

# Safer places of Worship

## Valuable Property

Items of exceptional value relate not only to the actual marketable value but to the value of the item to the community. Included in such items are the obvious silver communion sets as well as pictures, decorated holy books, scrolls and other artifacts. Such items should not be stored in infrequently used buildings, unless you are prepared to spend considerable amounts on additional security and alarms.

Alternatives for storage include local and national museums, or bank vaults. Copies can be made if there is a wish to retain a daily connection with the item or if it is needed for daily use. It is always possible to "borrow" the actual items back for special occasions or exhibitions. This may appear inconvenient and even "second best" but the regrettable fact is that, if your treasures have not already been stolen, an attempt will almost certainly be made within the next few years if you continue to keep them openly in your place of worship.

It is inadvisable to store such items at the home of the incumbent or of an official unless their homes also have security precautions of a high standard.

Please note your insurance policy may only pay for the cost of the replacement of valuable items in modern materials, also if you have property of exceptional value it may need to be specified in your insurance policy, if you are in doubt please call us at Congregational on 01274 700 700.