

THE ANGLICAN ARCHDEACONRY OF FRANCE AND MONACO ANNUAL SYNOD 2022



HELD BY ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

Saturday morning 14 May 2022 and Wednesday evenings 18 and 25 May 2022

Business

This meeting of the Synod for France and Monaco heard from Bishop Robert and from Diocesan Officers; important issues such as Eco-church and Safeguarding were on the agenda, and some regional rather than national in-person meetings are planned, in line with our aims of reducing our carbon footprint.

The Bishop confirmed that after difficult times, there is also good news around the Archdeaconry and the Diocese.

Once the necessary business had been conducted, the Archdeacon updated members on current French legislation for religious organisations and how this is going to affect everyone. Close collaboration with our Protestant colleagues on revised statutes is a huge benefit.

Christian Unity – how does that work in France?

In break-out groups, members first discussed how they saw our Anglican/Anglophone/Ecumenical identity.

The following two sessions concentrated on our relations with two of our Christian partners, the Roman Catholic church and the Protestant churches.

We learnt first more of how the RC church is organised, and how to contact the Ecumenical Officer in each Diocese. The work of the Anglican Roman Catholic France (ARC) team was of interest, especially in terms of the recent publication of Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer in French.

The second session focused on the Protestant churches, and again, we were able to learn more about their organisation, and our close relationship with them. The Reuilly agreement has now enabled a joint shared mission in Lyon and another one is planned for Strasbourg.

Breakout groups were the opportunity to share activities from around the Archdeaconry and these will shortly be listed on the Archdeaconry website. They range from shared services, meals and discussion groups and although they vary from chaplaincy to chaplaincy, it is clear that there is a lot going on at chaplaincy level. There is still some work to do however in ensuring that both the work of ARC and the Reuilly agreement are more widely known, and their aims put into practice.