

6 September 2024

To all members of Diocesan Synod

Dear Synod member,

**Congratulations** on being elected to the Oxford Diocesan Synod for the 2024-27 triennium. I and my colleagues in Church House look forward to working with you over this period in your role in representing the clergy and parishes of the diocese as together we seek to become a more Christlike Church for the sake of God's world. A copy of the new membership list in its current form is attached and will later be linked to the Diocese's website.

We hope all new Synod members, and as many existing Synod members as possible, will be able to attend the **induction meeting** for this triennium which, as previously notified, will take place **from 3.30pm on Thursday 19 September 2024 at St Ebbe's Church, Oxford**, followed at 7.30pm by an Inaugural Eucharist at Christ Church (venue and travel information are attached)). We have planned this so that it will introduce, and update on, the work overseen by Synod, as well as provide information on procedural matters. A programme is enclosed.

We will be providing light refreshments, including a buffet, at the event and to assist with catering it would be much appreciated if you could please register your attendance and any dietary requirements/allergies via Eventbrite (link is on the programme). If you are unable to do this, or would like any further information, please contact Judith Dignum at [synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:synodclerk@oxford.anglican.org).

Enclosed with this email is a list of documents which form an induction pack, including links to many of those currently available online. Hard copies of some of the documents (including the Synod's Standing Orders) will be available at the induction evening. If you are not able to attend, please ask Judith to send them by post.

One of the matters to be discussed at the induction evening will be the opportunity for you as Synod Members to serve on diocesan committees. A document containing full details, including the timetable for elections, summary information on the committees and contact details of individuals who may be contacted for further information, will be circulated shortly. The induction event will also offer the opportunity to obtain information about the committees. Please prayerfully consider who you might wish to nominate or whether you might wish to stand yourself.

Diocesan Synod normally meets three times a year. Following the induction meeting, the Synod will meet on Saturday 16 November 2024 from 9.15am to 1pm; this will be a zoom meeting. Synod meetings in 2025 will take place on 8 March, 14 June and 15 November. The March meeting will be held in person at Didcot Civic Hall (and will extend until mid-afternoon) with the June and November meetings taking place via Zoom (and finishing at 1pm). Final arrangements and timings will be confirmed in due course, but it would be helpful if you could please note these dates in your diary.

If you have any queries at any time please do not hesitate to contact either Judith or me.

With kind regards

Canon Mark Humphriss

Diocesan Secretary and Secretary to Synod