

Dear SJSMers,

We rejoice that after about 10 days at alert level Orange, the Ministry of Health in Singapore has downgraded the local alert level to Yellow. This is primarily because the H1N1 virus is found to be not as deadly as initially feared, and can be treated with existing medication.

Here are the updated measures for SJSM in the current situation:

1. Self-regulation and personal hygiene

We urge all SJSMers to continue monitoring your own health, and if you are unwell, please stay away from meetings to minimise contact with other church members. Please also continue to maintain high standards of personal hygiene, washing your hands with soap and water frequently.

2. Temperature-taking stations

We will discontinue the set up of temperature-taking stations outside service and meeting locations for the time being.

3. Holy Communion

We continue to allow only intinction (dipping the wafer in the wine) until the all clear signal is given by the Ministry of Health. Alcohol wipes, however, will not be issued to members of the congregation before Holy Communion.

4. Shaking Hands

There is no directive against hand-to-hand contact with others in church, e.g. during the Exchange of the Peace, or as part of our regular greetings. For those who nevertheless choose to abstain from such contact with others during this period, a possible alternative to a handshake could be a “thumbs-up” and a smile. 😊

5. Children

We continue to urge parents to monitor the health of their children and not bring them to church if they seem unwell.

May we continue to pray for God’s mercy and grace upon our world in these challenging times, and for wisdom for our nation’s leadership.

Peace be with you!

Pastor Joshua