



 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF
WORCESTER

The Rt Revd Dr John Inge
THE BISHOP OF WORCESTER

15 November 2019

Dear Colleague,

As you are aware, we are currently facing a challenging time in the Diocese, having made a loss of around £1 million last year. We have already reduced our expenditure by making changes to the central staffing of the Diocesan Board of Finance and are now beginning to look at our wider ministry costs.

It is essential that we work together to discern the way forward and answer the question of how we can best shape and pay for ministry across the Diocese for the growth of God's kingdom. This is a real opportunity for creative thinking about God's will for us.

So that everyone has the chance to have their say in the future of our Church, we are holding a series of open conversations and I hope you will come along, as well as encourage others from your congregations to do so. We want to hear from as many people as possible throughout the Diocese. All are welcome and the presentation at each session will include exactly the same content so it's possible for people to choose the session that is most convenient for them.

The conversations will be as follows:

- Wednesday 11 December, 2 – 4.30pm, The Old Palace, Worcester, WR1 2JE
- Wednesday 11 December, 7 – 9.15pm, The Old Palace, Worcester, WR1 2JE
- Tuesday 14 January, 10am – 12.33pm, Pershore Town Hall, WR10 1DS
- Tuesday 14 January, 7 – 9.15pm, St James' Church, Welland, WR13 6LP
- Monday 20 January, 2 – 4.30pm, St John the Evangelist, Kates Hill, Dudley DY2 7JT
- Monday 20 January, 7 – 9.15pm, St John the Evangelist, Kates Hill, Dudley DY2 7JT
- Thursday 30 January, 2 – 4.30pm, The Old Palace, Worcester, WR1 2JE
- Tuesday 4 February, 2 – 4.30pm, Catshill Social Club, Meadow Road, Bromsgrove B61 0JJ
- Tuesday 4 February, 7 – 9.15pm, Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster, DY10 2JL

These conversations will be a great opportunity for a wide range of people to engage in the issues currently affecting our church, so that together we can work out ways to move forward towards our Kingdom vision and enable God's Church in Worcestershire and Dudley to thrive.

Please look out for postcards being distributed with the prayer diary for you to hand out (if you need more of these, please do let Sam, our Communications Officer know – ssetchell@cofe-worcester.org.uk) as well as more information on the diocesan website and in the mailing.

Although booking isn't necessary, please do encourage people to let us know that they're coming, if possible. They can do this at www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/openconversations.

Thank you for engaging with this process.

With my very good wishes,

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Inge', written in a cursive style.

Dr John Inge