

# CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

## COMMUNITY

June 2019



Join us for a Year of Discipleship, **#MoreThanSunday**, which launches on 1 July.

Look out for postcards being mailed to your PCC Secretary next week and please distribute to your congregations. **#MoreThanSunday** has something for everyone to help grow our faith. Content is delivered by podcast and video, and contributors are local people who are lay and ordained, young and old.

Please sign up for **#MoreThanSunday** and encourage your church members to sign up so we can journey together.

[www.manchester.anglican.org/more-than-sunday/](http://www.manchester.anglican.org/more-than-sunday/)



### DBF Staffing Review

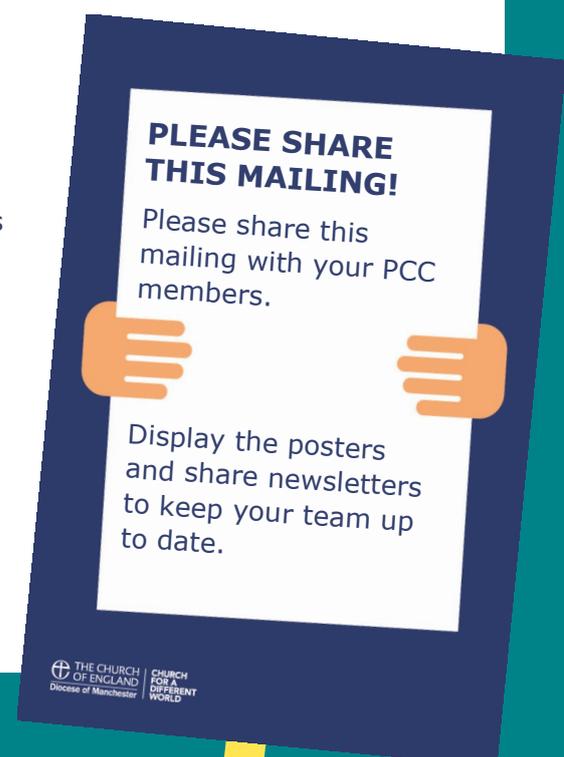
The final accounts for 2018 show that our Diocese had an operating deficit of over £600k. Our financial performance so far in 2019 indicates that we are likely to run with the same level of deficit again. This has arisen mainly because of a shortfall in income from Parish Share which itself is linked to a continuing decline in church attendance.

The DBF is therefore taking a range of actions to achieve a balanced budget as a matter of priority. This includes reviewing the staffing structure of the DBF. The review is considering the services currently provided by the DBF and seeking to identify efficiencies and cost savings where practicable. As part of this we will also be ensuring we have complete alignment of the DBF's staffing and other resources to support the focused delivery of the diocese's strategy. The review makes for some hard choices about activities and services which we have supported over many years, but which we can no longer afford.

DBF staff are currently being consulted on the proposals and unfortunately a small number of staff have now been informed that their posts are at risk of redundancy. Our aim is to have the new structure in place by the beginning of September, pending the results of the consultation.

We do not expect to be able to eliminate all of the deficit through the staffing changes we are proposing. A range of other measures will also be taken forward as a matter of priority over the coming months. These include reviewing our use of Church House, revisiting our property strategy more generally, and ensuring the changes that are being considered as part of the reconfiguration of parishes, deaneries and stipendiary numbers, also contribute to achieving a balanced budget.

Canon Philip Blinkhorn, Chair of Diocesan Board of Finance



## LATEST NEWS

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 Diocese of Manchester

## NEW! HEAD OF CHURCH GROWTH

The Revd Mike Starkey has been appointed as Head of Church Growth. This is a new post that is important for translating the diocesan vision for growth into practical action. Mike will advise the diocese on strategies for growth. He will also have particular responsibility for enabling church planting, Fresh Expressions and exploring the possibilities for new Resource Churches.



Mike has worked as a vicar in London for nearly 20 years, mainly in churches that were struggling, helping them to grow in numbers. His experience in ministry included inner city suburbs across a wide range of church traditions.

Mike will support lay and ordained leaders by providing resources and courses to help them with their growth programmes.

## CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD AWARDS



The awards are back, with applications invited by 31 July.

The awards celebrate how our churches and chaplaincies are changing to meet the needs of their communities in all kinds of ways. What can you celebrate?

Apply at:

[www.manchester.anglican.org/awards/](http://www.manchester.anglican.org/awards/)

## THE IMPORTANCE OF SABBATICALS

The diocese has reduced the minimum period between Sabbaticals from ten to seven years. The results of the annual clergy well-being survey have stressed the importance of taking a three-month Sabbatical to refresh and revitalise, as well as to help maintain resilience.

Bishop David says, "If you think that you are too busy to consider spending time away from your responsibilities, or that cover would be impossible to arrange, please think again. With the benefits that accrue to the Church's ministry, the question should be whether any of us can justify not taking such leave.

"I would therefore ask all clergy to consider taking a Sabbatical. The Bishops of Bolton and Middleton will look as favourably as possible upon such an application, although it needs to fall within certain parameters." (More details can be found at [tinyurl.com/ya63k5jo](http://tinyurl.com/ya63k5jo))