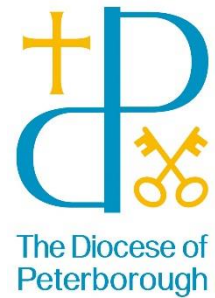


## BISHOP'S BULLETIN No 23

### To the Licensed Clergy of Peterborough Diocese

21 September 2020



Dear friends

Once again, thank you so very much for all you are doing and juggling at the moment. In the last week I have found myself saying to two very different people, an MP and a senior business leader, how very proud I am of our clergy: their **[your]** hard work, creativity, and determination over recent months have been an inspiration.

#### The Rule of Six

The government's detailed guidelines on the application of this rule to places of worship don't shed any new light. It is basically a matter of common sense. "Bubbles" of more than six people, including children, are not permitted indoors or out of doors, unless they are all one household living under the same roof. Gatherings of larger numbers are permitted for certain purposes, including public worship, but there must be appropriate distancing of one "bubble" from another (and face covering if indoors).

It is safe to assume that this rule, or possibly an even tighter one, will still be in place for Armistice/Remembrance events on 8 and 11 November. The same may well still be the case by Christmas.

APCMs and PCCs come under the same rules, making it difficult, though not always impossible, to meet in person. Local decisions, in the light of the local context, will be needed. You have my permission to delay APCMs, and to hold PCCs online or by phone conference call; you have my encouragement and support in applying the rules to your own situation.

#### Music

Small groups of trained singers may accompany worship, provided that they are well distanced from each other and from the congregation, and that no congregational singing is allowed. "Well distanced" is not clearly defined, but the research suggests at least three metres. Instruments may be played, but those that involve blowing should either be avoided, or be **very** well distanced.

## New Ministers

On Saturday Bishop John will be ordaining our new deacons in the Cathedral, and I will be licensing the new lay ministers by zoom. Do pray for them, and welcome them as you get the opportunity.

### Deacons:

Simon Aley	Oakham, Ashwell, Braunston, Brook, Egleton, Hambleton, Lanham, Market Overton, Teigh and Whissendine
Yvonne Desroches	Northampton Emmanuel
Keir Dow	King's Cliffe, Bulwick and Blatherwycke, Collyweston, Easton on the Hill and Laxton
Nicholas Edwards	Moulton
Michelle Frost	Irthlingborough with Great Addington with Little Addington and Woodford
Angela Hammett	Towcester with Caldecote and Easton Neston and Greens Norton and Bradden
Kevin Montgomery	Corby St Columba and the Northern Saints
Kristian Seward	Clipston with Naseby and Haselbech and Kelmarsh, Welford with Sibbertoft and Marston Trussell
Deborah Wilds	Uppingham with Ayston and Belton with Wardley
Joshua Thorne	Rushden Whitefriars
Alison Wagner	Northampton St Giles

### Lay Ministers:

Val Carpenter	Clipston, Haselbech, Kelmarsh, Marston Trussell, Naseby, Sibbertoft and Welford
Jessica Cotton	Wellingborough St. Andrew and St. Barnabas
Sue Donnelly	Roade, Ashton, Courteenhall and Hartwell
Louise Foote	Oundle with Ashton and Benefield with Glapthorn
Paul Foster	Northampton Emmanuel
Yvonne Head	Wellingborough St. Andrew and St. Barnabas
Sarah Howard	Weston Favell
Ginny Pledger	Raunds, Hargrave, Ringstead and Stanwick
Alan Ridley	All Saints, Kettering
Judy Whitmore	Kingsthorpe

With love in Christ

+ Donald