

FROM THE BISHOP OF OXFORD
The Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft
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Dear Colleague,

Many congratulations on your election to the new Diocesan Synod and warm thanks for being willing to serve the church in the Diocese of Oxford in this way. I look forward very much to working with you over the next three years.

This triennium will be a critical one for the Diocese as we seek to sustain and build the life of the local church in every place. We continue to prioritise our work with children, young people and families. The next three years will see a renewed focus on our areas of growing housing and population, particularly in Milton Keynes. We will continue to engage with the challenges in God's world including the climate and biodiversity crises, the acute mental health challenges facing our young people and adults and the continued challenges of poverty, inequality and justice for all.

We continue to explore as a Diocese our calling to be a more Christ like Church for the sake of God's world: contemplative, compassionate and courageous. This will be a year of transition in episcopal leadership for the Areas of Buckingham and Reading, God willing.

Our texts for Dwelling in the Word this year are two key passages from the Letter to the Ephesians which stress the abundant grace of God and love of God in all circumstances and I would encourage you to engage with Ephesians 1.3-14 and 3.14-21 as you prepare for the triennium.

I look forward very much to working with you, to listening with you to the concerns of the diocese and to exercising wisdom, discernment and leadership together in the coming years

With kind regards and prayers

