

## **Minutes of the Deanery Synod held at St John's Church, West Ealing**

**on Thursday 30 March 2017**

**Welcome & Prayer** Revd Peter McKenzie welcomed everyone to St John's Church. Between St John and St James there are 5 English-speaking and 2 foreign-speaking congregations, although there is a mixture of languages spoken. There are 3 Fresh Expressions of worship, Messy Church, Café Church (incl the Soup Kitchen people) and Youth. Then there is the Living Waters Arabic Church, the Myanmar Burmese Congregation as well as the Russian speaking Church. Their vision is to make disciples of Jesus. We were then led in Worship and Prayer

### **Vacancy for Governor at William Perkin School**

No nominations invited. Defer to July meeting

### **Vacancy for Governor at Edward Betham School**

One nominee Revd Dr John Seymour, Twyford Church of England Academies Trust Chaplain. A statement from him was read by Revd Graham Miller, who nominated him, seconded by Revd Justin Dodd. As there were no other nominations Revd Dr John Seymour was duly elected

### **General Synod**

Enid Barron informed the meeting of the many topics covered at General Synod in February, including a lot of legislation. Although it may sound uninteresting, it was very informative and also enjoyable. A lot of the legislation was to ease the burden for clergy; discussion whether Banns procedure should be handed over to the local authority, but in fact clergy regarded it as an opportunity to engage with people and their families that might otherwise never come to church; another item was regarding robes, bringing Canon Law up to date. Discussions were had on the new bishopric in the Leicester Diocese. General Synod has called on the Government to reduce the maximum stake on Fixed Odds Betting Terminals to £2; London Diocese are engaging with social issues. There was a respectful discussion on same-sex marriage. Lastly they said goodbye to Bishop Richard, a celebration of what he had achieved.

### **Vacancy in See Consultation**

Mary Chapman and Enid Barron both from the Committee explained there were two aspects, the factual needs of the Diocese and the qualities people thought were needed for the role. Names would not be proposed although anyone can propose a name to Caroline Boddington, Secretary to the Appointing Committee

Members at the meeting were handed a sheet of 6 questions to consider:

- 1 What are the challenges you all face, which you need the new Bishop of London to help you with?
- 2 Which of these challenges aren't addressed sufficiently in the Diocese's Capital Vision priorities?
- 3 What leadership characteristics, qualities and skills in Bishop Richard's ministry have helped you all to grow in being Christ-centred and outward looking?
- 4 What in addition to those characteristics, qualities and skills will his successor require to help you all to grow?
- 5 What particular characteristics, qualities and skills will the new Bishop of London need to fulfil the regional, national and international responsibilities of the role?
- 6 Are there any other important points for the Vacancy in See Committee to know?

In small groups we discussed the questions and noted down challenges, characteristics, qualities and skills. Each group highlighted just one aspect, but all our thoughts were gathered up to be summarized for forwarding to the Vacancy in See Committee  
Thanks expressed to Mary and Enid

### **Next Meeting**

Archdeacon's Visitation Thursday 11 May 7.30pm St Stephen's Ealing