

UPDATE FOR ST THOMAS' CONGREGATION – SUNDAY 12TH AUGUST

RECRUITMENT OF TEAM VICAR

A first round of interviews for the role of Team Vicar here at St Thomas' took place on 25th July, when the interview panel comprised Alison and Ruth from St Thomas' DCC alongside Archdeacon Guy of Buckingham, Jeremy and Steve Snaith, Churchwarden at St Mary's.

That panel unanimously agreed that one of the two candidates should go forward to a second interview, at which at least one St Thomas' Churchwarden, plus a 2nd St Thomas' representative, would be on the interview panel and which would give opportunity for a greater number of people from St Thomas's and the Team Ministry to meet the candidate.

And so on Friday 31st August there will be an evening with refreshments for available DCC members to meet the candidate and on the following day, Saturday 1st September, that 2nd interview, plus meetings with members of the Beaconsfield clergy and ministry team, will take place.

As is usual on a Saturday morning at 9 am, there will be prayer here at St Thomas', which anyone from St Thomas', St Mary's and St Michael's is welcome to attend. On 1st September there will be morning prayer led by Archdeacon Guy and attended by the candidate, who will deliver a short homily.

In preparation for this 2nd round interview, the parish profile has been reviewed by the DCC and now includes information on the Diocese and Deanery and St Thomas' financial position. A copy of this enhanced profile is displayed at the back of the church and will be available on the church website.

Just to add a brief word about my own situation. As you know, I am at St Thomas' "for a season" and there remains no firm date when that season might end. But clearly that time is coming closer. This is just to reassure you that when I do return to St Mary's you will not have seen the back of me because, as part of the new ways of working which are currently being explored, ministry at St Mary's and St Thomas' is likely to be shared in a way which sees clergy both firmly placed within their home church but also leading services regularly across the two churches. More will be shared of those plans once they have been agreed by the group working on this.

So you will see me regularly, as well as Jeremy, who incidentally will be leading the Communion service here next week, while I am at St Mary's.

In the meantime, do please hold all these issues, and the people who are involved with them, in your prayers.

Sharon Roberts
9.8.18