**Covid, Faith, and Public Health; dispelling myths and discerning truths**

**Thursday 4th February, 10.30 - 12.00**

The Covid19 pandemic has brought scientific disciplines, and public health officials centre-stage in the public sphere. While a range of scientists have tried to explain epidemiology and how vaccines work, public health officials have emerged as key figures assessing data, advising statutory authorities, and communicating health messages to a wide audience. Despite all this, there are groups in society who for various reasons are wary of ‘experts’, and reluctant to take part in

*Vaccination centre in crypt of Blackburn cathedral*

The intention of this webinar, another in a series being run by the Lancashire Forum of Faiths in collaboration with the Lancashire Resilience Forum and Churches Together in Lancashire, is to:

* explain to attendees something around the science of Covid19 and its transmission
* dispel myths around Covid vaccination (and testing)
* discuss the challenges of communicating health messages

At the same time, the intention is to encourage discussion in small break-out groups, and in open forum to explore ways in which religious faith intersects with science and public health. Those contributing are medical / public health professionals and are from different religious traditions.

**Contributors**

Dr Sakthi Karunanithi - director of public health for Lancashire

Dr Dominic Harrison - director of public health for Blackburn with Darwen

Dr Susan Salt - trainee priest, and consultant in palliative medicine

Dr Abdul Razaq - consultant in public health

To register for the webinar on Zoom please contact Rebecca at [RebeccaJoy.Novell@Lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:RebeccaJoy.Novell@Lancashire.gov.uk)

