

Your monthly update from the Diocese of Rochester

GROW ENRICH RESOURCE



NEWS IN BRIEF

DIOCESAN SYNOD ROUND-UP

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ROCHESTER



DIOCESAN ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2018



Diocesan Synod, the primary governing body of the Diocese, met on 22 June, 2019 to discuss a packed and important agenda.

The Annual Report and Accounts for 2018 were formally introduced by the Rev Richard Williams, Director of Finance and Judith Armitt, The Chair of the Board of Finance.

Copies have been made available to every church or are available online.

The introduction of Indicative Offers from 2020 was also discussed.

Following a robust discussion, the motion was overwhelming passed.

It means that in future, a formula will be used to help churches see the financial offering they could be making to support the cost of the mission and ministry of the Diocesan family.

To find out more at:
www.rochester.anglican.org/communications/news/



TAKING A STAND AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

In June the Diocese took a further stand against domestic abuse by launching its support for the White Ribbon UK Campaign.

White Ribbon UK is part of the global movement to end male violence against women. It invites men to make a pledge never to commit, excuse or remain silent about male violence against women.

An average of two women a week are murdered by a current or former partner in England and Wales.

"This is completely unacceptable," says Bishop Simon, "Any violence against women in real life, or online."

Churches are encouraged to register their support to:

- Take part in White Ribbon day on 25 November 2019 and raise a white flag.
- Encourage men in their congregations to wear a white ribbon pin badge and take the pledge.
- Identify people to become White Ribbon Ambassadors (men) or Champions (women) and undertake the White Ribbon training.

For more information visit:
www.rochester.anglican.org/mission/domestic-abuse/

Church gets walking for health



A church in Sevenoaks has launched a 90 minute health walk as part of an NHS social prescribing initiative.

Social prescribing is about taking a holistic approach to people's health and well-being.

St. Mary's Platt, supports the health walk by: providing access to toilets; promotion through the parish magazine; and, hosting refreshments at the end of the walk.

Vicar of St. Mary's, the Revd Lorraine Turner said she would encourage other churches to explore it:

"Parish churches are well placed to support this kind of initiative to increase well-being as part of a ministry of care and hospitality.

It's brought the church into partnership with the Borough Green Surgery social prescriber and the OneYou NHS project which seeks to make health walks accessible to everybody.

Lorraine said: "It's an excellent partnership. The Health Walk is a healthy extension of our community cafe. Our walk leader Dave Allum came through OneYou so churches don't need to resource their Health Walk alone."

Find out more at: www.nhs.uk/oneyou/



RESOURCING OUR MISSION & MINISTRY

Called To Grow is a new five step process to help parishes to review, plan and deliver mission. A toolkit to support parishes with the steps is now available. Growth Enablers will also soon be appointed to each archdeaconry to support parishes on their journey.

To find out more and to view the toolkit visit:

www.rochester.anglican.org/resources/called-to-grow/

TRAINING & EVENTS

KNIFE ANGEL

2 to 29 September, Rochester Cathedral Gardens.

The British IronWork Centre's Knife Angel is recognised as the National Monument against violence and aggression.

It will be the focal point for 28 days of education, reflection, remembrance and prayer in Medway, as it provides a powerful visual symbol of the dangers of carrying a knife.

As part of this. The Point conference, chaired by Bishop Simon Burton-Jones, will also take place on 13 September at the Historic Dockyard in Chatham, to work towards an achievable solution that saves lives. More here at www.rochestercathedral.org/ www.thepointconference.org/

COMPANION DIOCESE CELEBRATION

22 September 2019, 6pm, St Peter & Paul's Church, Bromley.

Come and join a service to celebrate our flourishing overseas links with the Anglican dioceses in Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Estonia. This service will have a particular focus on Harare. Led by Bishop James with Bishop Farai Mutamiri from Harare speaking (Zimbabwean Choir TBC) followed by refreshments.

Contact: coordinator.cdsg@gmail.com

Get in touch



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