

...THE PICKERSGILL'S ARE ON THE MOVE...



It is with a great deal of joy that I can confirm I have been offered and accepted the position of Associate

Rector of Market Harborough Anglican Team & Resource Church within the Leicester Diocese.

The sense of call to a place that until recently Catherine & I had never been to, has been unusual and unexpected but overwhelmingly tangible and significant. It was confirmed by all 5 panel groups I faced during the interview and discernment day in early February....praise God!

It goes without saying that we will miss you all tremendously and feel a great deal of sadness. Despite not especially seeking to leave the area, after 16 years in the Diocese of Gloucester; 10 at Tewkesbury including time as a churchwarden with a clergy vacancy and re-ordering project, 2 studying in Bristol and now 4 years here for curacy; it does feel the right time to move on in God's plans and purposes.

The role is not one that has been in existence before in Harborough. I will be specifically looking after 2 of the 5 churches in the team; the main church of St Dionysius, in the town centre of Market Harborough & All Saints, in the nearby village of Lubenham.

The role has grown out of the desire to establish the Harborough team as the first 'Resource Church' in the Leicester Diocese.

'Resource Churches' are churches committed to the principle of generous giving and to sending people out to establish fresh expressions of Church and new congregations. Over the coming years, the Market Harborough Team will be well placed to resource mission and ministry in the rural South East of the county, aiming to invite the 9 out of 10 people who are not currently part of a worshipping community to have the opportunity to find the fullness of life that Jesus offers.



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The licensing date is already set for **Thursday 4th May at 7.30pm** in St Dionysius, Market Harborough; as Barry Hill, the new Team Rector will be licensed then as well; as will the whole team be re-commissioned for mission as the first Resource Church in Leicester Diocese - exciting times!



<http://www.harborough-anglican.org.uk/>

FOR GRATEFUL THANKS:

To all of you for your love, care, welcome, support, prayers, wisdom and nurture.

FOR ON-GOING PRAYER:

Us as a family for this huge transition in our lives
A house!

School places for all the children
Wisdom and discernment for the role

KEY DATES:

Saturday 11th March 10am-12noon - GARAGE SALE with donations split between Children's Society, Bible Society & Compassion – 22 Delavale Road, GL54 5HN – tea, coffee, cakes.

Sunday 2nd April: AAW & Lunch - final Sunday
Following the 10.30am All-age Worship at St Peter's, there will be a 'bring & share' finger buffet lunch with music.

With our love and prayers as always



James, Catherine, Annabelle, Martha & Zebedee

The Gate of the Year poem (God Knows) by Minnie Louise Haskins:

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."