

Buildings in England can open for private prayer from Monday 15th June 2020. This does not include prayer meetings or small worship gatherings.



Some helpful guidelines if you decide to open your church for private prayer

- The virus can last for 48 hours on some surfaces ensure regular cleaning of the building, where people will sit and touch
- Have hand washing facilities or hand gel available as people arrive and leave
- Monitor numbers and ensure people adhere to social distancing -it might be you need to plan a one-way system
- Have as many doors and windows open as possible
- Record who has used the building to enable track and tracing should a worshipper later contract COVID-19.
- Remove Bibles or other books from the pews/chairs

It is strongly recommended that before the building is opened, a fuller risk assessment is undertaken by the Deacons. The Methodist Church has produced a very helpful [Covid-19 risk assessment template](#) for this, almost of all of which is applicable to Congregational church worship spaces also.