

Growing Forward Together > > > Towards 2020

is the encouragement to reflect on our values, priorities and mission that has guided our life together as a diocese in recent years.

Our values

In all that we do with and for God we shall seek to be

- loving
- collaborative
- flexible
- prepared to take risks
- generous
- wanting to say Yes

Our Priorities

Growing with God - a holy people

- We will make our relationship with God active, vibrant and exciting. So we are looking for SPIRITUAL REVIVAL and RENEWAL
- that is personal
- and corporate

Growing as disciples a learning people

- We will be a learning people, committed to understanding our faith and equipped to minister
- We will call out, train and nurture ministers both lay and ordained

invites us to take some practical steps together to shape the future of our Diocese in the light of these.....
By looking ahead creatively now, we will enable more opportunity to let God take control and shape our future.

Themes

- We pray for and plan for our future
- We will enable the ministry of every baptised person
- We will plan locally for mission and form new partnerships to succeed
- We will hold fast to our values whilst adapting our structures

We will pray for and plan for our future

- Seeking a vision for being the people of God where we are and praying for the energy of the Holy Spirit to do God's will
- Leading our congregation to a commitment that goes beyond just going to church
- Discerning our mission and the people God is calling to share in it

We will enable the ministry of every baptised person

- Looking for personal growth through *Education for Discipleship* or other means
- Using stipendiary parish clergy to enable the ministries of others to be discerned and to flourish. They will build local ministry teams and encourage all ministers to work together in the service of the wider community
- Having a wider mix of people to help us minister more flexibly in a rapidly changing world
 - ◇ Better-trained stipendiary clergy
 - ◇ Non-Stipendiary Ministers
 - ◇ Ordained Local Ministers

Growing in the world - a missionary and evangelistic people

- We will become a Church that is involved in, with and for the World:
- in our daily lives
- in our worship and prayer
- in our mission
- in our social action

We will plan locally for mission and form new partnerships to succeed

- Listening to and engaging with the communities we serve
- Developing a local plan for mission that will help our church grow and have greater local impact.
- Considering how this mission plan is best delivered
- Choosing partners to work with us on each particular mission task
- Looking to Area Deans and Archdeacons to act as facilitators to help us meet new opportunities as they arise.
- Looking to the Diocese to enable and support Teams to address specific local challenges
- Engaging with the *Fresh Expressions* programme in order to develop the mixed economy church within the diocese
- Allowing that we may become a more diverse church, with different and changing patterns of ordained and lay leadership

Travelling Light

- We will hold on to all that is important
- We will let go of what holds us back
- We will have sufficient resources for our journey

We will hold fast to our values whilst adapting our structures

- Continuing to be a recognisably Anglican Church that remains loyal to its historic core values while being re-shaped for mission under God
- Being prepared for change and willing and able to adapt
- Becoming much more of a movement for mission
- Enabling our people
- Attracting enabling ministers to Kent
- Managing and marketing our heritage
- Becoming centres of generosity