

## Deanery Chapter 7 March 2013 at St Mary's Bow

**Apols:** David Rushton, Andrew, Ric, Duncan, Philippa  
Late: Cris, Peter,



### Main item

#### **Theologically reflecting on our place** Angus Ritchie

Prayer: 'the true theologian is one who prays, and prayer leads to true theology' K Leech  
Power: Theology isn't like maths, it is open to discussion - is it open to distortion by sin?  
And where does power lie? Who is doing theology? What does it mean for the whole people of God to be doing theology? Whose pre-occupations dictate what tops the agenda?  
Priesthood: The priest is often the only paid worker, the teaching elder; are too many areas of responsibility on our shoulders?  
Angus shared much more but these were the areas of subsequent discussion.

#### **Clergy Support** (Synod output)

##### 1. What good clergy support have you seen?

- Use of lay members of congregation to lead evening services and take communion to sick *chapter queried this one*
- Ministerial reviews, including lay input
- Mentoring and specific supervision
- Positive responses from parishioners
- Cluster beers
- Praying with peers

##### 2. What things would you like to see in place and offered to clergy?

- The continued support of the Bishop and Arch Deacon
  - Training, etc. as a result of ministerial review
  - Mentoring, including lay appraisal
  - Support across parishes in areas such as admin
  - Clergy to feel able to take time off
  - Support from PCCs, parishioners and other clergy
  - *Helpline type of service within HR*
  - *Clergy cover for Sundays is vital*
  - *More structured relationship with city clergy may help this...*
- Added by Chapter discussions*

### People news

**Geoffrey White** was unable to be with us but is due to move on 4 April - the AD will see him soon.

**Philippa** Installation at the Cathedral is on Sunday April 21st at 3.15 pm (evensong) and should last about an hour -all welcome.

## News

**Standing committee** - Bank Account being moved to Reliance - signatories being changed  
- SmitF Block Grants, Jane will attend the conference on this

**2013 Deanery residential** - 24/25 June, flier is out and people are invited to sign up soon, Andrew Davison (Westcott House) is to be our speaker.

**Holy Lands** - Brian safely back with Raines group, and will shortly be inviting interested clergy to meet McCabe travel with regards to next year's trip.

**RFSK** - mark is keen to see how the foundation can better support clergy with perhaps quiet days and gentle evenings. -email for more info

**CTC** - Angus invited folks to get in touch for financial crisis materials and census information -email for more info

### **Borough Chaplain:**

1. Bangladeshi political demos in Whitechapel will probably not subside whilst Bangladesh is in trouble
2. Ride and Stride 13 this September Peter McGreary to be the TH link
3. TH Historic Places of Worship Officer hopes to hold an event in Spring 2014 -watch this space
4. Mayor's Faith Building Fund - Philip Rice now on Audit committee and watching this carefully  
Email for more info

*AR 11.3.2013*