

# BELTISLOE DEANERY – NEW SUNDAY WORSHIP PATTERNS

## June 2023 update

To: All Church Wardens  
PCC Deanery Synod Representatives

Copies: Beltisloe Deanery Clergy  
Beltisloe Deanery Readers & ALMs

From: Stephen Buckman, Beltisloe Deanery Rural Dean

### 1. Overview

This is the third note this summer we have sent to all our churchwardens and Deanery Synod representatives. In the two earlier notes we have explained that, from the beginning of August, we shall have just three stipendiary priests to lead our worship and pastoral work. The purpose of this note is twofold:

- to keep our PCCs in the picture regarding the upcoming changes to our worship patterns, and
- to outline additional work being done to facilitate wider Church life.

### 2. Future Sunday Worship Patterns

In our second note we explained that, because of the need to build in time for our three priests to travel, future Sunday Services will be at 09:00 or 11:00 or 15:00 or 18:00. Guiding principles are that, for each Church, the time of service each Sunday and its week of the month will be the same.

We have now put together a draft template covering the 5 local mission churches and the 18 community churches. For each of these churches this template has an appropriate mix of communion services (led by a priest) and morning/evening prayers (led by a priest or an authorised lay minister).

The next steps are:

- to add in the 9 festival churches (we plan to give them a quarterly rhythm), and
- to finalise the worship pattern for August, September and October.

We know how important Harvest/Patronal Festivals are for many of our communities so we shall do our best to accommodate these. If a particular parish has a traditional approach to either of these types of service, please tell us – do not assume we already know!

The service pattern we are developing covers “staffed services”; this means we shall provide the service leader. This pattern is the minimum. There will be the opportunity to add other lay-led services on the clear understanding that the format complies with Anglican legislation and is agreed in advance.

We plan to circulate the service pattern for August, September and October by July 3rd. We expect there will be a few teething problems. We shall use these learnings to inform the next Quarterly pattern which will cover Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.

### 3. Other Activities

There are two important Deanery meetings coming up at which our future direction will be discussed. There is a Deanery Synod on June 28<sup>th</sup> in the Church Street Rooms, Corby Glen. There is also a Churchwardens meeting at the same venue on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Issues which we know are yet to be addressed are: how to share out clergy expenses, and how to hold PCC meetings with our reduced clergy numbers

**A final plea:** please help by sharing the content of this note with your communities and keeping us informed of any changes to contact details. The Deanery email address is [beltisloe@icloud.com](mailto:beltisloe@icloud.com).