

***From the Bishop of Huntingdon to all clergy (licensed and PTO), LLMs, ALMs, churchwardens, PCC secretaries, and members of the Bishop's Council and the Diocesan Synod***

Dear all

We all share a huge concern for the situation in Ukraine and are wondering how best to respond in support of those fleeing to the UK.

I understand a toolkit is due to come out later this week and I will be in touch again. It is important that whatever we do is coordinated so that all efforts can be as effective as possible.

And as I said in my Diocesan Synod address, the most effective way at the moment of supporting refugees and displaced people from Ukraine is by donating money to one of the experienced relief agencies.

Local capacity for effective logistics has well reached its limit in the difficult circumstances, and loads of generous uncoordinated trucks arriving is not as helpful as it may seem to us.

We all want to help personally and tangibly, but for the time being, the best and most effective help we can provide is by donating to the [Disasters Emergency Committee](#) (note this is how the Red Cross asks for donations), or the [Joint Emergency Appeal by the Church of England Diocese in Europe and USPG](#).

Note that the UK Government have said they will match public donations (pound for pound up to £20 million) to the Disasters Emergency Committee.

You can also support Christ Church Kyiv [through Just Giving](#) (name Christ Church Kyiv). And you can send supportive messages to them on [social media](#).

Write to your MP about visa flexibility for refugees.

Finally, we do well to remember the unspeakable suffering of so many peoples, in Yemen or Sudan, the Uigur in China, Syrians — the list, sadly, is very long. This includes Afghani families seeking refuge in the UK who have not yet got a home.

Thank you for all your prayers.

Every blessing.

+Dagmar