SPIRITUAL GUIDANGE

How do we offer good news to our visitors?

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

Your church is a beautiful building and it's a sacred space but how do we offer an insight into the good news and the faith that the church was built to proclaim? Two areas to think about are:

1. Prayer 2. Christian resources

Before considering the suggestions, make a note of your current provision

PRAYER

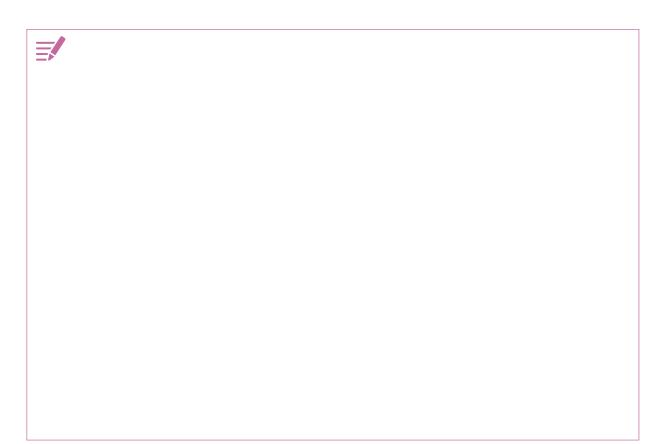
Are there written prayers available and/or an invitation to pray? Is there a quiet area set aside for prayer?





CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

What resources are available in the church?



Who is responsible/in charge of giving attention to this area?



THE PULPIT

Look towards the pulpit or lectern. Imagine how many words have been said from this platform. There may not be anyone speaking from there now, but God's voice can still be heard. God invites us to listen, to seek his voice in the stillness, in the beauty of this place.

Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live... Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. ISAIAH 55:3,6

"God, please speak to me today in this place. I am ready to hear from you, and I am listening."

↑ A page from 'Look around You' also available as A4 pages for free.

The following ideas are suggestions for enhancing your welcome in this area...

PRAYER	In place?	Action needed? (what, when and who)
A simple prayer is displayed at the entrance.		
Prayer cards (guided prayers) 'for when I am happy, sad, etc' are available.		
Spaces for prayer are provided with access to candles (sand tray/votive stand) if insurance allows.		
There is a facility to leave requests for prayer.		
There is a creative option to encourage prayer such as a prayer tree, or pebble bowl.		



CHRISTIAN RESOURCES	In place? (tick)	Action needed? (what, when and who)
An explanation of what Christians believe is available along with the other 'Simple Guides' (free from Church House).		
Christian books are provided including a user-friendly Bible.		
We produce a pilgrimage guide inviting visitors to ponder their own spiritual journey as they explore the building.		
Information sheets are provided to explain, for example, the use of the font or the pulpit.		



Many churches have small booklets to give away to visitors explaining the christian faith

Free gospels are available to take away.	
We display an album of the faith stories of people connected with the church.	
We have child-friendly materials.	
We have information about who to contact if visitors want to learn more about faith in this parish.	
We advertise the courses and learning opportunities across the parish, deanery and diocese.	













RESOURCES

PRAYER CARDS

Available free from Church House: 01872 274351

PRAYER TEMPLATES

www.gospelimprint.com

SIMPLE GUIDES

'Christianity – An Introduction' Free & Available from Church House: 01872 274351

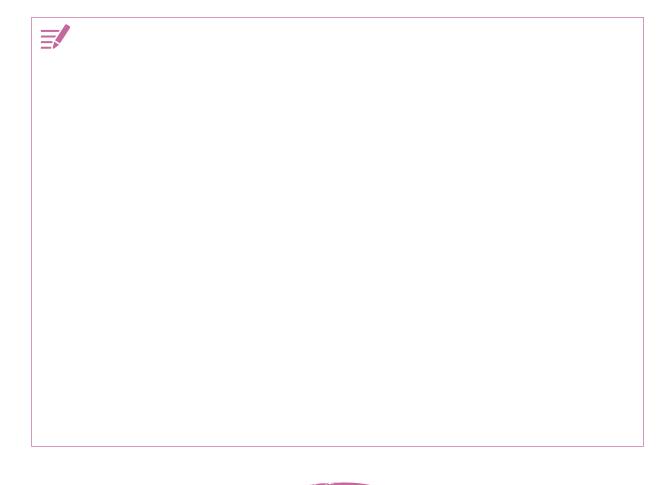
RESOURCES

www.sgmlifewords.com have a free Bible resources kit

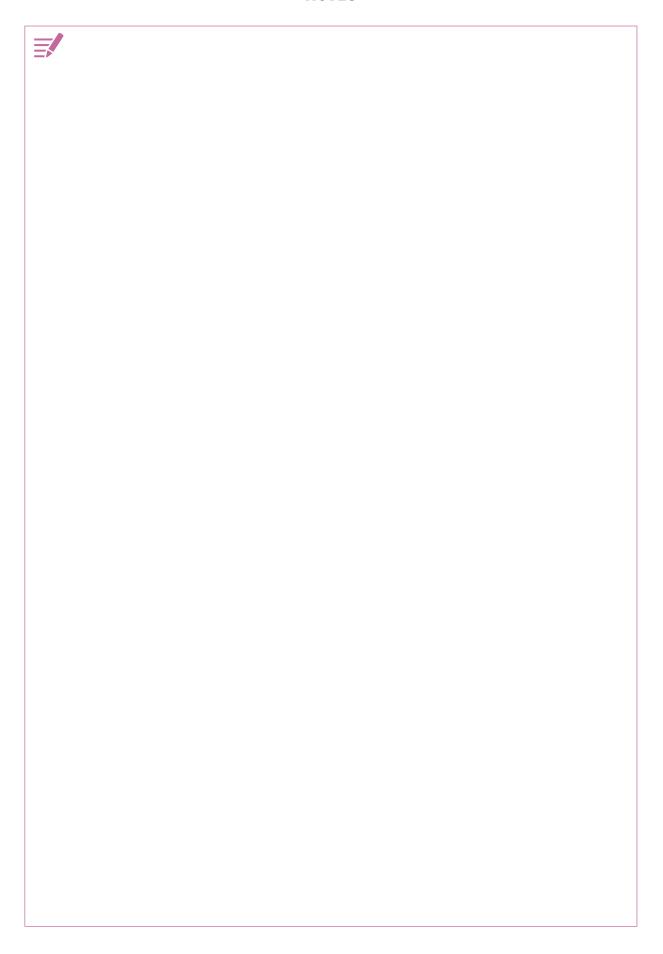
OUTREACH CARDS

A range of outreach cards, booklets, banners and pop up banners which are able to be overprinted with your church information is available from CPO – **www.cpo.org.uk**

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ST PHILLEIGH WINDOWS



If you have ever driven to the Roseland and called in to St Philleigh church you would notice that the windows around the church have been creatively decorated with objects, flowers, words and prayers and they make such an impact that visitors regularly comment upon them in the visitors book. Kay Robinson who is the churchwarden was inspired to develop the idea after putting on a display for the week of prayer and everyone urged her to carry on with different themes. Kay commented, 'To me, the windows displays are mission and it's a creative way to engage people including those in our local community who we invite to decorate a window at Christmas, Easter and Harvest and they love it!' Kay's initiative has even been taken 'up country' after their reader, Andy, took some photos and the ideas to his mother's church in another diocese.

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