

TO :

All members of Diocesan Synod

[Copies to Rural Deans, Lay Chairmen and Secretaries of Deanery Synods who are not members of the Diocesan Synod.]

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

DIOCESAN SYNOD: 9.30 am Saturday 14 March 2020
All Saints Academy, Houghton Road, Dunstable LU5 5AB.

I write formally, in accordance with the Diocesan Synod's Standing Order 17, to give preliminary notice of the business likely to be transacted at the next meeting of the Diocesan Synod, which is due to be held on Saturday 14 March 2020 at the All Saints Academy, Dunstable.

Please note that ***the Synod will commence at 9.30 am*** and it is envisaged that it will end no later than 12.30 pm.

Items of business are likely to include the following:-

Prayers to be led by Hitchin Deanery

Presidential Address

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2019 and Matters Arising

Announcements and business items

Guidance on Synod Rules for new members – a short presentation from the Chair of the House of Laity

'Reimagining Rural Ministry' – Introduction from the Archdeacon of Bedford and presentation from the Reverend Dr Mark Betson (National Rural Officer, Church of England)

Update and questions on Reaching New People from the Director of Mission and members of the RNP Team

'Preparation for General Synod Voting' – a short presentation from Mr Tim Fleming (General Synod Member)

Questions

Update on LGL 2025 – the 'Big Conversation' from the Bishop of Bedford and the Reverend Tim Wilson (Diocesan Big Conversation Enabler)

Presentation on the Lambeth Conference –from the Reverend Timothy Vickers (Watford Deanery)

Under Standing Order 21, any items of new business must be submitted not less than 35 days in advance of the session - i.e. **Friday 7 February 2020**, but the Standing Committee can give no guarantee that such items can be included on the agenda for this session. Questions for answer at this session must be submitted not later than 28 days in advance of the session - i.e. **Friday 14 February 2020** - unless a special dispensation has been given to accept later notice. Members submitting questions are particularly asked to make it clear to whom they are addressed.

The agenda and supporting papers for Synod will be issued on **Friday 21 February 2020**.

S E Pope
Diocesan Secretary
31 January 2020