

May 2021

Dear Friends,

LICHFIELD DIOCESAN SYNOD ELECTIONS

We are writing to you about the forthcoming elections to Lichfield Diocesan Synod.

These are important times in the life of our Diocese, and the church in our nation. Locally we are on the “Shaping for Mission” journey, thinking about how best to shape our deaneries as a focal point for our mission and ministry these next years. And nationally we continue to live with the opportunities but also the significant challenges raised by COVID, and this new season of ‘recovery’ which we seem to be entering.

In such a context leadership at all levels of the life of the church is essential, and this includes at a deanery and a diocesan level. Those who serve on Diocesan Synod – lay and clergy – play an important role in supporting and implementing the vision and mission of the Diocese, and ensuring that resources and good decision making serve our common purpose of following Christ.

We are therefore asking all members of Shrewsbury deanery synod to consider standing. And, equally importantly, for you to think about others in your churches who are not on Deanery synod but would be willing to stand for election to Lichfield Diocesan synod.

We have also placed all of the documents needed on a local website at www.trinitychurches.org/synod2021. But in brief:

- (1) Four lay members and four clergy members will be elected from Shrewsbury Deanery.
- (2) You do not have to be a member of deanery synod to stand for election to diocesan synod. So for lay members this is open to anyone who is on the electoral roll of a church in the deanery.
- (3) Nominations must be received by Monday 24th May at 12 noon, after which if needs be there is a process of those standing for election to write a short statement in support of their candidature, and then there is an opportunity to vote.

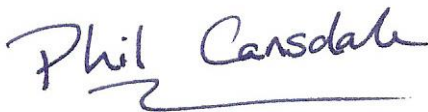
The dates of this process are as follows:

- w/b 26th April Members of House of clergy and house of laity to receive notice of election forms and information regarding nomination papers.
- By Monday 24th May at 12 noon. Nomination forms submitted to Ian Peake, Deanery Secretary.

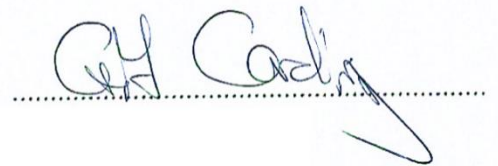
- 28th May Voting papers emailed and posted.
- 11th June "Polls" close
- 14th – 16th June Votes counted
- 16th June Those elected notified, plus Diocesan Secretary.

There is a well-trod gospel invitation of "giving God our best", and we ask you as local churches as well as individuals to consider this opportunity to serve prayerfully and carefully. In the meantime, if you have particular queries or concerns then the best person to contact is Ian Peake, Deanery Secretary. His email is jamiemccrimmon@hotmail.com

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Cansdale". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish underneath the name.

Revd Phil Cansdale
Area Dean of Shrewsbury

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gill Carding". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

Gill Carding
Lay Chair of Shrewsbury Deanery