

To: Area Deans, PCC Secretaries and Deans
cc Incumbents, Priests in Charge, Team Rectors and BMO Leaders

28 July 2023

Dear all

At the Diocesan Synod on the 15 July 2023 the following emergency motion was passed:

“THAT this Diocesan Synod, recognising the worsening crisis in Sudan and the long-established Link with the Episcopal Church of Sudan, calls upon the Secretary to the Diocesan Synod to send a letter together with Sudan information about prayer and information resources on behalf of this Diocesan Synod to every Area Dean, PCC Secretary and Dean in the diocese requesting:

- 1. That every church in the Leeds Diocese is encouraged in their prayerful support of our brothers and sisters of Sudan throughout the current crisis.*
- 2. That every Area Dean and cathedral considers facilitating a prayer vigil in their deanery or Cathedral for Sudan during this crisis, and considers inviting participation by those of Sudanese heritage and Sudanese refugees who may live in their area.*

Speaking on behalf of motion the Reverend Canon Anne Russell reminded Synod of the current situation in Sudan and provided an update on the impact the conflict was having on our brothers and sisters there. Synod also heard from Frederico Vuni who encouraged members that praying was the most important thing we could do and Bishop Nick who said Archbishop Ezekiel was very grateful to know that those in the Diocese of Leeds were standing with them in prayer.

To help you encourage those in your deaneries and in our parishes I am pleased to be able to enclose a range of resources which have now been prepared by our diocesan Sudan Task group following the synod motion. Please do take time to consider how you might pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ. If you are holding prayer vigils please do let the communications team know (communciations@leeds.anglican.org) so we can share and encourage the wider diocese as they also pray for the people of Sudan.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Wood
Chief Executive (Diocesan Secretary)