

Leominster Priory

PCC Annual Report for 2020 (Abbreviated)

The full Trustee Report and Financial Statements for 2020 are available from either our website www.LeominsterPriory.org.uk or the back of church



We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make the Priory the lively and vibrant community it is and all the members of the PCC and the Ministry Team for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the Priory running.

2020 was a very difficult year for most of us. Our churchwardens have had to work especially hard to comply with Covid restrictions and keep services going wherever possible. We have provided recorded services online for those who were shielding and unable to attend church when it was open and for all when it was closed. So our thanks go to all those who helped in preparing and recording those services and putting them online including Hilary Norris for the music and choir, Sussannah Peppinate and Sarah Chedzoy for bring it all together and David Bland for putting it online.

Of course we are also in interregnum so have no leader at the moment which has also caused a lot of extra work for the PCC and Churchwardens.

We are an all inclusive church and encourage people of all denominations to join us in our beautiful church for worship and prayer. Our Pastoral care group provide care for people living in the parish. And our Intergenerational Pioneers work with children and families of all backgrounds.

Th Priory Church provides a venue for concerts, conferences, school activities and large special events. Which we all hope will be able to take place again soon.

Plans for future periods:

- To explore how our mission and ministry can be reimagined intergenerationally for our context as we face the challenges presented by staff retirement .
- To further advance the values of the Inclusive Church movement by making building access improvements.
- To control costs, improve efficiencies and encourage generous growth in financial stewardship. We continue to look to the Parish Giving Scheme as a means of achieving this.
- In partnership with our Director of Music explore how we can continue to develop the musical ministry of the Priory
- To continue to maintain and improve our wonderful Priory building.

HEREFORD DIOCESE FINANCIAL UPDATE

The majority of the funding for the Diocese comes from contributions from parishes. Our financial contribution helps to spread the gospel throughout the Diocese in many ways.

As you will no doubt be aware the Hereford Diocese now operates a Parish Offer scheme and has subsequently recorded deficits in its accounts. In June last year the PCC agreed that the Parish Offer should remain at £75,527, despite a request from the diocese to increase by 4.5%. This was because of the Covid situation and not knowing how it would affect our income. However, the diocese continues to face rising costs including a stipend increase in 2019 of 2% and inflation of 1.3% which amounted to a real decline in income of 1.9% for 2019. I do not have the 2020 figures yet but can't imagine them being any better.

