

DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The Bishop in Europe:
The Right Reverend Dr. Robert Innes



18 September 2020

To the Clergy, Churchwardens, Readers and Archdeaconry Representatives of the French Archdeaconry

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing to let you know that the Archdeacon of France, The Ven. Meurig Williams, has submitted notice of his resignation to me with effect from 31st December 2020 and I have accepted this notice. Meurig will be moving to a new clergy appointment in the Diocese of Cork. This letter is to advise you in the Archdeaconry of this news shortly ahead of an announcement to the whole Diocese, to be published this afternoon on the diocesan website.

Meurig has served the diocese with distinction over these last 10 years, as Bishop's Chaplain for two Diocesan Bishops, and as Archdeacon for two contrasting archdeaconries, first North West Europe and latterly among your chaplaincies in France and Monaco. He has been responsible for the appointment and care of clergy and looked after numerous parishes in interregna. He has also been instrumental in endeavouring to resolve parish conflicts and given wise pastoral advice to many. He has gained the affection and respect of clergy and lay people alike.

I know Meurig will be much missed in the Chaplaincies of the French Archdeaconry. I hope that you will find opportunities to share time with Meurig to celebrate and mark your years together in the Archdeaconry, and thank him for his service to you all, before bidding him 'au revoir' in December. Meurig's new parish in Ireland will be fortunate indeed to have a priest and pastor of such rich and deep experience.

We plan to appoint a successor to Meurig as Archdeacon of France during the months of October/November. Meanwhile, I know that you will be in capable hands with your Area Deans, Debbie Flach, Tony Lomas and Giles Williams.

I send my prayers and good wishes to you all at this time of change and transition in the leadership of the Archdeaconry.

+ Robert Gibraltar in Europe

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