Diocesan Synod
Saturday 19 March 2022
Ministry of the Word
Dwelling in the word
Romans 12

12 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. 6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.
9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10 love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. 11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.’ 20 No, ‘if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.’ 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Loving God,
Though our destination is not yet clear,
May we trust in Your graceful promises;
Though we are uncertain of ourselves,
May we be rooted in Your loving regard;
Though our attention is inclined to wander,
May we hear the things You are saying;
Though we often neglect Your influence,
May we be convicted of Your power to change,
In Jesus Christ our Lord.
Presidential Address
Bishop Martin
Annual Review of Inspiring Ipswich
Archdeacon Rhiannon King
The Angels are here!

December 11th - January 6th | Ipswich

www.inspiring.angels.org.uk
#inspiringangels #angeltrail #angeltabling
Living in Love and Faith (LLF)
22.03

The Revd Canon Sharon Potter
The journey so far and where we go next
Aim of session

• To learn about the extent and quality of engagement with LLF across the diocese
• To reflect on the process so far, including whether misconceptions or obstacles to engagement remain
• To be informed of the next steps in the process
• To consider how further engagement might be encouraged.
The journey so far…

- Bishop’s teaching morning in February 2021
- Presented at Diocesan Synod in March 2021
- Rural Deans and Lay Chairs meeting in June 2021
- Distributed free course booklets
- Provided course facilitation training
- Dean Joe & Archdeacon Sally held two open forums.
• Small number of courses have been run – in person and via zoom
• 28 survey questionnaires returned
• Some positive feedback on how the course has helped participants in their learning
• Difficulties expressed with running courses due to Covid.
Process of discernment

• The College of Bishops have the ultimate responsibility for the decisions made in this process

• Data collected from the survey, independent responses, creative responses and 4-5 in-person focus groups will be gathered into a substantive report

• The substantive report (September 2022) will represent:
  - you engaged
  - you responded
  - this is what we heard.
Process of discernment

• Three residential College of Bishops meetings planned between September and December that will prayerfully reflect on LLF:
• By drawing on the report
• Through theological reflection
• Meditating on the art installation
• The Next Steps group (chaired by the Bishop of London) are considering a variety of ways to strengthen trust and transparency in the Bishops’ discernment phase
• Diocesan Synods are not expected to feedback in a formal way.
Questions for discussion

1. Have you taken part in a course? If so, how did it help you to learn more about living in love and faith?
2. Are there barriers or misconceptions surrounding LLF that need to be addressed?
3. How might we overcome any barriers or misconceptions to the process of discernment?
4. How might we, as members of Diocesan Synod, encourage more people to take part in a course and respond?
God whose name is Love
whose gift is life,
whose word holds all in being;
bless ‘Living in Love and Faith’ to your church
As we seek to grow together
into the truth of our humanity and longings,
into communities where all find welcome,
into the fullness that is your image in us;
through the Word made flesh,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.
Introduction to Disability Inclusion Policy and Social Media Policy

Archdeacon Jeanette & Archdeacon David
Refreshments

Please spend some time visiting the three tables to find more about:

• Vocations
• Disability Inclusion Policy
• Social Media Policy
Diocesan Wide Social Media Policy
Archdeacon David
Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) Measure & DBE Annual Report

Bishop Mike

Jane Sheat, Diocesan Director of Education
DBE Measure

Saturday 19 March 2022
DBE Measure

• New Measure - about structure for all DBEs, core functions remain
• Current arrangement - unincorporated board
• Options - incorporated, unincorporated or statutory committee of DBF.
DBE Measure

- **Process** - DBE, Bishop’s Council and Governance Committee
- **Recommendation** - statutory committee of the DBF
- **Implementation** - to Archbishop’s Council, then elections in autumn 2022
- **Timescale** - from 1 January 2023.
The Chair of the DBE, Bishop Mike moves that Synod:

1. “Approves the form of draft Scheme (designating St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Board of Finance as the Diocesan Board of Education of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich) in accordance with the proposal submitted by the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich with the consent of the current Diocesan Board of Education, as set out in paper DS(22)P07.1;
2. Confirms that it is ready to make the Scheme, conditional on it being certified by the Archbishops’ Council in accordance with s.23(1) of the Measure, and that accordingly, confirms the Scheme will be made and come into effect on the date specified in such certificate; and

3. Authorises the submission of the draft Scheme to the Archbishops’ Council and requests the Bishop, Diocesan Secretary and Director of Education to take such other steps as are necessary to bring the Scheme into effect.”
2021

- Advice, support, training and resources for schools
- Wellbeing support for Headteachers
- Approving an environmental policy
- Collaboration in education throughout Suffolk and with other dioceses
- Celebrating churches and schools working together in Growing Faith.
RE and Collective Worship resources

Gemma Taylor, Schools’ Adviser produced a number of resources for schools to help with planning collective worship and teaching RE.
RE displays on school Christian visions

Stonham Aspal CEVAP School

Elveden CofE Primary Academy
RE display outside our schools

Cavendish CEVCP School created this Cross for the local community

Wilby CEVCP created a Trinity artwork display for the local church
Elveden CofE Primary Academy enjoyed having the service in church

Moulton CEVCP School held a harvest festival weekend at the local church on the theme of hope
• We promote a Christian vision for schools in which all can grow and flourish, and excellence in the teaching of RE and in Collective Worship.
Thank you

• Thank you for all the ways in which you support schools across the diocese
• Thank you to the education team for all their hard work
• Thank you to schools for their incredible work in the most challenging of years.
General Synod Report

22.08

Report from February’s General Synod
Paper DS(22)P08.
Minutes of the Previous Meeting

22.09

Draft minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2021 meeting, paper ref DS(22)P09_M3
Matters Arising not otherwise on the Agenda

22.10
Minutes of the Bishop’s Council
22.11

To receive the minutes of the following Bishop’s Council meeting:

- 7 October 2021, ref DS(21)P11.1_BC(21)M5
- 9 December 2021, ref DS(21)P11.2_BC(21)M6
- 3 February 2022, ref DS(21)P11.3_BC(22)M1
Questions

22.12
Colin Firth (Thingoe deanery) asked the Finance Director:

This question concerns finances for 2021.

The minutes of the Diocesan Synod on 3 October 2020 (DS(20)M1 Item 20.05.1) pointed to a budget deficit on unrestricted fund of £0.5m on the assumption that £6.4m would be received in Parish Share. The latest Parish Share report shows Parish Share of £6.008m received. Thus expected deficit would increase by £0.4m to become £0.9m.

What final deficit is now expected for 2021 and how will it be financed.
With parish share received being just over £6.0m, based on budgeted parish share of £6.4m and an unrestricted fund budget deficit of £0.5m, the £0.4m parish share shortfall would in isolation lead to an increased deficit of £0.9m, as stated in the question.

However, due to the following factors, our actual 2021 unrestricted fund deficit is £0.2m, ignoring unrealised gains, such as investment revaluations:

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<tr>
<td><strong>2021 budgeted deficit</strong></td>
<td>(£0.5m)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shortfall on parish share</strong></td>
<td>(£0.4m)</td>
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<td><strong>Shortfall on parochial fees</strong></td>
<td>(£0.1m)</td>
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<td><strong>Sustainability funding</strong></td>
<td>£0.2m</td>
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<td><strong>Pension deficit repayment</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Underspends from budget</strong></td>
<td>£0.4m</td>
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<td><strong>Actual deficit</strong></td>
<td>(£0.2m)</td>
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Please note: the figures above are still subject to external audit and therefore are not finalised. The resultant £0.2m deficit will be financed from our unrestricted funds and therefore will reduce the overall value of our unrestricted funds. We are again thankful to Archbishops’ Council for their financial support in 2021 of £196k sustainability funding which is in addition to the £600k granted to us for 2020.
Sally Wainman (Colneys deanery) asked the Diocesan Secretary:

In regards to energy targets and reaching net zero carbon by 2030, would the diocese consider caution in recommending any new smart meters in churches and other buildings?

Smart meters can now send back readings every half hour to a supplier which, with surge pricing, could increase energy costs for churches. Also, smart meters can be converted remotely by a supplier to pre-paid metering, which would also be more expensive.
Reply from Anna Hughes, Diocesan Secretary:

Sally Wainman permitted us to have the time to investigate her question with the national church, there being little on the Parish Resources website to guide our answer. Noting that with the energy markets in considerable flux, this is a rapidly changing situation.

We agreed to bring the results to June Synod.
Financial – timescale for approval of the 2023 budget

22.13.01

Gary Peverley – Finance Director
Promulgation of Vacancy in See Committee Regulations 1993, as amended

22.13.02

The Revd Canon Sharon Potter
Queen’s Jubilee
22.13.03

The Revd Sarah du Boulay

Growing in God
Cathedral update
22.13.04

Dean Joe Hawes
Ministry of the Sacrament

Led by The Right Revd Dr Mike Harrison
Next meeting date:
Saturday 25 June 2022, 9.30am
St Edmundsbury Cathedral