



## **The Bishop of Chichester**

*The Rt Revd Dr Martin Warner*

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 10.00am on 10 March 2020**

**To all Licenced Clergy**

10 March 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

### **Archdeacon Fiona Windsor**

Many of you will know that the Archdeacon of Horsham, Fiona Windsor, has recently been off work recovering from a chest infection.

After being admitted to hospital in early February she was diagnosed with bronchial pneumonia in both lungs. Her illness was far more serious than anyone realised and although she is recovering slowly, it is also now clear that some damage to her lungs is permanent. She does not expect to regain the levels of energy and fitness that have hitherto characterised her life and ministry.

As you would expect, Fiona has handled this with fortitude, with faith in God, and with a great deal of common sense. However, these qualities have also led her to the painful decision to retire this summer from the work she loves so much and undertakes so effectively. She will meanwhile continue to convalesce, and we have together planned a farewell to her on **Saturday, 6 June at 4.00 pm in St Mary's, Horsham.**

I am immensely grateful to Canon Julia Peaty and The Revd Derek Welsman for agreeing to be acting archdeacons while Fiona is convalescing and still in post, and until her successor is appointed.

There will be much more to say in due course about Fiona's outstanding ministry. But for the moment we might simply note that her appointment as Chaplain to the Queen has been an entirely appropriate recognition of her qualities as an evangelist, a strategist, and a wonderfully caring archdeacon.

With my thanks for our partnership in the gospel.

*+Martin*

**TO KNOW · LOVE · FOLLOW JESUS**

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