

BISHOP'S WELCOME



Thank you for taking the trouble to read this introduction to a welcome pack from your local church.

The diocese of Chichester has been serving the people of Sussex for over a thousand years. We are Christians in the Church of England. But more fundamentally we are a people who have a strong sense of being called together by Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The most important things about us provide some answers to a simple question: why bother?



- First, because we believe in God. This compels us to speak about the nature of creation, the purpose of life, our values, being human with dignity and justice, and our utter conviction in the reality of life beyond death.
- Second, because we take spiritual things seriously. That prompts us to worship and to pray. Beauty, love, goodness and all things that enrich life: these form the atmosphere of our worship.
- Finally, because we have pledged to be a presence in every community, and to promote the common good there.

These values inform everything we do. In particular they guide our diocesan priorities as we try each day to know, follow and love Jesus.

I hope you will take some steps towards finding what you are seeking in your local church community. On the back of this card you'll find the Prayer of St. Richard, a C13 bishop of Chichester whose shrine is in the Cathedral.

My prayer for you is that God will show you the path to life in its perfection and glory.

+Martin Cicestr:



Prayer of St. Richard

Thanks be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits which you have given us,
for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us.
Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day.
Amen.

ChurchPrintHub.org