

Rector's Letter - Rev'd Jeremy Trew - May 2024

Dear All

By the time you read this progress will be well underway towards recruiting clergy to fill the current vacancies in the Team. With the gradual departure of Caroline, then John, then Alex, we have had to work hard to maintain the life of our Church communities. My thanks to all who have done so and given so much effort and grace.



These appointments will end an extended period of recruitment across the Deanery. Since I arrived just three years ago every beneficed clergy post in the Deanery has changed. That is an enormous amount of change. I have also attended a considerable number of induction services for new clergy. At those services (and also at ordinations) the liturgy reminds us of a task we hold, "to proclaim afresh the Gospel in each generation." This phrase is not just directed at the clergy present, but at the whole church. This is what it is to be a traditional Christian; one who helps recast their Church community to best respond to the needs of the wider community in their current time and place. That can take many forms, and I am glad of the diversity of tradition and belief we share across our Team. It enriches us in so many ways that we are not all the same.

Rev'd Ella will be spending the remainder of her curacy focusing on working with the Parishes of the Chesterfords, Littlebury, and Wendens Ambo. Those Parishes have agreed to suspend recruitment until January 2025 to allow Ella to do this, and for her to be eligible to apply for the post of Team Vicar with them should that seem right. This means that we are focusing our efforts on recruiting for the two House for Duty posts, based in Ashdon and Debden. Such posts can prove problematic to recruit to, but we have the strength of being a Team, and some wonderfully supportive Church communities. Please pray for those looking for such posts. We hope to be shortlisting this month, with interviews a couple of weeks after this.

Again, my heartfelt thanks to all who have gone the extra mile supporting our Church communities in these times of vacancy and change.

Best wishes

Jeremy

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