



DIOCESAN SYNOD

AGENDA

12 October 2019

St Olave's Grammar School, Goddington Lane, Orpington, BR6 9SH

PROGRAMME

Coffee	9:00am
First Session	9:30am
Coffee and Cake	11:20am
Second Session	11:50am
Depart	1:10pm

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Documents for the meeting are available in large print on request to the Diocesan Office prior to the date of the Synod.
- An induction loop system will be available at the Synod. Please make yourself known to a member of the Diocesan Office Staff on arrival if you wish to make use of this facility.
- The school is accessible by wheelchair. If you have any other special requirements, please contact the Diocesan Office and we will try to accommodate your needs at the venue.

INFORMATION

Tea/Coffee – Tea and coffee will be provided. If you are the proud owner of a reusable cup, please bring it with you!

St Olave's School is situated in Goddington Lane, Orpington, BR6 9SH and directions can be found at:

http://www.saintolaves.net/uploads/ckeditor/attachments/1393/Location_Guide_St_Olave_s.pdf

Car Parking is available in the grounds but, as usual, **members are encouraged to car share where possible or use public transport.**

Lost Property – The Diocese cannot accept responsibility for the loss of any property during the time of the Synod.

11:15am **COFFEE AND CAKE**

MRS SARAH POOLE IN THE CHAIR

11:45am **4. Deanery Synod Representation**

To consider the following formula for calculating the number of parish representatives to be elected to deanery synods:-

No on the Electoral Roll	No of Representatives to Deanery Synod
1-50	1
51-150	2
151-225	3
226-300	4
301 or over	5

12:00pm **5. Diocesan Policy on the Environment**

To receive an update.

12:10pm **6. Called Together**

To engage with the Community Initiatives workstream and with the Discipleship workstream, which will introduce "Life Together".

12:55pm **7. General Synod Report**

The Rev Canon Mark Barker to report on the July 2019 sessions of General Synod.

1:10pm **8. Time for Questions**

Any questions should be submitted in writing to the Diocesan Secretary no later than first post on **Friday 4 October 2019**.

1:15pm **DEPART**

FOR INFORMATION

The following are for members' information. There will be no discussion at the meeting but, if you have any questions, do please be in touch with the relevant diocesan officer.

(a) Bishop's Council Reports **To Follow**

Reports of the business meetings held on 10 July and 11 September 2019.

(b) General Synod Report **Enclosure**

Report of the July 2019 sessions.

(c) New Appointments – Investing in Growth **To Follow**

Summary of recent and planned new appointments and the external sourcing of their funding.

(d) Dates of Future Meetings

- (i) **Saturday 7 March 2020** (All Day – St Andrew's Church, Paddock Wood)
- (ii) **Tuesday 7 July 2020** (Evening – commencing with Evensong at the Cathedral at 5:30pm, then buffet supper and meeting at Bishops court)
- (iii) **Saturday 10 October 2020** (All Day – St John's Church, Beckenham)

SAFEGUARDING

Past Cases Review Items Presented to Bishop's Council, Sept 2019

Background

Objectives

- Review all information held within the parishes, diocese and cathedral, which may contain allegations of abuse or neglect by clergy or other church officers and ensure these cases have been independently reviewed.
- Ensure all allegations of child or vulnerable adult/adult at risk abuse have been handled appropriately

Process in five phases

1. Set up – current phase
 - Agree plan, budget, governance
 - Ensure independent support for victims and incumbents is in place
 - Ask parishes to review their files/notes, make discreet enquiries
 - Advise police and local authorities of timeline to aid their resource planning
 - Appoint Independent Reviewers
2. Prepare the review
 - Identify files/notes and draw up / extend Known Cases List
3. Review
 - Independent Reviewer reviews all files/notes
 - Any issues requiring immediate action to dealt with by Diocese Safeguarding Advisor (DSA)
4. Prepare the report
 - Independent Reviewer and DSA review each known case and satisfy themselves that its management arrangements are satisfactory
5. Report
 - Independent reviewer provides written report to the BSAP
 - BSAP endorses and asks Bishop to submit report to National Team

Timeline

The National Safeguarding Team is expecting the report to be submitted to them by 31 December 2020.

The Diocese of Rochester, including the Cathedral, are planning for submission in Quarter 3 of 2020. The reviews of clergy and church officer files is expected to be completed in Quarter 2 of 2020. An additional few months have been factored in to finalise the report.

Budget

Other dioceses have spent between GBP 50,000 and 100,000 on their Past Cases Reviews. The Archbishops' Council will contribute 50% of the cost, up to GBP 30,000.

The Bishop's Council **should expect a likely liability of up to GBP 70,000** to be taken out of diocesan reserves. In addition, there will be an impact on staff preparing files and managing the review as well as an impact on office space for the independent reviewers.

Diocesan Office
5 September 2019

**St Olave's Grammar School
Goddington Lane
Orpington
BR6 9SH**

