



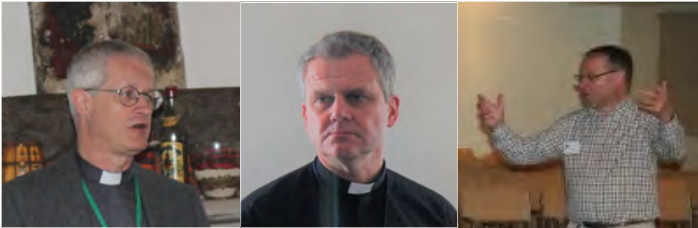
Scene@Synod

**Diocese of Cyprus
And the Gulf**

**Larnaca, Cyprus
February 2018**

DOING GOD & DOING GOOD

Synod 2018 adopted a different tack when it came to fleshing out the theme for the year.



Instead of one key-note speaker, three well-known but different preachers offered their perspectives of Doing God and Doing Good.

Ven Christopher Futchter (pictured left), Archdeacon of Exeter, cited the example of Jacob; Canon Andy Bowerman (centre) of the Anglican Alliance offered climate change as the most pressing issue while Ven Robert Jones, Archdeacon of Worcester, said Synod itself was an example of “a community that raises its sights beyond [its] own concerns.”

THE BISHOP'S TAKE

Bishop Michael's presidential address also enlarged on the theme.

Its purpose, he said, was “to demonstrate that love of God and love of neighbour are...inextricable; that love's not much if it's not practical.

“Lovingly serving others and one another, and lovingly working for the transformation of society into something better are part of lovingly worshipping God.

“They are at the heart of our primary reason for existing as a diocese and, indeed, as Christians.”

Nowhere is this more so than in those parts of the world – of this diocese – where, in the words of St Paul, “we're afflicted, we're perplexed, we're persecuted, we're struck down. (2 Corinthians 4).

Places like Baghdad and Aden where “all who visit see not just persistent faithfulness but genuine joy that begins and ends with worship while on the way taking in love of neighbour spelled out in the most explicit forms.

And though we are afflicted etc., we are not “driven to despair, not forsaken, not destroyed. We do not lose heart.”

“For Christians, we do and seek to do good only because God is good and has called us to share, and share in, his goodness. Let worship be service and our service worship.”

Address in full Page 2

RED TAPE = BLACK HOLE

But help is at hand!

Synod reps have rallied round to support the diocese through a cashflow crisis that left it with barely a month's worth of operational funding.

Finance Director John Banfield reported a deficit of €296k in parish contributions from Doha and Dubai, caused by unforeseen bureaucratic hiccups.

“I am assured the money will come but we have no date.”

“It's no-one's fault,” he said. “But it leaves us with a cash balance of just €149k as of December 31st 2017.

“Right now, we only have 50k which will get us through February. It's cause for a high level of concern. We are looking to borrow money to tide us over.”

And Synod came to the rescue. The Foundation immediately made €150,000 available in loans to be drawn down in blocks of 50k as required

Bahrain Chaplaincy offered to make another €50,000 available, subject to government regulations. And the Cyprus Treasurers' Committee agreed that funds from reserves held by island parishes could also be used if necessary.

Finance in full Page 3

DOING GOOD FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

BISHOP MICHAEL'S PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Before anything else, the Diocese of Cyprus & the Gulf exists to offer worship to God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit in the lands where our congregations are set. Worship is the first and non-negotiable task, duty and identifying characteristic of Christians.

Worship should be a joy. There will be a measure of particularity in our worship because of the particular - not to say sometimes peculiar - people we are in particular places. That particularity should be a joy alongside the common joy of our link, bond and unity as a diocese.

Three years ago, Synod explored and articulated our common diocesan *identity*. Two years ago, Synod focused on our common diocesan *mission*. Last year, Synod discussed our common diocesan *discipleship*. So what's to be common, what aspect of our link, bond and unity is to be delved into and celebrated in 2018?

It's something like our common *service* but it's more that that might be thought to mean. The thematic title this year is *Doing God & doing good*. In the course of the week others will unfold those at-first-hearing enigmatic words, both in the spiritual addresses and in the discussion groups that are now a firmly established element of Synod.

Suffice it to say now that the purpose of this theme is to demonstrate that love of God and love of neighbour are scripturally and doctrinally inextricable; that love's not much if it's not practical; that lovingly serving others and one another and lovingly working for the transformation of society into something better and more divine are part of lovingly worshipping God. They are therefore at the heart of our primary reason for existing as a diocese and indeed as Christians.

"Social liturgy" is an even more enigmatic and suggestive phrase. Perhaps it's simpler to remember that for Christians the word *service* is pregnant with at least two meanings. That's what the theme of this year's Synod is about.

The Anglican Communion, as those who have been at Synod in these last years will know well, has five thoroughly publicised Marks of Mission, though I wish we'd just called them Marks of the Church. Look them up. This year, we're starting to engage with Marks Three, Four and even Five.

As always, we meet against the background of the rest of our lives. 2 Corinthians 4 isn't to be quoted lightly; no scripture is. But for many in the region that we serve, in almost all of the countries God has led us to and for some - perhaps many - of us in the parishes and chaplaincies of this diocese, the resonances are strong.

"We're *afflicted*," says Paul, uncompromisingly and truthfully. "We're *perplexed*; we're *persecuted*; we're *struck down*." Speaking not just for himself but for others who keep the faith of Christ whatever may come, he qualifies each acknowledged setback and assault: "*but not crushed, not driven to despair, not forsaken, not destroyed*." And he continues: "*we always carry in the body of the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our bodies*."

He has prefaced all he says by saying we have this treasure - *the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, in earthenware vessels, in clay jars*." In other words, human beings are breakable, fragile, and existence is fragile, Christians are fragile, the Church is fragile; but that means it's clear that what we have "*belongs to God and doesn't come from us*." (2 Corinthians 4:7)

Politics, not only in our region but throughout the world, and sadly especially in great nations that should be stabler and wiser like the USA, Russia and the UK, is febrile. Politicians are either faltering or all too certain. Those who should speak and act often don't and those who shouldn't do. War and its aftermath, displacement, disease, famine and fear stalk the earth. Some economies are holding up but many aren't. Even those with jobs wonder for how much longer they'll have them since patterns of employment are changing. Citizens of nations of our region and, equally, the migrant expatriates that most of us at this Synod are, are given plenty of reminders of our fragility.

But with Paul we're called to remember that we have a treasure, God in Christ, that doesn't come from or depend on us and is the reason we worship.

Therefore (2 Corinthians 4:16), "*we do not lose heart*." Or do we? Do, say, the deliberations of our church councils reflect, and will this Synod reflect, confidence in the way and love of God revealed in Christ, while being realistic and truthful about challenges, dangers, resources, money and all the rest? Are we ready to be sustained by the Spirit no matter what?

I see many who are. It may be invidious to select places and people but, at St George Baghdad, I and all who visit see not just persistent faithfulness but genuine joy that begins and ends in worship while, on the way, taking in love of neighbour spelled out in the most explicit forms. And in Aden, now yet more troubled and uncertain politically, socially, financially than in recent years, I know that those who through employment or need come into the ambit of Christ Church Tawahi, virtually all Muslims, find they have come into a place that *does God* by doing good with not a thought of conceptual division.

In the mouths of some, do-gooders has become a derisive term. Perhaps those who use it derisively suspect those who set out to do good are hypocrites with other motives or believe themselves morally better. For Christians certainly, we seek to do good only because God is good and has called us to share in his goodness. Let our worship be service and our service worship.

MONEY MATTERS

DIOCESAN FINANCE IN DETAIL



Accounts 2017 Summary

Thousand Euros	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Actual 2017
Income	922	914	630
Expense	869	930	854
Operating Balance	53	-16	-224
Other Cash Items	15	0	14
Exchange Profit	6	0	-15
Total	74	-16	-225



Accounts 2017 Cash Balance

Thousand Euros		Actual 2017
Designated Funds	Bishop	25
	Other	22
Payables	Kuwait	75
Uncommitted		27
Total Cash		149



Accounts 2017 Income

Thousand Euros	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Actual 2017
Parish Contributions	436	464	162
Anglican Centre Doha	252	225	223
JEMT	47	45	41
TEC Good Friday Offering	72	70	63
Christ Church Aden	50	45	48
Larnaca / JEMT Cyprus	29	20	20
Foundation	0	10	33
Other	36	35	40
Total Income	922	914	630



Accounts 2017 Expense - Administration

Thousand Euros	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Actual 2017
Office Staff	136	155	157
Director of Finance	10	10	13
Spirituality Advisor	36	15	-2
Office	30	35	32
Total Administration	212	215	200



Accounts 2017 Expense - Summary

Thousand Euros	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Actual 2017
Bishop	102	105	97
Executive Archdeacon	69	70	71
Gulf Archdeacon	160	160	162
Meetings/Travel	89	95	96
Programmes	237	285	228
Administration	212	215	200
Total Expense	869	930	854

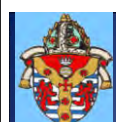
Assuming that the present cashflow crisis is resolved, Finance Director Canon John Banfield told Synod he expected the diocese to return to positive numbers in line with previous years, forecasting a net balance of income over expenditure of €40k this year and €25k in 2019.

These surpluses will be reduced by a not unexpected reduction in grant aid from the Foundation for Relief & Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME), which has traditionally supported ministry at St. George's Baghdad.

He also explained that an increase in administration costs was due to the arrival of Dr Helen Perry at the diocesan office. This will be offset when the present administrator, Anetta Stylianou, retires from her full-time post.

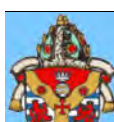
Meanwhile, Synod unanimously agreed to his request for an increase in the amount the diocese can borrow from €50,000 to €200,000, a precautionary measure in the light of the cashflow problems presented by Doha and Dubai situations.

Tough times in Doha P4



Budget 2018 and 2019 Income Summary

Thousand Euros	Actual 2016	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2019
Parish Contributions	436	162	500	510
Anglican Centre	252	223	225	230
JEMT UK	47	41	40	40
TEC Good Friday Offering	72	63	65	65
Christ Church Aden	50	48	45	45
Larnaca/JEMT Cyprus	29	20	20	20
Foundation	0	33	30	30
Other	36	40	30	30
Total Income	922	630	955	970



Budget 2018 and 2019 Expense - Summary

Thousand Euros	Actual 2016	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2019
Bishop	102	97	100	100
Exec Archdeacon	69	71	70	70
Gulf Archdeacon	160	162	160	160
Meetings/Travel	89	96	95	95
Programmes	237	228	260	310
Administration	212	200	230	210
Total	869	854	915	945

SITUATIONS (becoming) VACANT



PLANNING AHEAD

Bishop Michael outlined early proposals for changes at the top

The next five years will see big changes in personnel among senior staff, with the retirement of several key figures, including the Executive Archdeacon in 2019 and the Bishop himself in 2023.

Bishop Michael told Synod he was determined to ensure that what followed was “as robust as possible”

So, finance permitting, he envisages the following re-structuring:

- the post of Executive Archdeacon to be discontinued
- the appointment of a Diocesan Secretary as principal diocesan officer
- retention of Archdeacons in both Cyprus and The Gulf
- retention of honorary advisers, e.g. Finance Director John Banfield and Diocesan Chancellor Stanley Hooper

Bishop Michael said the new Diocesan Secretary's role would be similar to that in many Anglican dioceses and would embrace management and oversight of the diocesan office and staff, finance, communications, HR and legal issues, the organisation of Synod, Bishop's Council/Standing Committee, JEMT and diocesan projects. “The buck would stop there,” he said.

The new arrangement, if accepted, would stabilise the considerable amount achieved by the present Executive Archdeacon, John Holdsworth, who – Bishop Michael hoped – would continue to act as an honorary adviser on ministry and ministerial development post-retirement.

“I would also expect the incoming Archdeacon in Cyprus to bring their own skills for the benefit of the diocese,” he said.



TOUGH TIMES IN DOHA

The economic blockade imposed last June by its neighbours on Qatar is making life difficult for the Anglican Centre - and its many worshippers.

Centre Manager Fr Ian Nicholson reported to Synod that costs had risen significantly while annual giving had fallen and the number of congregations

cancelling bookings during the summer season had doubled. “Job insecurity continues to affect all strata within the community,” he said. “Nobody it seems is safe.” Although numbers remain the same, income was down last year by 3%, a trend Fr Ian expects to continue. All this means the Centre's surplus is expected to reduce from QAR1.25m in 2017 to 372,000, which will have a “direct impact” on the Centre's contribution to the Diocese.

Governance in the Gulf P8

MINISTRY I

VOCATION TRAINING - NO NEED? NO CALL? NO POINT?



Director of Ministry John Holdsworth reported “a huge increase” in the numbers coming forward to test their sense of vocation through training, with 23 people registered on accredited courses, others considering it and new partnerships being developed.

But he didn't want Synod just to approve the project but also to own it., which had not always been the case.

“To those who say there is no need,” he said, “the concept of diocese has changed; there's a better sense of identity and uniqueness which is also recognised by others”.

No point? Archdeacon John dismissed this as “a very narrow view. Vocation is a sign that God wants us to do something. We have moved on and it's time to take stock.”

He also urged parishes to become more involved in the development of the people they recommend, particularly in respect of lay ministry, which is where the discernment process would be focusing in the year ahead.

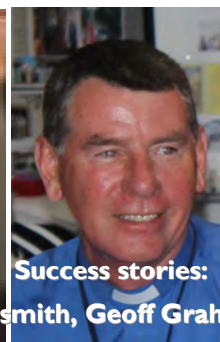
“There's a new selection procedure for both Readers and Ordinands,” he said. “The

way we approach lay ministry should be similar to that for ordination.

“We [also] need a creative strategy of deployment of new ministers now that the first graduates from indigenous training were coming through.

“The proof of the calling is in the people we have trained and we're very proud of them,” he said.

The Theological Educators Group, of which the Archdeacon is chairman, is planning a selection conference for later in the year and residential training for facilitators.



Success stories:

Christine Goldsmith, Geoff Graham, Zhu Peijin

AND SPEAKING OF TRAINING...



SEEN @ SYNOD

A video highlighting diocesan activities during the past year was shown at Synod.

The video can be seen on

<https://vimeo.com/256536642>

One of the innovations at Synod this year was the introduction of a bookstall.

With the help of sponsorship and some grant aid, a wide range of material was on offer, with the emphasis on providing resources for church learning groups.

Proceeds totalling around €1400 will be re-invested in new books and those left unsold will help to build training resource libraries in Nicosia, Doha and the UAE.

Comments and suggestions for improvements are invited.

MINISTRY 2

INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP: the conversation continues



The Barnabas Team has undertaken a major analysis of responses to last year's debate on intentional discipleship and presented its findings to Synod

Team chairman Sarel du Plessis described it as a spiritual audit, "more than a statement of condition, it is an indication of spiritual potential."

The strongest themes that emerged were pastoral care and hospitality. However there was no reference to safeguarding and little to worship or challenging justice.

"The objective of the audit", he said, "is for us in our PCCs to ask 'how do we lead, how do we serve this God-given community? How do we provide the space, the resources to those who want to grow in their faith?'"

Throughout the week, discussion groups sought to develop the relationship between intentional discipleship and the

conference theme, Doing God and Doing Good. And there was plenty to talk about.

Group facilitators were asked to share one predominant conclusion from their deliberations:

GROUP 1 stressed the need for regular communication as a path to empowerment, "We have some tremendous examples of doing God, doing good in the diocese - Yemen, Mission to Seafarers etc, and we should build on what we have." Don't re-invent the wheel - add more wheels.

GROUP 2 decided doing good had to be intentional but doing God was at the core of doing good. "We can't truly love our neighbours without loving God. WE are always ambassadors for Christ."

GROUP 3 believed in the value of encouragement without being over-critical. They wanted Synod to focus more on "real issues", spending less time "doing stuff". Mission Statements should be more adaptable to parish needs.

GROUP 4 concluded small steps can lead to big changes. Recognise the problem, understand it, identify needs and take action.

GROUP 5 suggested greater flexibility of liturgy to enable themed services and worried that too often volunteers were so busy they became less effective in their desire to empower.

GROUP 6 pursued the green path, citing the Christian imperative of environmental care as part of the belief in Creation. "It's our unique selling point."

GROUP 7 found it hard to divide doing God from doing good. The latter is a necessary response to the former.

GROUP 8 saw the Church as a body that carries on where others move on in terms of building relationships and fostering mutual love.

GROUP 9 decided Christian motivation is not about promoting the organization but a genuine outreach to people with practical needs; our worship has ended, now our service begins

GROUP 10 found it hard to define what Good is but agreed theology was much more important than just problems and solutions. They also suggested each church - possibly the diocese - should have a social responsibility group.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

WEBSITE:

Still loading...

And we want your pictures!

The new diocesan website has been launched, but much of its content remains to be transferred across.

Presenting the Communications Team report to Synod, Archdeacon John Holdsworth

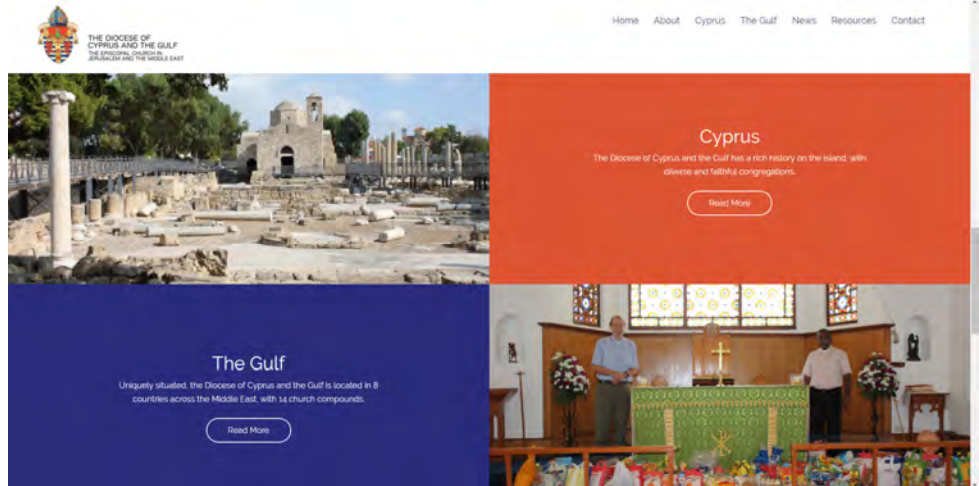
proposed a vote of thanks to Saracen, the Doha-based company that had undertaken the work pro bono.

"Like an ocean liner, it has been built," he said. "Now we need to kit it out and populate it."

A key element in its future success will be the photo archive that has been established and into which parishes are urged to submit their contributions. But, too often, this has not yet reached the top of their to-do lists.

"[This] may be due to technical uncertainty," he suggested. "If so, please tell us because help is available." Otherwise, Archdeacon John opined that diocesan communications had "turned something of a corner" after several years of frustration: last year's diocesan video was shown on five continents and the scene@ publications continued to attract positive feedback.

Diocesan news items also attracted wide interest, over 2000 hits in some cases. The priority now would be to develop a higher profile on social media.



YEMEN UPDATE

The chances of appointing a priest to Christ Church Aden are as remote as ever, because of the risk of kidnapping.



But the church-run Ras Morbat eye clinic's work remains as vital as ever and as valued by its predominantly Muslim clientele. Archdeacon in the Gulf Bill Schwartz told Synod the medical system in The Yemen "non-functional".

There is a big increase in the number of internally displaced people seeking refuge - and treatment - in Aden, the only major city not under bombing attack. But because they are not registered with the authorities, they do not have access to what little state medical help there is.

Staff at the clinic now spend one day a week treating Somali refugees inhabiting a large camp four hours drive away. They are also hoping to re-instate their annual visit to Mocha, on the Red Sea coast, once the security situation improves. Over 100 patients there are awaiting treatment or surgery.

FAMAGUSTA LAND GRAB

An attempt by local authorities in Famagusta to take a strip of land bequeathed to St Mark's Church for a road widening scheme could end up in court.

Presenting the report from JEMT, Archdeacon John Holdsworth said two options existed: "Either we sue for trespass or we erect a fence and they go to court to seek right of access," he said. "We need a body with legal standing in northern Cyprus."



AROUND THE DIOCESE...and beyond

GOVERNANCE in the GULF

Bishop Michael is to replace the informal advisory group responsible for governance at the Anglican Centre in Doha, Qatar.

Instead, a Board of Reference was being convened to include the Bishop himself, the Archdeacon and the parish priest plus "such others with relevant personal expertise", two resident in Qatar and two from within the church life of the Archdeaconry. The General Manager of the Centre would also be required to attend "as required"

The new board will be expected to submit reports to both Standing Committee and to Synod itself. Its remit will be "to consult regularly on matters relevant to the purpose and operation" of the Centre.



KATAFIYIO BIDS FAREWELL TO ITS 'ADOPTED ANGLICANS'

The diocesan retreat centre at Katafiyio in Cyprus has had a good year, thanks in large part to its interim caretakers, Stella and Adrian Walter.



They enjoyed their retreat visit sixteen months ago so much, they came back...as caretakers! But in December they'll be on their way back home to resume their life in the UK. So Katafiyio is looking for someone to take their place.

The job description can be found at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tnm6_MAI8zY

CLERGY/SPOUSES CONFERENCE... STILL WAITING

A shortage of funding to enable the Diocese of Egypt to take part is still holding up plans for the next Clergy & Spouses Conference.

The Cyprus/Gulf diocese has developed a detailed programme on the theme 'A home for the homeless' but the Diocese of Jerusalem is responsible for arranging the venue, preferably by the Dead Sea.

GOOD NEWS FROM THIKA...

Bishop Julius Wanyoika made a welcome return to Synod and brought news of continuing growth in the diocese.

Two churches have been consecrated, another two have been re-dedicated and foundation stones laid for two more. The diocese now has 19 more parishes and nine archdeaconries. Clergy numbers have increased by 22%. Over 2000 people have been confirmed. The diocese has also created ten new SACCOs (credit unions) in the last four years and membership of the Mothers' Union has gone up by 500.



...AND FROM EXETER

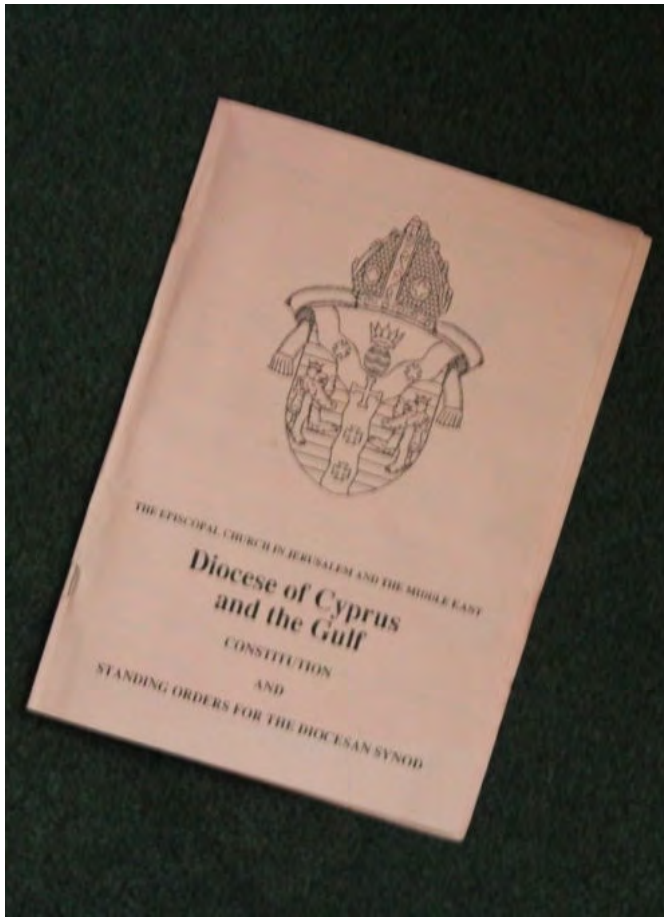


The link between Cyprus & the Gulf and the Diocese of Exeter also continues to grow. A new connection has emerged in the form of placements. Revd Harry Ching from Christchurch Jebel Ali spent last October in the parish of Exmouth and, this year, Revd Anne Fitcher will spend four weeks with the ministry team in Bahrain. Placements are also under way between Exeter and Thika.

IN BRIEF

- Building work at St Christopher's Cathedral, Bahrain is moving ahead. Over BD90,000 has been raised, consultants appointed and the project is going out to tender
- Attendance at the Cathedral in Nicosia has risen by over 500 per annum in the last two years
- Larnaca's two charity shops are thriving, adding €2000 to donations to good causes
- High praise from a holidaymaker visiting St Lazarus' Pissouri: "Your congregation was so warm, so welcoming, so helpful, so happy...truly unforgettable."
- The Canterbury Group now welcomes 29 nationalities in five locations. "We have deeper roots and wider branches".
- Exeter diocese is encouraging travellers to the Gulf to join in Friday worship. "Don't take a holiday from God as well" And if you are visiting the UK, they'd like you to join them too in Devon, where the fudge and clotted cream are the best!

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM



DELAY TO ENSURE “MAXIMUM CONSENSUS”

Synod has asked for more time to consider wide-ranging reforms to the diocesan constitution.

Following a diocese-wide consultation, a Select Committee on Constitutional Reform recommended over 100 changes to the document, including Synod Standing Orders, which was last updated in 2009, and a draft revision was presented to Synod for approval.

Among the changes were proposals:

- to replace the residential qualification for eligibility to be on an electoral roll with one of “habitual worship”, which was deemed more appropriate for parishes in both Cyprus and the Gulf
- to lower the minimum age for electoral roll eligibility to 16 years
- to remove voting rights from military chaplains in Cyprus attending House of Clergy meetings
- to increase the number of signatories required to request a meeting of Synod from eight to twenty

Presenting the report, Executive Archdeacon John Holdsworth said the aim of the reform was to enhance transparency in diocesan affairs and to make the constitution more tailored to the needs and characteristics of the

diocese.

But speakers from the floor, led by David Axtell (Bahrain), felt parishes had not had enough time to consider and consult locally on the new document, as amended.

A Motion to accept the proposals for changes to Standing Orders was initially passed but with 11 against, whereupon Archdeacon John proposed, successfully, that the debate on the whole package be adjourned in order to enable further reflection to take place. So no vote on the full motion was taken.

Bishop Michael said he wanted “maximum consensus” on the new constitution. “I want people to feel they have a good chance to compare what was with what will be. It must be as fit for purpose as it can be.”

The documents will now be re-issued to parishes and church councils along with a guide to the proposed changes. Representations will be invited by a date yet to be fixed and the discussions resumed at Synod next year. Meanwhile, Bishop Michael reminded Synod members that they remain members for the year ahead and “they have a duty to explain.”

DISCIPLINE & COMPETENCY

Two documents dealing with clergy performance and behaviour have been endorsed by Synod

The first sets out the procedure for dealing with disciplinary procedures and aims to ensure that any proceedings are systematic and fair to all parties

The second deals with allegations of incompetent performance and details ways in which it can be improved prior to formal action being taken.

In each case, there are timetables to be followed and clearly defined appeals procedures identified. But both documents emphasise that clergy are always expected to demonstrate high standards of both behaviour and competency in the exercise of their duties and responsibilities.

The week in pictures



And last but by no means least, scene@synod says a huge thank you on your behalf to Georgia, Anetta, Helen and Evangelia, the office dynamos without whom none of this would have happened. Hats off to you!

GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS

MOTION ONE: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Synod receives and approves the minutes of the 2017 meeting

MOTION TWO: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Synod receives and approves the diocesan financial statements for 2017

MOTION THREE: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Synod receives and approves the report from the Bishop's Council/Standing Committee

MOTION FOUR: CARRIED with 11 AGAINST and 2 ABSTENTIONS (see Page 9)

Synod receives and approves the proposals of the Select Committee on constitutional reform

MOTION FIVE: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Synod receives and approves the report of the Safeguarding Group

MOTION SIX: CARRIED with 3 AGAINST

Synod receives and approves the proposed diocesan budget for 2018/19

MOTION SEVEN: (amended) CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Synod authorises Standing Committee to sign loan agreements up to €200,000 during 2018 if required

MOTION EIGHT: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Synod authorises Standing Committee to approve capital expenditure up to €5,000 during 2017 if required

MOTION NINE: CARRIED with 1 ABSTENTION

Synod confirms the appointment of Mr Stuart Hillard as Trustee of the Jerusalem and East Mission Trust (Cyprus)

MOTION TEN: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

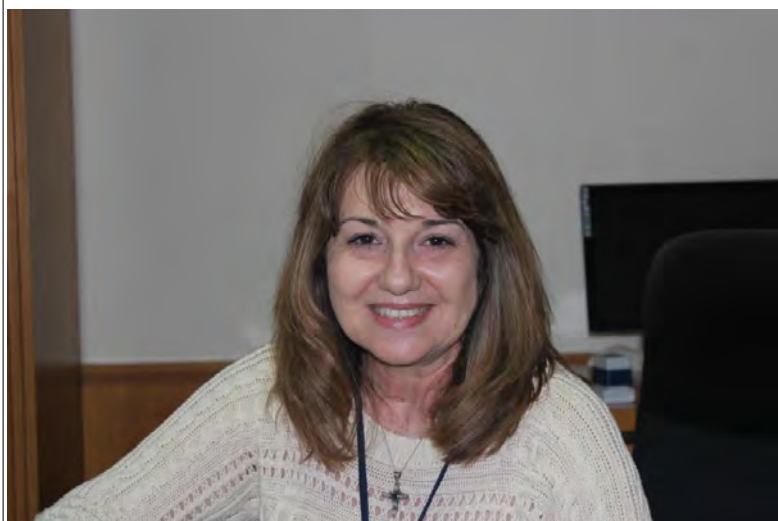
Synod receives and approves the report from the Jerusalem and the East Mission Trust (Cyprus)

MOTION ELEVEN: CARRIED with 1 AGAINST

Synod accepts the report on Anglican Church Property in the Gulf

MOTION TWELVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Synod receives and approves the report from the Director of Ministry



Synod just would not be the same without Anetta Stylianou. But, after 35 years, we will have to start getting used to it – well, maybe.

Anetta retires from her post as Administrative Secretary at the diocesan office in March 2018, to be replaced by Dr Helen Perry, who joined the diocesan staff in 2017.

But you may yet see Anetta next year after all; she has agreed to continue her role as Secretary to JEMT. So you never know...

HELLO

Comings & Goings in 2017 and 2018

GOODBYE

Revd Martin Phillips-Last (Ammochostos)

Revd Canon Derek & Sue Smith (Limassol)

Revd Dr Michael & Christine Mbona (Kuwait)

Revd Jon Lavelle (Ras al Khaimah)

Revd Canon Dr Andrew Mayes (Limassol/Spirituality Advisor)

ALI STRIKES FOR VICTORY



The annual ladies' bowling night is a fixture in the Synod calendar - and this year's was the usual tight-fought contest.



So congratulations to Ali Bowerman (pictured right), whose blistering finish brought her from behind to score a notable victory.

2018 ELECTION RESULTS

Elections were held for various posts in both the House of Clergy and the House of Laity. Members from both Houses are elected for a three-year term of service as House Chairmen/women, on the Standing Committee, and for a five-year term as delegates to the Provincial Synod. Alternates are also elected. Elections to the Vacancy-in-See Committee, which meets to choose a new Bishop if needed, are held annually.

HOUSE OF CLERGY

STANDING COMMITTEE/BISHOP'S COUNCIL

Cyprus Alternate: Revd Andrew Burtt

Gulf Alternate: Revd Tim Heaney

VACANCY-IN-SEE COMMITTEE

Convener: Ven Bill Schwartz (re-elected)

Cyprus: Revd Christine Goldsmith

Alternate: Dean Jeremy Crocker

Gulf: Revd Drew Schmotzer

Alternate: Revd Kent Middleton

HOUSE OF LAITY

CO-CHAIRS

GULF ALTERNATE: Dr Angel Afolabi

PROVINCIAL SYNOD REPS

GULF ALTERNATE: Max Heineck

VACANCY-IN-SEE COMMITTEE

Cyprus: Sarah Sait, Deborah Graham, Jacqui Hammond

Alternate: Sue Mantovani

Gulf: Paul L'Huillier, Max Heineck, David Axtell

Alternate: Margaret Douglass



The 2019 Synod will be held at the Lordos Beach Hotel, Larnaca, Cyprus from February 5th - 9th

AND FINALLY...

Bishop Michael closed Synod rather more briefly than usual due to time constraints. But in thanking those attending, he observed: "There can be few Synods where there has been so much deep, interesting theology displayed."