

Bishop's Leadership team Key Messages 7 May 2019

The Bishop's Leadership Team met on 7 May. As customary, the meeting began with a Eucharist and the reading of scripture through use of *lectio divina*.

The following were among the matters considered:

- The strategy document for 2020-30 was further discussed, prior to conversation at Bishop's Council and Diocesan Synod. It outlines the vision and specific mission goals of growing, nurturing and serving.
- The effect on clergy of stress and a lack of holidays or days off was considered, by means of analysis of the annual survey of clergy wellbeing in the diocese. One outcome of this was a decision to increase the Sabbaticals entitlement of clergy from ten to every seven years.
- Services around Holy Week were reviewed, and it was noted that the renewal of vows service on Holy Monday was especially well attended and received.
- The use of social media, especially by clergy, was discussed. Such media are often a blessing in promoting the church and a Christian perspective on matters of the moment. However, there may also be difficulties, especially when users forget quite how public such media are.
- The use by the Diocese of the Church of England 'Pathways' online recruitment tool was reviewed.
- BLT received its usual wide range of reports to assist members discharge their responsibilities for oversight. These include reports on safeguarding, HR matters, Sabbaticals and upcoming licensings.