

Diocesan Synod 28 November 2020.

Breakout Group: CUTHBERT

What is the good news for you in this?

Very encouraging that the diocese is moving forward

Good change is happening and people are all being valued

Recognition that church takes place in all sorts of places 0- where people are, live and work

Appreciate the involvement of lay people – it is good to see an official drive ahead of this

Reassuring

Concern – that there is still the expectation through the model people will be expected to go out, until people are taught how to do this it may be difficult. Need to equip people, with the skilld required to do this. Do we need to do the ground work first?

Ripples in the pond needs to spread out gradually, many of these things have been discussed in deanery development groups, need to engage Deanery Synod, then parishes.

Model we are aspiring to is good but we need to begin at the grass roots.

Lost groups etc during lockdown.

Some people may decide they don't want to come back, some may want to come because they have attended virtual services. Opportunity to encourage, we are being held back by confidence to go out and to 'be'. Permission - gives us permission to share faith with others,

Very important that people are not made to feel guilty of they can't go out and minister.

Should be encouraging so that people give what they can.

Possibilities enormous.

Where so you already see this happening?

God's tent – being run in parishes along the wall.

Deanery pop up church – Bedlington

MINE part of this process – Lighthouse project

Should expect more support from the resource church

Need to be aware of the spirituality of the younger people.

Work in schools, work linking with non church schools

What might you have to let go of?

Resources, skills, money

Buildings – too expensive to maintain in the wrong place, difficult decisions need to be made. Need to let go but celebrate them, making sure that we nurture the faith that has been started.

Where churches close physically, they can still meet

Dynamics of the relationship between clergy and lay will change, support needed during this process.