

28 March 2023

To All Churchwardens
Cc Incumbents and PCC Secretaries

Dear Churchwarden

Thank you

As Archdeacons, we are all too aware of your commitment to your parishes and give thanks for our shared fellowship in the Gospel. The role of Churchwarden becomes more demanding as time goes on; the extent of your responsibilities may not be visible, as with many essential roles, but we wanted to assure you that we recognise the work you do as Bishop's Officers.

We offer to you our most sincere and grateful thanks for all that you have done in your parish over your term of office. In particular, we deeply appreciate that which you do to support and build up the life and witness of the Christian Gospel. If you are standing down, and have completed your term of office, our special thanks to you for your service.

The Annual Meetings, where you may be re-elected, should take place before 31 May 2023 in line with the new Church Representation Rules 2020, i.e. a month later than has been previously the custom. We have scheduled visitations to take place across the Diocese during June, and we expect that it should be possible for you to attend.

The Archdeacon's Visitation date and venue for your Deanery is on the Diocesan website. If you are re-elected, we very much look forward to seeing you there. The exception is Garstang, where wardens are invited to attend in a neighbouring deanery.

Our office will be shortly sending out details by email to you as wardens, copying in PCC secretaries and incumbents for information. This will cover all the legal requirements. All the information regarding the Visitation is being put on the website.

However, the main point of writing is to thank you personally for your spiritual and practical leadership during your term of office as Churchwarden. We look forward to working together as a diocese as we seek to inspire children and young people, grow leaders, be witnesses and make disciples in the name of Christ.

Yours in His Name



Mark Ireland, Archdeacon of Blackburn



David Picken, Archdeacon of Lancaster