



Virtual Church Resource Menu

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the following resources and recommendations have been made available to parishes and organizations in the Diocese of New Westminster to assist with the logistics around the suspension of in-person worship and other gatherings.

❖ Online Gathering

- **Zoom** is an online video conferencing platform that allows groups and organizations to gather and meet in a virtual setting. The Diocese of New Westminster has setup an agreement with Zoom to provide licenses to our parishes. What this offers parishes is a subscription to the Zoom platform based on a month-by-month basis at no charge to parishes.
 - Some of the features and requirements of using Zoom include:
 - ◆ Meetings and Worship up to 100 participants
 - ◆ Recorded services and meetings that can be uploaded to a parish's Facebook or YouTube account
 - ◆ Setup is easy. All you need are the Zoom software and hardware such as a microphone, webcam and pc/laptop and a strong internet bandwidth of at least 300 bps. You can also use an iPad/tablet or smart phone with wireless headphones.
 - ◆ Instructions, Tutorials and training are all provided by zoom.us. And there are a host of content on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com).

- Facebook-live is a free platform for streaming services. For instructions on how to use this click on this link. [Please follow this link for easy to follow instructions](#)
- For parishes that are interested in a platform that allows you to host meetings, worship or bible study online then Zoom might be a solution for you. To help you setup your account please contact the Director for Mission and Ministry Development, Tellison Glover at tglover@vancouver.anglican.ca or 604-684-6306 ext. 219.

❖ Online giving

God's mission with the Church does not stop with COVID-19 and so the continued financial contributions of faithful members is vital. While many parishioners prefer to give at in-person worship gatherings, the Diocese has provided an alternative to parishioners not attending worship.

- **Pre-Authorized Donations (PAD).** The time has come for us to encourage and remind our members to consider giving through a monthly pre-authorized donation (PAD) option (void cheques or credit cards). PAD provides continual support for your parish and reduces paperwork and bookkeeping for parish administrators and treasurers. Attached is the PAD Application Form that you could customize for your parish. To enrol or for further assistance, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Rachel Taylor at rtaylor@vancouver.anglican.ca or [604-684-6306 ext 220](tel:604-684-6306). Let's encourage more parishioners to sign up through the Diocese's monthly PAD system. This may be the best choice for you!
- **Interac Transfer.** Explore with your financial institution to see if your bank account is eligible to receive interac e-transfer as another way to receive safe and secure donations. If it does, please consider enrolling your parish email account or phone number to an auto-deposit interac e-transfer. Then, provide your parish email or phone number to your parishioners as a donation option. This allows funds to be sent anytime and anywhere through the interac transfer feature in their online banking systems. Any funds received through the parish email or phone number will be deposited automatically to your parish bank account.

- **Tithe.ly** is another tool that allows parishioners to make their financial pledges through a donation button that will be embedded in your parish website. Members will be able to give using their smart phones or pc/laptop. To sign up, please visit <https://get.tithe.ly/>. Some features of this system include:
 - A downloadable app for smart phones (individuals will need to do a one-time signup, locate their church and donate using their credit or debit card)
 - Processing fees are 2.9% plus \$0.30 per donation
 - Donations will be credited directly to your parish bank account

❖ **Tutorial and Demo:** To assist you with implementing this in your parish, resources will be sent out which will cover the following:

- A setup guide for Zoom and Tithe.ly
- Best Practices for creating community through Zoom
- Hardware and software needed
- A demonstration on using zoom and streaming platform
- A demonstration on using tithe.ly with recommendations to encourage its use
- A film tutorial explaining the process of live streaming using your church as a venue
- Liturgical resources and guidelines for online worship

❖ **Other Resources**

- **Social Media, Whatsapp, Facebook**
 - ◆ Can be used as well for live-streaming worship, bible study, meetings and forming groups to check-in
- **Email**
 - ◆ To send out notifications, updates
 - ◆ To share Sermon and Bible Study notes
 - ◆ To connect with members