



***‘Leadership opportunities – You
can be involved!’***

**A short guide to the roles of Churchwarden, Deanery Synod
Representative, Parochial Church Council [PCC] Member
and Sides person [Steward]**

This guide is designed to help all members of our church family as they prayerfully think about these roles or who to nominate for them in preparation for our Annual Church Meeting on Sunday 18th October at 4pm 2020 in Christ Church or by Zoom.

Christ Church and St Andrew’s Vision

Our aim is to glorify God by building a Christ centred community through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Introduction

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is an important event in the life of the Parish when we will elect a number of people to take roles in the leadership of the church and will this year hear the legal reports needed which will update us of many items of interest.

We will elect two churchwardens (up to April 2021), three members of the PCC to represent us on Deanery Synod, three members of the PCC for Christ Church and one member of the PCC for St Andrews (the rest up to April 2023). There will be vacancies due to changing roles/retirements. We also hope to appoint as many sidespersons/stewards as we can nominate.

The Role of the Churchwarden

This role involves legal as well as spiritual and practical duties. The Churchwarden serves in the Parish and is formally licensed. In Christ Church- St. Andrews the Churchwardens specifically have the following roles –

- To support Anthony [the Vicar] by regularly meeting with him and by encouraging him in his own spiritual and personal life.
- To meet with other Pastoral staff at least once a year.
- To be an active member of the PCC which looks at the spiritual and practical aspects of the life of the two churches.
- To fulfil various practical functions including organising the sides people and covering the main Sunday services. In addition, there are extra responsibilities at the major festivals.
- To act as a communication link between the Vicar/PCC and the church family.

The Churchwarden needs to be a person who is spiritually alive, has some maturity and has time to give to the role. The warden will be in agreement with the vision of the church. There is an expectation of regular attendance at one of our churches, involvement in small groups, commitment financially and prayerfully to the church family. The person has to be confirmed as this is required by the Church of England nationally.

The Role of a PCC Member

The PCC assists the Vicar in the leadership of the church. The PCC helps set the direction of the church family as well as overseeing such practical matters as finance and fabric. Membership of the PCC (which we expect this year to be two and a half years) normally involves the following commitments although this year it may look slightly different -

- One or two half-days a year to allow detailed discussion of the future direction of our church family and nine evening meetings of the PCC.

- Working with the Ministry Overseers and Staff team to ensure the church is walking in God's ways and seeking to build his kingdom.
- Possible membership of a sub-committee of the PCC or a shorter-term task group.
- A commitment to active involvement in church life and to praying for the ministry of our church family.
- Attendance at least once a month at one of our prayer times.
- Regular attendance on Sundays.
- Active involvement in the life of the church through service and a commitment to growing in faith this would normally include both attendance of a homegroup and financial giving..

A PCC member will inevitably find that they have a wider understanding of the direction of our churches and will be involved in helping the whole Parish move forward together. PCC members need to be spiritually aware, growing in their faith, committed to good communication and an active member of our church family. We expect PCC members to be committed to Christ and will not be members of other groups which have priorities and beliefs that are contrary to the Christian faith. e.g. Jehovah Witnesses, other faith groups, Masons and the like.

Deanery Synod Representatives

These people this year will be elected for two and a half years (until April 2023) and are members of the PCC (so need to fill all those requirements) but in addition they attend up to three **Deanery meetings** with representatives of local churches from Herne Bay and Whitstable. The Deanery is being given more responsibility by the Diocese. It has become a place where we do less business and more sharing of good ideas. This year the election has particular significance as those elected will be able to vote for General Synod representatives next year.

The Role of a Sides person/Steward

The Sides person is often the first person that people see when they enter church. They, therefore, have a vital role in welcoming the congregation and in making new people feel at home. Practical duties include handing out service materials, stewarding at communion, tidying up after services to name just a few. Sides people need to have a welcoming smile, a friendly manner, and a willingness to serve – the more sides persons we have the better.

This year due to the Covid restrictions we do not really know when and how many sides people we will need but if you would like to volunteer we will arrange a rota when we need to. We are using a few people each week, and this will be organised as and when we need to increase the number of sides people.

Conclusion

If you feel that you need more information please do speak to Anthony [Vicar], Martin or Darran [Churchwardens] who would be delighted to help. If you wish to nominate or stand yourself you must be on the electoral roll – if you are not on the list please do contact Hazel Coasby [01227 749762] our electoral roll officer.

If you want to nominate someone for one of these roles or would like to stand yourself this year we would ask you to let Anthony know as he chairs the meeting. He will ensure the legal requirements are rightly fulfilled. Please do this by phone or email

Phone

075599608041 (except September 21st – October 3rd inclusive)

Email

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