Faith and COVID-19: Resource Repository

This is intended as a living document with up-to-date information. Information posted in the repository is not an endorsement by the organizers and does not necessarily reflect their ideas and opinions. The document aims to reflect diverse perspectives. The links highlighted in yellow indicate that they are the newest sources added to the repository that day. By clicking on the relevant category in the table of contents, you will be taken directly to the page. If you have website links (no pdfs or word documents, please) that are relevant to the categories laid out in the table of contents below, please email them to covid19.faithresponse@gmail.com for consideration for inclusion.

Table of Contents - click on a heading to jump to that section of the document

Introduction

General resources (not faith specific)

Global

Other platforms gathering religion related information
  Guidance Documents
  News reports on changes to gatherings of religious communities

Existing teachings/practices that can guide response
  Faith and WASH
  Faith and Ebola
  Faith and Epidemics/Pandemics (including historical responses)
  Faith and Science
  Faith and Gender
  Faith and Finances

Human Rights and Freedom of Religion or Belief Debates

Adaptations of practices for this response
  Guides on adapting practices for the response
  Theological guidance on changes, guidance to communities
  Pertinent social media approaches
  Upcoming/ongoing virtual series and events
  News reports on changes to specific practices, analyses of problem areas

Use of religious infrastructure for response
Copies of messages circulated from religious institutions to their communities

Country level
General resources on how the coronavirus is impacting religious life
Gatherings of religious communities
    Copies of notices/statements about changed/adapted gatherings of religious communities
    News reports on changes to gatherings of religious communities (specific countries listed in alphabetical order)
Specific practices (innovations of special interest)
    News reports on changes to specific practices, analyses of problem areas
    Misinformation and dissent among religious groups
Messaging and Advocacy
    Specific religiously framed advocacy messages to national, state, city leaders
    Copies of messages circulated from religious institutions to their communities
    Advocacy efforts from religious institutions and leaders to the wider community
    News reports on messages and advocacy

Local area/community responses
    Gatherings of religious communities
    Educational Institutions with religious links
    Support to vulnerable communities
        Youth and children
        Refugee Communities
    Religious communication
    Specific practices
        News reports on changes to specific practices, analyses of problem areas

Long term reflections
Emerging issues of importance (not faith-related)
Interfaith and ecumenical statements
Faith-inspired organisations’ responses

Daily Highlight
Introduction

This online platform will be linked to daily updating/information emails. We aim to collect and communicate information related to religious actors responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, organizing information so that it can be quickly found and used by development policymakers and practitioners and religious actors who seek to work together in the COVID-19 response. The initiative follows from a March 11, 2020 meeting at the Berkley Center at Georgetown University: "Consultation on COVID-19: Exploring Faith Dimensions" (find event summary here).

The focus will be: (a) to link actors and observers focused on religious response and a broader policy community; and (b) to center attention on the most vulnerable communities (refugee communities for example). The daily email note (sign up here), will come from the Berkley Center account and highlight new developments linked to religious responses and questions.

The organizers of the March 11 meeting, Katherine Marshall (Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University), Olivia Wilkinson (Joint Learning Initiative), and Dave Robinson (independent consultant) will initially take on this mission; we welcome support from others. Please note that we will post selectively, taking care not to duplicate other efforts, to curate information from trusted sources, and to avoid overloading information channels.

The platform will organize information in several categories, starting with recommendations on reliable sources of information about the pandemic itself. It focuses on (i) responses to directives to limit physical gatherings and their implications for religious communities; (ii) specific practices and adaptations of practices, messaging and advocacy, and countering negative religious voices; (iii) specific outreach to vulnerable people and communities; (iv) major advocacy efforts linked to religious actors; and (v) reflections on long term impacts and lessons.
The team plans to curate the online platform. Anyone can send information to us (at covid19.faithresponse@gmail.com) and we will post relevant material. We will send one update per day highlighting a topical issue related to religions and COVID-19.

General resources (not faith specific)

This platform is not a source of general public health information on COVID-19. It does not provide up-to-date information on the latest statistics related to COVID-19. Instead, we invite you to consult these links that represent trusted sources of general information on COVID-19.

- Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at John Hopkins University [https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6](https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6)
- Coronavirus Support for Older People [https://www.corona-older.com/home](https://www.corona-older.com/home)
- Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center [https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/](https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/)
- ALNAP COVID-19 Response Portal [https://covid19.alnap.org/?mc_cid=cd27cc3f50&mc_eid=e88db96fee](https://covid19.alnap.org/?mc_cid=cd27cc3f50&mc_eid=e88db96fee)
- Devex COVID-19 page [https://www.devex.com/focus/covid-19](https://www.devex.com/focus/covid-19)
- The New Humanitarian Coronavirus Aid [https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2020/03/19/coronavirus-humanitarian-aid-response?fbclid=IwAR0gu6TMIIMXwuf2pb-cWewRMsoLJRmQUEKFX4kXVMQf_jwTIBu_7BGF0](https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2020/03/19/coronavirus-humanitarian-aid-response?fbclid=IwAR0gu6TMIIMXwuf2pb-cWewRMsoLJRmQUEKFX4kXVMQf_jwTIBu_7BGF0)
● IFRC, UNICEF, WHO, COVID-19 Key Tips and Discussion Points For community
workers, volunteers and community networks,
munity-guidance-for-social-mobilizers-volunteers-2302_EN.pdf

● IFRC, OCHA, WHO, COVID-19: How to include marginalized and vulnerable people in
risk communication and community engagement, 15 Mar 2020,
https://reliefweb.int/report/world/covid-19-how-include-marginalized-and-vulnerable-peop
le-risk-communication-and
Global

Other platforms gathering religion related information

- World Health Organization, Faith Based Organizations and Faith Leaders
  https://www.who.int/teams/risk-communication/faith-based-organizations-and-faith-leaders
- CDC, Resources for Community- and Faith-Based Leaders,
- Religion News Services, CoronaVirus Complete Coverage on Religion News Services,
  https://religionnews.com/category/coronavirus/
  https://www.wvi.org/publications/faithresponsetocovid19
- Catholic Relief Services, Coronavirus Facts and How To Help,
- Emory Interfaith Health platform – COVID-19 Resources for Faith Communities
  http://ihpemory.org/covid-19-resources-for-faith-communities/
- United Church of Christ, Coronavirus and the Church, https://www.ucc.org/coronavirus
  https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vjXVFE2kUQhyqb3ax6cPi5gWrlz0Zux5TBVdNZVwSPI/edit#
- George Mason University, Saving lives through getting religions on board,
  https://scar.gmu.edu/news/584621?fbclid=IwAR1cJaFeLkTV5Q8rl6dB7mpri7viTvswT-ArlQD4FcXTwMge3_ZPw140Ts
- Emory University: The Canopy Forum on the Interactions of Law and Religion, Reflecting on Covid-19,
  https://canopyforum.org/covid-19/
- International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), IOCC’s COVID-19 Response,

Guidance Documents

- The Muslim Council of Britain, Corona virus (Covid19) Guidance for Mosques/Madrasas and Umrah Pilgrims, 12 March 2020,
- CDC’s Resources for Community- and Faith-Based Leaders
• CDC’s Checklist for Community and Faith Leaders
• Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, Covid19 Toolkit for Parishes,
  https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FLxwvN6lCTxWWYOWriv9sBLgf7v0vstsSzV7_o_1-B8/edit#
• CDC, Interim Guidance for Administrators and Leaders of Community- and Faith-Based
  Organizations to Plan, Prepare, and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
• Episcopal Relief and Development, Faith-Based Response to Epidemics,
• Wheaton Humanitarian Disaster Institute’s Coronavirus Resources for the Church,
  including Preparing Your Church for Coronavirus (COVID-19): A Step-by-Step,
  Research-Informed and Faith-Based Planning Manual (English and Spanish Version)
  https://www.wheaton.edu/academics/academic-centers/humanitarian-disaster-institute/covid-19/
• A Peace Plan Approach to Coronavirus
  https://thepeaceplan.com/approachtocoronavirus/
• Christianity Today, The Concise Coronavirus Guide for Churches
  &cds_mag_code=TDY&id=1583504954669&lsid=3066082914604438&vid=1&cds_page_id=249078&cds_from_id=coronavirus-landing-page&utm_source=web&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=external-url
• Fiqh Council of North America, Guidelines for Coronavirus Epedemic
  http://fiqhouncil.org/fiqh-council-guidelines-for-coronavirus-epedemic/
• Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Preparedness for Pandemics
  https://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/disease-guidance-for-congregations/
• The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers, Six Ways Religious and
  Traditional Actors Can Take Action,
  https://www.peacemakersnetwork.org/six-ways-for-religious-and-traditional-actors-to-take-action-to-prevent-spread-of-covid-19-in-their-communities/?fbclid=IwAR3gDdBBiGdqlUY0EQ2PETbrUDaIAbCJgmbQWM6DR8X7CkJfKSQW1nYK5g
• Lutheran World Federation, Luthern World Federation Response to Coronavirus
  https://www.lutheranworld.org/content/lwfs-response-coronavirus-disease-covid-19-outbreak
• The Christian Century, Four Guidelines for improvising pastoral leadership through a
  pandemic, 20 March 2020,
  https://www.christiancentury.org/article/online-feature/four-guidelines-improvising-pastoral-leadership-through-pandemic?fbclid=IwAR1wsflD1LfJqUKNsq7NpaMGPlnEguhSmmLc0YUdl4rXYex3RUeXGNEbaQ
• IMA World Health, Preparing Africa for the coronavirus, https://imaworldhealth.org/covid19
News reports on changes to gatherings of religious communities

- Huffpost, *Photos Show How People Of Faith Are Adapting To The Coronavirus Pandemic*, 23 March 2020, https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/photos-faith-coronavirus-pandemic_n_5e78f213c5b62f90bc4f1e5a?ri18n=true

Existing teachings/practices that can guide response

Faith and WASH

● Religion News Service/Rose Alan, What Islamic hygienic practices can teach when coronavirus is spreading, 16 March 2020,
https://religionnews.com/2020/03/16/what-islamic-hygienic-practices-can-teach-when-coronavirus-is-spreading/

- Wash Advocates http://www.washadvocates.org/

**Faith and Ebola**


Faith and Epidemics/Pandemics (including historical responses)


Faith and Science


**Faith and Gender**

- Essence/ Cadnice Benbow, While More Black Churches Come Online Due to Coronavirus, Black Women Faith Leaders Have Always Been Here, 24 March 2020, https://www.essence.com/feature/more-black-churches-online-coronavirus-black-women-faith-leaders-always-been-here/
- Global Sisters Report/Dan Stockman, Sisters in health care, advocacy and immigration respond to expanding needs to coronavirus, 26 March 2020,


Faith and Finances


Human Rights and Freedom of Religion or Belief Debates


● The Hindu, *Coronavirus lockdown | Supreme Court hearings on scope of religious freedom lie in limbo*, 29 March 2020,

● The New Yorker, *An Imam Leads His Congregation Through the Pandemic*, 8 April 2020,
https://www.newyorker.com/news/on-religion/an-imam-leads-his-congregation-through-the-coronavirus-pandemic?utm_source=nl&utm_brand=tny&utm_mailing=TNY_Daily_040820&utm_campaign=aud-dev&utm_medium=email&bxid=5be9d58b3f92a40469e3e2d7&cndid=55059568&hasha=515b667b27c1bafeedb56c40562ad268&hashb=d018b59377bdd2084d03e8e269acd02bebef2dac&hashc=2ff54c7f72afa333b8d8eaa79fba4ad0dd49380d6cf9cbcf74dc8b44fbba01c9&esrc=bounceX&utm_term=TNY_Daily

● The Christian Post/ Stephen Enada, *Will COVID-19 increase support for religious freedom?*, 12 April 2020,
https://www.christianpost.com/voices/will-covid-19-increase-support-for-religious-freedom.html

● CNN/ Ronald Brownstein, *Pandemic raises the stakes in US’ partisan religious divide*, 14 April 2020,

### Adaptations of practices for this response

● IDS/Mariz Tadros, *Countering the coronavirus: can people remain safe and still practice their faith?*, 16 March 2020,

● The Conversation/ Samuel L. Boyd, *Religious Communities are offering baptism by zoom - such innovation has deep historical roots*, 24 March 2020,
https://theconversation.com/religious-communities-are-offering-baptism-by-zoom-such-innovation-has-deep-historical-roots-134183
● Krout, Rev. J. D (1906) *The Individual communion cup*, United Brethren Review, 17(2) http://www.materialreligion.org/documents/may98doc.html

Guides on adapting practices for the response

● A Different Pesach: Ideas for Solo and Small Sedarim, https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jtPnU8a5zz0RRH8EuMOCCyIBtg8lIGJApX6F5Di2wGs/preview
● COVID-19 and the Challenge of Spending Pesach Alone, https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZYbFPC3bDTqqds8RZC1CJ6U72SfdeKmoC3ZkqKGekxl/edit

Theological guidance on changes, guidance to communities

● Tearfund, Coronavirus: the Church has left the building, 19 March, 2020
   https://www.tearfund.org/en/2020/03/coronavirus_the_church_has_left_the_building/
● Vatican News, COVID-19: Decree regarding the celebration of the Easter Triduum, 25 March 2020,
● Time Magazine, Christianity Offers No Answers to Coronavirus, 29 March 2020,
   https://time.com/5808495/coronavirus-christianity/?fbclid=IwAR1uReXhj-jbaJ_1QCtZb1P BzNk3Boo0dWRwQB8qD5WrtcJv74M1N4xoJdQ
● Time magazine, Dalai Lama: We Need Compassion, 14 April 2020,
   https://time.com/5820613/dalai-lama-coronavirus-compassion/?fbclid=IwAR2H_xlsC68g Zy_HBsti0QEW6BlzKGFMNltOKqi7qelin9aYjDxKfhYGdO8

Pertinent social media approaches
● Facebook group: Clergy & Spiritual Communal Responses to Covid-19
   https://www.facebook.com/groups/569777463893942/?multi_permalinks=574632930075 062%2C574580166747005&notif_id=1584549738564991&notif_t=group_activity
● WhatsApp Group - COVID-19 Muslim Updates 3, The Muslim Council of Britain
   https://chat.whatsapp.com/GnqbFhLEHoeJHO1v7hVpbm
● #covid19church Twitter hashtag

Upcoming/ongoing virtual series and events
● Preparing your church for coronavirus weekly webinar series: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/webinar-preparing-your-church-for-coronavirus-registration -98719792557
● Islamic Livestreams & On-Line Resources During COVID 2020 (updated regularly), https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1q30pEh878qEsCDBb1rU4Qsmjkgc0MJH47lo 2FZWI890/edit#gid=0
● NPR’s 1A podcast, Coronavirus Across America: Worship in a time of Pestilence, 29 March 2020,

- Georgetown University, Catholic Social Thought and the Coronavirus Crisis (online dialogue),

- World Council of Churches, Coping with the coronavirus (panel video), 31 March 2020,

- Trycicle, *Practicing in a Pandemic; Together Alone: Online Sanghas in the Age of Social Distancing; Dharma Talks for the Coronavirus Outbreak*  
  https://tricycle.org/trikedaily/coronavirus-meditations/  
  https://tricycle.org/trikedaily/online-sanghas/  
  https://tricycle.org/trikedaily/coronavirus-dharma-talks/

- Institute for Jewish Spirituality, *Resources for Challenging Times*,  
  https://www.jewishspirituality.org/get-started/resources-for-challenging-times/?fbclid=IwAR2Ni9PHwufjWSEZqfrRjFXuQYjVp2ujGffNdbGCGADmVgGhJeUdAJobIU


- The Council on Foreign Relations, Religious Communities’ Role in Countering Epidemics (video and transcript available), 3 April 2020,  
  https://www.cfr.org/conference-calls/religious-communities-role-countering-epidemics

- American Bar Association, Religious Freedom Implications of the Covid-19 Pandemic Webinar April 13th at 3:30 PM EST,  
  https://www.americanbar.org/groups/crsj/events_cle/program-archive/covid-religious-freedom/

- **New York Disaster Interfaith Services, Ongoing Covid-19 Webinars**,  
  https://www.eventbrite.com/o/new-york-disaster-interfaith-services-nydis-16484977695

- **Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers, #SociallyDistantTownHall with Dr. Mohammed A-Mamari (April 20th at 9:30 am EST)**,  
  https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sociallydistanttownhall-with-dr-mohammed-al-mamari-tickets-102430107208/?fbclid=IwAR34mSBV5D0mVcJRGQ_dePz3IDtGAnIRWAw9KUZAUu-KaNZYL_EN231ETk

News reports on changes to specific practices, analyses of problem areas

- Patheos, *Rome modifies Holy Week Liturgies for Covid19 Pandemic*, 21 March 2020,  
  https://www.patheos.com/blogs/labmind/2020/03/rome-modifies-holy-week-liturgies-for-c


● The Washington Post, Because coronavirus has led to enough sacrifices, Catholic bishops say it’s okay to eat meat on Fridays during Lent, 27 March 2020, https://www.washingtonpost.com/


● Bklyner, Muslims And Jews Struggle To Observe Burial Traditions As Loved Ones Die In The Pandemic, 2 April 2020, https://bklyner.com/muslims-jews-funeral-coronavirus/?fbclid=IwAR2QAIYi4PFFDs4aB-zoAPZYMnWuyxKcoAYFyepZHBqH1c5vw1Ex-148RfU

● The Times/ Andrew Norfolk, Coronavirus: Religious festivities may have proved deadly to community, 8 April 2020, https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/coronavirus-religious-festivities-may-have-proved-deadly-to-community-rtvsgkffh


Use of religious infrastructure for response


Copies of messages circulated from religious institutions to their communities

- The National Church (Denmark) https://kobenhavnsstift.dk/aktuelt/nyheder/opdateret-vejledning-fra-biskopperne
Country level

General resources on how the coronavirus is impacting religious life

- National Catholic Reporter, *Triage and ventilator rationing not the only ethical issues in pandemic*, bioethicists say, 6 April 2020,
Gatherings of religious communities

Copies of notices/statements about changed/adapted gatherings of religious communities

- The British Board of Scholars and Imams, https://www.facebook.com/bbsionline/photos/a.1847187308924893/2407308936246058/
- Eastern Orthodox Church To Halt Services to End of March, 19 March, 2020 https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/03/19/818392907/eastern-orthodox-church-to-halt-services-until-end-of-march
News reports on changes to gatherings of religious communities (specific countries listed in alphabetical order)

Bangladesh
- Dhaka Tribune, *What religious leaders can do*, 13 April 2020, https://www.dhakatribune.com/opinion/op-ed/2020/04/13/what-religious-leaders-can-do?fbclid=IwAR1i2HyEsTZiKDnJV8g0o6weeM-Zf26yu1XTy5orvt4Zuwt58wSpj2UsVUU

Egypt

France

Ghana
- L’express, *Catholiques, Juifs, musulmans… les religions s’organisent face au confinement*, 18 March 2020,
Hong Kong

- The Straits Times, *Hong Kong Buddhist temple becomes host to cluster of coronavirus infections*, 27 February 2020,

India

- Reuters, *Hindu Group Offers Cow Urine In a Bid to Ward Off Virus*, 14 March 2020,
- NBC/Moska Najib, *At least 40,000 quarantines in India after single priest spread coronavirus*, 29 March 2020,
- The Times of India, *COVID-19: Don’t hold mass religious processions to win war against novel coronavirus, says AIIMS doctor on Nizamuddin gathering*, 31 March 2020,
- The Indian Express, 'Wrong to blame religious minorities over origin of Covid19: US to govts', 3 April 2020,
- India Times, *Sikhs Winning Hears Once Again Serving 4,000 Meals a Day*, 6 April 2020,
- The NYT, *In India, coronavirus fans religious hatred*, 12 April 2020,
Israel


Kenya


Malaysia


MENA


Montenegro


Nigeria
- Council on Foreign Relations, Principal Nigerian Religious Leaders Largely in Lockstep With Government on Lockdowns, 14 April 2020,
Pakistan

- Geo News, *Council of Islamic Ideology asks masses to pray at home to prevent coronavirus outbreak*, 02 April 2020,

Senegal

- Asfiyahi, *Serigne Babacar Sy Mansour ordonne la suspension des prières du Vendredi et Hadratoul Djumah jusqu’à nouvel ordre, comme mesures préventives contre la propagation du Coronavirus*, 18 March 2020,

Singapore

- The newspaper, *Coronavirus: worship at other churches, mosques to continue*, 14 February 2020,
- CNA/ Rachel Phua, *COVID-19: Catholic Church Suspends mass; other religious groups turn to livestreaming, among other measures*, 14 February, 2020

South East Asia

- Asia News, *Church issues directives to avoid coronavirus contagion*, 01 March 2020,
- Voa News, *Pakistani Clerics Insists on Keeping Mosques Open*, 25 March 2020,
  https://www.voanews.com/science-health/coronavirus-outbreak/pakistani-clerics-insist-keeping-mosques-open?fbclid=IwAR1s8yWNzWbtSXVBqQD0qSjttSQajFHztHc9OEk1Mprldd2WqEYFk


**South Korea**


**United Kingdom**


**United States**


● The Salt Lake Tribune/ Peggy Fletcher Stack, *Latter-day Saints suspend all worship services worldwide due to coronavirus; other Utah churches cancel services, too*, 12 March 2020, https://www.sltrib.com/religion/2020/03/12/lds-church-suspends-all/
Venezuela

- Aletia/Johan Pacheco-ACN, *The coronavirus hits an already suffering Venezuela*, 31 March 2020,
  
  https://aleteia.org/2020/03/31/the-coronavirus-hits-an-already-suffering-venezuela/

Zimbabwe

- The Zimbabwe Mail, *Church group urges alcohol-based hand sanitisers amid coronavirus threat*, 18 March 2020
  
Specific practices (innovations of special interest)

News reports on changes to specific practices, analyses of problem areas

Africa

- Reuters, *African churches swap holy water for hand sanitizer, crowds for videos*, 22 March 2020,
  [https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-churches-idUKKBN2190OR](https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-churches-idUKKBN2190OR)

Brazil

- 20 minutes Monde, *Une église évangélique promet d’« immuniser » contre le coronavirus*,
- Telesur TV, *Bolsonaro to Heal Brazil from Covid-19 with Religious Rituals*, 3 April 2020,
- National Catholic Reporter/ Eduardo Campos Lima, *Coronavirus cancels elaborate Brazilian religious processions*, 1 April 2020,

Cameroon


China

- The New York Times/Choe Sang-Hun, *Shadowy Church Is at Center of Coronavirus Outbreak in South Korea*, 21 February 2020,

Cuba

- The New York Times/Reuters, *With Bird Sacrifices and Chants, Cuba’s Santeria Seek Protection From Coronavirus*, 31 March 2020,
Ethiopia

- Ethiopian Monitor, COVID-19: Ethiopian Orthodox Church Tells its Worshipers to Pray at home, 2 April 2020,

France

- Le Monde/Victoria Vilo, Le coronavirus bouscule (aussi) la liturgie, 17 March 2020,

Georgia

- Eurasianet/Giorgi Lomsadze, Coronavirus testing Georgia’s faith in its church, 23 March 2020,
- Radio Free Europe, COVID-19: Georgians May Attend Easter Vigils; Tajik Holiday Celebrations Canceled, 16 April 2020,

Ghana

- BBC, Coronavirus: Why Ghana has gone into mourning after mass funeral ban, 26 March 2020,
  https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-52010868

India

- Reuters/Anuradha Nagaraji, From Flowers to Incense, India’s temple economy hit by coronavirus, 25 March 2020,
- The Hindu, Coronavirus lockdown | Supreme Court hearings on scope of religious freedom lie in limbo, 29 March 2020,
- The Statesman/Kalyani Shankar, Gurus, charms and coronavirus, 31 March 2020,
- Indian Express, Hospital in Ahmedabad splits COVID wards on faith, says govt decision, 15 April 2020,

Iran

- Melissa Etehad, Coronavirus deaths in Iran lead to mass burial pits, changing the way families mourn, 18 March 2020,
- Qantara, Faith and Coronavirus, 13 March 2020,
https://en.qantara.de/content/covid-19-epidemic-in-iran-faith-and-the-coronavirus?fbclid=IwAR3d3GiBqM-I495D0auza5UnVAq-GNQuHan4uHQmjIrZy0rP-X9chKh3Ab0

- Radio Farda, *Coronavirus Epidemic Hits Iran’s Small Zoroastrian Community Very Hard*, 18 March 2020,

Israel


Italy

- The Guardian/ Lorenzo Tondo, *Italy’s Priests told to take steps at mass to counter coronavirus*, 27 February 2020,
- Religious News Services/Claire Gaingrave, *As pandemic spreads, Italy’s South turns to Pope Francis, Saints*, 06 April 2020,
- The NYT, *As They Console Coronavirus’s Victims, Italy’s Priests Are Dying, Too*, 11 April 2020,

Kenya

- Elephant, Religion in the age of Coronavirus: Kenya, 23 March 2020,
  https://www.theelephant.info/features/2020/03/23/religion-in-the-age-of-coronavirus/?fbclid=IwAR1pFhcKJhnbM_oLWmMAGZoUlxxPqElFuQFrHQcilQmXOUV4OZavQCi3xI3M

Lebanon

- KCKW/Alice Fordham, *In Lebanon, Some Turn To Beloved Local Saint For Solace And Protection From COVID-19*, 31 March 2020,

MENA

- The Economist, *How Prayer is changing as a result of Covid19*, 21 March 2020,
- Los Angeles Times/Nabih Bulos, *Private prayers and empty funerals: the pandemic is hard on the Middle East faithful*, 25 March 2020,
• Open Democracy, Sectarianism will not defeat coronavirus: no one is immune, 31 March 2020,

• Religion and Diplomacy, The Haj in Times of Epidemic, 1 April 2020,
  https://religionanddiplomacy.org.uk/2020/04/01/the-hajj-in-times-of-epidemics/?fbclid=IwAR1oCcKeG_hQQ139SMSEs_3j9tzhtBbNaTB8DEGrQgd-DB7i96s1dzG4Rw

• Christianity Today, Arab Christians Have Lost Easter Before, here’s what they have learned, 3 April 2020,

Nigeria
  • France 24, Church coronavirus restrictions hit African faithful, 22 March 2020,

The Philippines
  • CBCP NEWS/Alren Beronio, Priests bless palms on the streets as lockdown continues, 05 April 2020,
    https://cbcpnews.net/cbcpnews/priests-bless-palms-on-the-streets-as-lockdown-continues/

Saudi Arabia
  • Time/Zaid Sabah, Saudi Arabia Suspends Pilgrimages to Mecca in Effort to Stop Coronavirus, 26 February 2020,

Turkey
  • Daily Sabah, Muslims in Turkey to observe Barat, Islam's holy night of fate and forgiveness, 07 April 2020,

Uganda
  • PML Daily/Conrad Ahabwe, COVID-19 CRISIS: Religious leaders countrywide call for fasting, intense prayer as Christians celebrate Palm Sunday, 05 April 2020,

United States
  • AJC, The Jolt: Clergy on call with governor told ‘virtually’ all outbreaks have some link to religious services, 26 March 2020,


Religion News, *In pandemic, health care chaplains address an ‘existential and spiritual crisis* https://religionnews.com/2020/03/20/chaplains-address-an-existential-and-spiritual-crisis-in-wake-of-coronavirus-pandemic/?fbclid=IwAR3RL29qx0pHVTAh0Rn8TRzkF_DVrgz-EuWs3u01arQWP7xtVC92h719A


United Kingdom

- The Guardian, *UK Funeral Directors may stream burials of coronavirus victims*, 17 March 2020


Misinformation and dissent among religious groups

Brazil


France


India


● India Today, Coronavirus: Social distancing a distant dream for madrasa children, 10 April 2020,


- The Print/ Priya Ramani, Lockdown may contain Covid-19, but it can't curb the virus of Islamophobia in India, 10 April 2020, https://theprint.in/opinion/lockdown-may-contain-covid-19-but-it-cant-curb-the-virus-of-islamophobia-in-india/398943/


Iran


Iraq


Israel

- The Times of Israel/ Toi Staff, Israeli rabbi: Coronavirus outbreak is divine punishment for gay pride parades, 8 March 2020, https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-rabbi-blames-coronavirus-outbreak-on-gay-pride-p
Japan

MENA
- Brookings/Geneive Abdo and Anna L. Jacobs, *Are COVID-19 restrictions inflaming religious tensions?*, 13 April 2020,
  https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/04/13/are-covid-19-restrictions-inflaming-religious-tensions/

Nigeria
- Pulse, *CAN president says sin, disobedience to God responsible for Coronavirus*, 23 March 2020,
- The Nigerian Voice/Joseph Babatunde Oduntan, *The Place Of Religion And Faith In The Global Fight Against Coronavirus Disease(covid-19)*., 31 March 2020,

Pakistan
- The Dawn, *Prominent ulema says lockdown not applicable to mosques*, 14 April 2020,

Taiwan
- Leiden anthropology blog/Fang-I Chu, *Can the Might of a Taiwanese Goddess Prevent you from Getting the Virus?*, 23 March 2020,
  https://leidenanthropologyblog.nl/articles/can-the-might-of-a-taiwanese-goddess-prevent-you-from-getting-the-virus

Tanzania
- Wall Street Journal, *Tanzania’s Leader Urges People to Worship in Throngs Against Coronavirus*, 8 April 2020,

Tunisia
- Kapitalis, *Tunisie : Le mufti suspend momentanément la conversion à l'islam à cause du coronavirus*, 09 March 2020,
Turkey

- Nordic Monitor, *Coronavirus pandemic fuels hate speech in Turkey*, 24 March 2020,

Ukraine

- LGBTQNATION/Alex Bollinger, *A religious leader blamed coronavirus on the gays. Now an LGBTQ org is suing him*, 14 April 2020,

United Kingdom

- The Independent/ Jane Dalton, *Coronavirus: Christians must not use pandemic to sell religion, says church leader*, 27 March 2020,

- The Guardian, *Churchgoers all over the world ignore physical distancing response*, 29 March 2020,

- LSE Religion and Global Society blog/Yinxuan Huang, *Coronavirus and Chinese Christians in Britain: Three Vignettes*, 25 March 2020,

- The Telegraph, *South London faith healer promises his followers Covid-19 protection with oil and red yarn*, 1 April 2020,


Sojiurners/Melissa Florer-Bixler, *I Refuse to participate in Worship that leads to devastation*, 25 March 2020, [https://sojo.net/articles/i-refuse-participate-worship-leads-devastation](https://sojo.net/articles/i-refuse-participate-worship-leads-devastation)


● The NYT, A 'Liberty' Rebellion in Idaho Threatens to Undermine Coronavirus Orders, 7 April 2020,
https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/07/us/coronavirus-idaho-bundy-patriot.html?fbclid=IwAR1v95yi35K-vLHFh0mZ7fpZFzdFVnZ7sf_fEu6ieYzaQLVmRLbA1Tlihs

● VOX, What it means to “gather” for Easter, Passover, and Ramadan this year, 8 April 2020,

● Vox/ Zeeshan Aleem, Why some churches are holding in-person Easter services in defiance of federal guidelines, 12 April 2020,

Relevant to multiple countries

● The Independent/ Borzou Daragahi, Religious extremists are making the coronavirus pandemic even worse, 30 March 2020,
https://www.independent.co.uk/independentpremium/voices/coronavirus-religious-extremism-iran-united-states-pakistan-israel-india-a9433181.html

● National Post, Charles Lewis: Religious extremists who flout COVID-19 rules are doing a disservice to God’s creation, 02 April 2020,

● AP News, Extremists see global chaos from virus as opportunity, 2 April 2020,

● Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, How extremists groups are responding to Covid19, 24 March 2020,

● Wall Street Journal, Cow Dung, Garlic and a Prayer: The Fight Against Phony Cures for Coronavirus, 7 April 2020,
Messaging and Advocacy

Specific religiously framed advocacy messages to national, state, city leaders

Ghana


United States


Copies of messages circulated from religious institutions to their communities

France


Sri Lanka


United Kingdom

Advocacy efforts from religious institutions and leaders to the wider community
(including elected officials and administrators coordinating response)

China
- Christine Lee, COVID-19, sinicisation, and the Roman Catholic Church in China, 06 March 2020,
  http://somatosphere.net/forumpost/covid-19-sinicisation-roman-catholic-church-china/

Relevant to multiple countries
- The New York Times, In a live-streamed Easter Mass, Pope Francis says the pandemic is ‘testing our whole human family, 12 April 2020,

News reports on messages and advocacy

Burkina Faso

China
- Vatican News/Linda Bordoni, Pope Francis prays for those affected by the Coronavirus, 26 January 2020,

Italy
- AFP, This video actually shows worshippers in Peru in 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic, 8 April 2020,

The Middle East and North Africa


The Philippines


Tanzania


United Kingdom


United States

Local area/community responses

Gatherings of religious communities

- The Straits Times, *Coronavirus: South Korea reports 74 new cases, church cluster outbreak near Seoul*, 16 March 2020

- The Times of India, *Siddhivinayak Temple: Ajanta-Ellora, Siddhivinayak, Tuljapur temples closed*, 16 March 2020,

- Los Angeles Times, *During coronavirus, priests master live stream at French Cathedral*, 24 March 2020,

- CNN/Daniel Burke, *Pastor against defies state order not to hold large gatherings. He says 1,000 people came to his church on Sunday*, 25 March 2020,

- CBS NEWS/ Peter Martinez and Brian Dakass, *Florida pastor arrested after church seen jammed for Sunday service during pandemic*, 30 March 2020,

- Los Angeles Times, *Louisiana church defies COVID-19 order, holds Sunday service*, 29 March 2020,

- The Week/Lakshmi Subramanian, *TN frets over coronavirus risk from 1,500 who attended religious event in Delhi*, 30 March 2020,

- The New York Times/Ellen Barry, *Days After a Funeral in a Georgia Town, Coronavirus ‘hit like a bomb’*, 30 March 2020,

- Nikkei Asian Review, *Coronavirus closes mosques, churches and temples across Asia*, 31 March 2020,
● Jewish Journal/Marcy Oster, Cuomo Sued Over NY Ban on Large Gatherings, Because 'It Infringes On Jewish Faith', 30 March 2020, https://jewishjournal.com/online/312961/cuomo-sued-over-ny-ban-on-large-gatherings-because-it-infringes-on-jewish-faith/


Educational Institutions with religious links


Support to vulnerable communities

General


Youth and children


Refugee Communities

Religious communication

- Won Buddhist temple (Gangnam, Seoul, South Korea), *Online streaming of prayer service* https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEnyMwkEQWr47BtNVmTRq8w/

Specific practices

News reports on changes to specific practices, analyses of problem areas


Long term reflections

- **Cambridge Muslim College**, *A Perspective on the Pandemic (video)*, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AnTLiyWZVk&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2CvoMkjI5B8ld7PpkFSWpYTEiYVPmZoC3t5Amqj4C65_TX4jO0sxE-uyg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9AnTLiyWZVk&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2CvoMkjI5B8ld7PpkFSWpYTEiYVPmZoC3t5Amqj4C65_TX4jO0sxE-uyg)
Emerging issues of importance (not faith-related)

*We are monitoring several key topics highlighted below that do not currently have faith-related information, but we will move these topics into the main body of the repository once we have more faith-related resources.

General


Domestic Violence


Mental Health

- Pew Research, People financially affected by COVID-19 outbreak are experiencing more psychological distress than others, 30 March 2020,

Refugees and Migrant Workers

Interfaith and ecumenical statements

- Network of religious and traditional peacemakers, “Six ways RTA can take action to prevent the spread” https://www.peacemakersnetwork.org/six-ways-for-religious-and-traditional-actors-to-take-action-to-prevent-spread-of-covid-19-in-their-cfbclidommunities/?=IwAR3gDdBBiGdqlUy0EQ2PETbrUDaIAbC_lgmbQWN6DR8X7CjKfKSQW1nYK5g
Faith-inspired organisations’ responses

This section refers to responses by international faith-inspired development/humanitarian organisations as distinct from local church-based organisations

- Relief Web/ Geoffrey Kalebbo Deye, D.R.Congo: World Vision equips faith leaders to combat COVID-19 in communities, as the country counts down to the official ends of Ebola, 24 March 2020
- World Vision have created child friendly materials to explain the virus (World Vision, 10 Guidelines)
- World Vision, COVID-19 CoH training
  https://app.box.com/s/q9tcp01b05677p3lqegpqa0s2jl2pax5/file/637758331510
- Living Water, Mobilizing Churches to Respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Low-Income Communities
- Caritas Internationalis, Global Caritas Response to COVID-19 crisis,
  https://www.caritas.org/what-we-do/conflicts-and-disasters/emergencies/covid19/
- PaRD, Religion in Times of Covid19,
- Religion News Service, IMA World Health partners with African Christian health network in seven-country coronavirus response, 7 April 2020,
Daily Highlight

Click on each date to view the message from that day:

March 18 - “Interfaith groups refocusing efforts”
March 19 - “Galvanizing religious responses to COVID-19 crisis: Gatherings”
March 20 - “Engaging national faith communities: South Africa as an example”
March 21 - “Religious gatherings as a focus: Malaysia case”
March 22 - “Religious upheavals as part of COVID-19 ravages? Iran as an early instance”
March 23 - “Inspirational messages from spiritual leaders in troubled times”
March 24 - “Religious gatherings become a central point of uncertainty and tension - to gather or not to gather?”
March 25 - “Religion and development academic speaks out on religion, science, and COVID-19”
March 26 - “Buddhist admonitions to solidarity”
March 27 - “Adapting practices to meet health imperatives: Some rabbis, in planning for Passover, allow for a virtual option because of the coronavirus threat”
March 28 - “Vulnerable children need special attention”
March 29 - “Religious leaders and funeral homes scramble to find caring and dignified ways to implement COVID-19 precautions”
March 30 - “COVID-19 Upends Jerusalem’s Holy Sites”
March 31 - “Misinformation or an "Infodemic": A Word of Caution”
April 1 - “Mobilizing to Support Faith Communities in Practical Ways”
April 2 - “The COVID-19 Crisis and Refugees: Urgent and Complex Demands”
April 3 - “Religious leaders defying stay at home advice - the exception, not the rule?”
April 4 - “Disrupted Global Religious Programs”
April 5 - “COVID-19’s Distinctive Impact on Women: Responses from Religious Communities”
April 6 - “COVID-19: Impact on Extremism?”
April 7 - “Palm Sunday in the Era of COVID-19”
April 8 - “Adjusting Beloved Celebrations for Physical Distancing: Passover 2020”
April 9 - “Responding to COVID-19: Repurposing Religious Sites”
April 10 - “Generous Responses in a Refugee Camp to the COVID-19 Crisis”
April 11 - “Creative Partnerships to Mobilize for Child Protection and to Nurture Spiritual Growth During the COVID-19 Pandemic”
April 12 - “Pope Francis Reflects on the COVID-19 Pandemic and Its Meaning”
April 13 - “Where COVID-19 Passes By: Senegal’s Holy City of Touba”
April 14 - “Feeding the Hungry: Adapting Sikh Celebrations and Charitable Traditions”
April 15 - “Ugly Reports of Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism Linked to COVID-19 Crisis”