

3 March 2021

To All Churchwardens
Cc Incumbents

Dear Churchwarden

Thank you

As Archdeacons, we know how much you do for the Kingdom of God as Churchwardens.

We understand that this year has been particularly challenging for you and your PCC. 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 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.

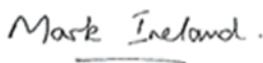
The Annual Meetings, where you may be re-elected, should take place before May 31st 2021, in line with the new Church Representation Rules 2020, i.e. a month later than has been custom. At this stage, we are still planning for the Visitations to take place in each Deanery in June. If that cannot happen, we will advise on contingencies in due course, but please note that it will not be possible to attend in another Deanery.

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.

We shall be sending out details by email to you as wardens, PCC secretaries and incumbents for information in due course. 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.

Yours in Christ



Mark Ireland, Archdeacon of Blackburn

David Picken, Archdeacon of Lancaster