most need?**

Are there existing outreach activities such as soup runs or food banks that could help? Are there local charities you could support? Do you know people who are being asked to socially isolate who may need support?

1. **How can we care for isolated members of our own community?**

Are there people you are already aware of?

Does your parish priest, or other clergy or religious need help?

How will you coordinate your responses? Which means of communication will you use? Is there merit to having a designated phone number?

1. **How can we make this support effective and lasting?**

It looks as if the pandemic will last for some months. The needs will change, so how will you review your plans?

What needs to be put in place to care for your volunteers to ensure that they do not put themselves at risk in terms of health and burn out?

1. **More resources can be found at:**

[www.csan.org.uk/policy/coronavirus](http://www.csan.org.uk/policy/coronavirus)

<https://www.svp.org.uk/svps-response-covid-19>

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/>