#### **NEW BISHOP FOR SOUTHAMPTON**

We are delighted to share that the Dioceses' Commission (part of the Church Commissioners) have now approved our application to fund the appointment of the new Bishop of Southampton.

#### **REPORT FROM DIOCESAN SYNOD**

Thank you to everyone who attended synod just before Holy Week to discuss actions in response to the Diocesan Environment and Net Zero Action Plan, and to hear reports from the Bishop's Council and from our General Synod reps.

### NEWSLETTER ROUNDUP



APRIL 2024

# SHARING THE EASTER MESSAGE WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

Across our diocese, we have been celebrating Easter with huge effort and creativity, coming together as churches and communities to proclaim that Christ is risen!





#### THE VISION OF THE COMMON MISSION FUND

The Common Mission Fund is money given by every parish to provide and support clergy and to further the work of mission and ministry across the diocese. In a new video, we asked Revd Dr Ben Kautzer, Rector of the churches of St Leonard's in Oakley and St Lawrence in Wootton, to explain why it's important to his parishes and to the shared life of the diocese.



#### CHRISM EUCHARIST SERVICE

It was a huge joy to gather at Winchester Cathedral for our annual Maundy Thursday Chrism Eucharist. Ministers were invited to renew their commitment to Christ and were anointed with oil, asking God for the pouring out of the gifts of the Holy Spirit on His Church.



# ANTONY GORMLEY INSPIRED INSTALLATION AT WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL

Over four days in June, the crypt at Winchester Cathedral will be filled with miniature sculptures made by school children, inspired by the Antony Gormley piece 'Field for the British Isles'. The Education Team are inviting youth groups in our diocese to join in the creativity.

### CELEBRATING CONFIRMATIONS ACROSS THE DIOCESE

Churches including St James Pokesdown, St Barnabas Winchester, and St Michael's Basset have held confirmation services, allowing candidates to take an important step in their Christian discipleship.





#### BISHOP GEOFF LEADS SERVICE OF BLESSING FOR REFURBISHED HOSPITAL CHAPEL

It was a joy for Bishop Geoff to join the chaplaincy team at Southampton General Hospital yesterday, to celebrate and bless the chapel which has reopened after refurbishment.

#### ST MARK'S HIGHCLIFFE ENGAGES WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY THROUGH CREATION CARE EVENTS

St Mark's Church Highcliffe were recently awarded a Silver Eco Church Award, and have found that organising Creation Care events and inviting the whole community has helped them connect with local people and share a Christian perspective on looking after God's world!