

AREA DEANS' and LAY CHAIR'S NOTES MARCH 2020 AMERSHAM DEANERY

CORONAVIRUS

All parishes are required by our Bishops to make a formal plan and response to the outbreak and lodge it with the Area Deans. Tim H has sent out a suggested template for individual customisation to incumbents and team vicars.

At Holy Communion, the Archbishops recommend that it be in one kind for the time being.

PARISH MATTERS

GREAT CHESHAM

An interim minister Rev Simon Winn was licensed just before Christmas. We welcome him to the deanery.

The first round of interviews for Team Rector have been held. Two strong candidates will shortly be interviewed as the final part of the process.

It is good to see Rev John Shepherd is returning to full health.

CHENIES AND LITTLE CHALFONT LATIMER AND FLAUNDEN

The house for duty post in Latimer has been re-advertised and a strong appointment made. We await the official announcement.

CHALFONT ST PETER

Rev John Goodman is now on sabbatical leave, but the parish is working hard to sustain the many activities.

PENN STREET with HOMER GREEN

The position of Rector will shortly be advertised. Please play for a good response. Meanwhile the Diocese is being very obliging about the plan to move the Rectory to a more central location.

LATIMER MINSTER

A statement issued on Feb 3rd says, 'The Bishop's Mission Order for Latimer Minster ended on 30 December 2019. The diocese and the Latimer Minster community are exploring fruitful ways forward.'

AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL

After 41 years service, 23 of them in this parish, Tim Harper is retiring as Rector and Co-Area Dean. His last Sunday is Sept 6th. The rest of that month will be leave catch up, then as he has had no sabbatical in all this time Bishop Alan has kindly offered him garden leave in lieu until the end of the year. In practice the parish will become vacant on Jan 1st 2021.

OTHER MATTERS

SIAMS: 'Inspection Ready? Leading your governing board toward positive Ofsted and SIAMS inspections.' For those of you who have church schools there is training course for clergy and governors to be 'Inspection Ready' run by the diocesan DBE staff in advance of your next SIAMS inspection, which has just got a whole lot tougher! This because Ofsted feel that there are too many 'Outstanding' schools and have adjusted both sets of goalposts accordingly. It is at Gt Missenden Abbey on Thursday March 19th, 7-9pm. Places can be booked via tracy.richardson@oxford.anglican.org

SAFEGUARDING PAST CASES REVIEW

All incumbents and team vicars will have received written notification of what is required. This task has to be done and a deadline for responses has now passed.

BISHOP STEVEN

The 'Sharing the Fire' events which have been run in other deaneries have been a good way to draw people together, share the huge variety of missional events taking place in parishes, pray together and listen to where God has been leading the people of the deaneries. We would like to think together about what would be useful for our deanery over the next few months.

ELECTIONS: In every parish there will be elections for a new deanery synod in the Spring. An advance thank you to those who are retiring after serving for the past three years.

SABBATICALS: Clergy are encouraged to take sabbatical time periodically and grants are available from the deanery. Do apply.

Tim H Co-AD March 2020