

Red Box: Volunteers

COVID-19

Introduction

The health and wellbeing of all Red Box volunteers (Local Secretaries, Promoters, Treasurers) is the priority for Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries.

There is no immediate urgency for Red Boxes to be emptied and counted. If Red Boxes are scheduled to be emptied in the coming weeks, this can be postponed until the current threat of COVID-19 has ended.

Volunteers should follow Government and Diocesan guidance on what to do at any time.

Volunteers should not place themselves in a vulnerable position, nor feel pressured to do anything which they do not want to do.

Collections from homes

If there is an outbreak within a community, collections from houses in the parish should not take place. It is better to wait until the current threat of COVID-19 has passed. Red Box contents could be brought to church as part of the usual Mass schedule.

Local Secretaries and Promoters **may** wish to put the latest copy of *Mission Today* through the letterbox of their Red Box holders, if possible.

We know that many Red Box holders enjoy having their box emptied at home as they do not have many people who are able to visit them. Local Secretaries and Promoters may wish to occasionally ring their Red Box holders. They can assure them that they and their intentions continue to be prayed for every day by Fr Tony Chantry, Missio's National Director, who celebrates Mass in the chapel in the Missio office in London.

Keeping collected money safe

If volunteers (including Promoters) have money in their homes which they cannot get to the Local Secretary/Treasurer, or if in turn they cannot get it to the bank, it is appropriate for the volunteer to keep it in their home because of the extraordinary circumstances.

The money should be kept as safe as possible, out of sight (including of visitors). If possible, they should ask if it can be locked in the parish safe, clearly marked that it is Red Box money, until the time when it can be banked in the normal way.

Counting money

There is currently no evidence that the virus can be easily transmitted via cash. However, as always, we encourage people to wash their hands after counting or sorting money.

Mission Today: Impact Report, Summer 2020

The next edition of Mission Today will hopefully be delivered to Local Secretaries week beginning 11 May 2020. Hopefully, collections will be able to take place at this time.