



The Diocese of
Southwark

Kingston Episcopal Area Office

The Rt Revd Dr Martin Gainsborough
Bishop of Kingston

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Dear Prospective Colleague,

I am delighted that that you are considering whether God might be calling you to be the next Vicar of Holy Trinity Barnes, in the Barnes Team Ministry.

Southwark is a wonderful Diocese and the Kingston Episcopal Area, covering the richly varied part of south London between Waterloo and Kingston upon Thames, is an area of great hope and Kingdom possibilities.

I have been Bishop of Kingston for just over three years. We put a lot of emphasis on teaching and learning with a focus on the whole people of God. I long for us to be an Episcopal Area where people are growing in confidence in the faith. I welcome the diversity of traditions within the breadth of Anglicanism that we see in the Kingston Episcopal Area and I am committed to the flourishing of all. We take seriously our membership of the wider Anglican Communion, notably through our link with the Diocese of Matabeleland, which is going from strength to strength.

Clergy well-being is at the heart of my priorities. As Bishop, I am committed to being present and alongside my clergy, getting to know them as individuals and communicating a sense that we are part of something bigger: God's exciting mission to the world. Inviting clergy and lay people to my home for hospitality has been a key feature and joy of the last three years: that is, while we work hard in Kingston we also seek to relax and enjoy each other's company.

Working with my immediate team, we have come up with five values which communicate how we wish to be with each other, with our parishes, schools and chaplaincies, and with the wider Diocese. Therefore, as we seek to grow in confidence in God, the Church and with one another, we aspire to:

- Build strong and healthy **relationships**
- Cultivate an attitude of curiosity and **learning**
- Be honest and **transparent** in our dealings
- Encourage **creativity** and openness to new ways of doing things
- Be **effective** in getting things done

If you join us, you can be sure of a warm welcome from my team along with supportive deanery colleagues.

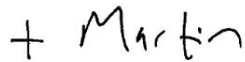
As we look to the future in Barnes, I hope to appoint a Vicar who is collegiate, and who will seek to build strong working relationships with the other clergy and parishes in the team, with colleagues in the deanery, and with myself and others at the diocese. Whilst I am aware that there are significant liturgical and theological differences across the team, I am keen that the clergy establish a new pattern of being together - whether that's in prayer, fellowship, mutual support, or by developing joint initiatives to serve the people of Barnes. Both St. Mary's and St. Michael & All Angels are flourishing parishes with a wealth of experience and resources to share. I very much hope that all three churches will benefit from developing stronger links with one another whilst maintaining their distinctive identities.

If this sounds like you, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please be assured of my prayers as you discern.

Yours,

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a plus sign followed by the word "Martin" in a cursive script.

Rt Revd Dr Martin Gainsborough
Bishop of Kingston