

Who's Who in Worthing Deanery

Rural Dean; Fr Felix Smith revfelixsmith@gmail.com
Lay Chair; Martin Lloyd martinlloyd1@gmx.com
Deanery Secretary; Heather Crookes worthingdeaneryoffice@gmail.com
Deanery Treasurer; Liz Farrow eafarrow@aol.com
Deanery Development; Heather Crookes worthingdeaneryoffice@gmail.com
Deanery PTO Rep; Revd Nancy Ford nancyc.ford@sky.com
Chapter Clerk; Curate Ben Scott Ben Scott chalkspringscurate@outlook.com

PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE: We would like to welcome The Revd Katherine Smith and The Revd Denis Bradshaw to our PTO family!

Currently, we only have one PTO for Deanery Representation, (thank you Revd Nancy Ford!) ideally we should have two more. If you would like to become a PTO rep please let me know on worthingdeaneryoffice@gmail.com. You would only be required to attend 2 meetings a year and you will be provided with tea and biscuits!

STATISTICS FOR MISSION -I know, I know... Collecting statistics is one more job... However, it is a job which plays a vital role in understanding not only what's going on in our individual churches, but also in our diocese and on a national scale. The more we are faithful in submitting data the more it's possible for mission decisions which affect us strategically and financially to be made faithfully and wisely. The life of our diocese and deanery is directly impacted by the figures we provide. Statistics for Mission data are required to be submitted by end of January 2024. There should be a designated person in your church for submitting these. (Statistics for Mission figures are often submitted by the Incumbent, Warden or Parish Secretary). The link for this is available here: <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>

NEXT NEWSLETTER: Please send your content for February's newsletter by the 5 February 2024 to: worthingdeaneryoffice@gmail.com

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Church: *St Richard's, Maybridge*

Parish: *West Tarring*

Local charity: *Worthing Soup Kitchen*

UK: *Those struggling with the cost of living crisis*

World: *Israel and Palestine*



FACEBOOK: Could you ensure you have liked/followed the Worthing Deanery Facebook page. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552294105018>

Currently we have 36 followers. There are many more of us in the Deanery, please follow the page



**Worthing
Deanery**



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Dear brothers & sisters, A new year is usually a time for new resolutions! I wonder what yours were this year. Perhaps you might make a resolution to your parish this year too. To help out with this particular task, join this particular group, go to this service or even raise your giving. I review my giving each January, and this is something that's really important to think about doing. As a parish a new year is a good time to think about financial matters in general. Here, we'll be having a stewardship campaign in February. It might be worth thinking how many of your electoral roll are on the Parish Giving Scheme. Might a letter from the treasurer with a form sent to each household encourage those to think about joining? Perhaps some people joined many years ago, but haven't increased their giving since then. Giving £10 a month ten years ago is very different than giving £10 now! What might be done to encourage giving in your church?

It is also worth thinking about the fees you charge. Perhaps your hall booking fees could be more competitive – putting them up by just a £1 or 2 an hour can make a huge difference across a year. Similarly, do you charge for things like heating for Occasional Offices in the winter, and do you have opportunities for people to donate by card reader as they go out from these services? This may seem mercenary, but part of being good stewards of our churches is to ensure that they are financially healthy. The more funds a church has coming in, the more it can be released to engage in mission. If you'd like some more ideas do talk to Andrew Smith in his role as Deanery Giving. **Fr Felix**

GIVING GENEROUSLY: REVD. ANDREW L SMITH: Recently, the Diocese of Chichester commissioned a video to explore how different churches in the diocese have undertaken their "journey of generosity", examining how messages of stewardship and generous giving can be worked into the fabric of church life. In this video, nine clergy from eight parishes reflect on their different journeys of generosity, offering helpful insights to encourage you, no matter where your parish is starting from, to begin your own "journey of generosity". Each church tells their own particular story and give top tips for what worked well for them. They also explore how this becomes part of "the way we do church here" and comment on how giving by parishioners supports and enables the work of ministry and mission, both within the church congregation but also the impact this has on the wider community. This valuable resource is over 20 minutes long but every minute is great value. You can access the video from this weblink:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7bbxewwYIbY>

Next Deanery Standing Committee Meeting: 17th April 3.30pm by Zoom
Next Deanery Synod Meeting: Thursday 23rd May 2024 at St Andrews, Tarring

