

## Response to the to the House of Bishops' proposal to permit the blessing of same-sex blessings

This PCC affirms the current Church of England doctrine that the only place for sexual activity is in marriage between one man and one woman, which is intended to be for life, since we believe this to be the pattern given to us in scripture. We affirm the beauty, as commended in scripture, of both marriage and celibate singleness. We seek to provide good pastoral support for those who may struggle to live by this teaching and welcome all people to St Anne's, regardless of their sexual status or orientation. We seek to be a Church which is a loving Christian community, an extended family, and a place where we hold to a traditional Christian view of marriage, as set out in scripture and the Book of Common Prayer, 39 Articles and Ordinal, and to do so with grace and love.

The PCC resolves:

- not to offer prayers of blessing for same-sex relationships at St Anne's;
- not to welcome to officiate, preach or otherwise exercise authority at St Anne's anyone who is unable to affirm the statement above.

17 July 2023