

**KEY DATES:**

- Advertising: January
- Short-listing: February
- Visits: tbc
- Interviews: tbc



**If you feel that God has said anything to you whilst you were praying ...**

... do let the Church Wardens or any member of the Ministry Leadership team know, by email to:  
*office@stmstm.org.uk*

or in writing to the Church Office  
44 Clarence Street, Cheltenham, GL50 3PL

**Benefice of  
Cheltenham Minster with St Matthew  
and St Luke**

**Prayer for our  
Benefice Vacancy**

*God our Father,  
help us to put our trust in you  
to send your chosen person  
to lead us on to where you would have us be.  
Amen*



## ***GIVE THANKS TO GOD:***

- For all that Jesus Christ has done for us and for the hope we have in him
- For our rich Biblical heritage of teaching and preaching
- For the financial resources God has provided over the years
- For our buildings in strategic areas of Cheltenham
- For growing unity amongst our church family

## ***SPEND SOME TIME LISTENING TO WHAT GOD MIGHT BE SAYING TO YOU:***

### ***PRAY:***

#### **For our Bishops, Archdeacon, Area Dean and the Simeons Trustees and their parts in the process:**

- That the involvement of Bishop Rachel, Archdeacon Phil Andrews, Area Dean Nick Davies, and the Simeons Trustees representatives with their extensive networking experience will be of great benefit in the selection process
- That they will be guided by God as they play their parts in the appointment process

#### **For the advertising:**

- That the advertisements placed in Christian papers over the next few weeks will draw the best possible candidates to the vacancy

#### **For the short-listing and interviews:**

- For discernment in the short-listing of the candidates
- That God's chosen person for our new Rector will become clear during the interviews

#### **For the person of God's choice to be drawn to the Vacancy and prepared for their new ministry:**

- That God will draw the person of his choice to an awareness of the vacancy and be guided to apply for it
- That God will be preparing the heart and mind of this person for their ministry in our Benefice

#### **For the Church Wardens and their responsibilities:**

- That Paul and Charlotte, from The Minster with St Matthew's, and Robert and Guy from St Luke's, will know God's strength and wisdom whilst carrying full responsibility for our churches during the Vacancy
- For their part in the selection and appointment process

#### **For the Ministry Leadership Team and their families:**

- For Patrick, Andy, Clare, Jayne and Annie and their families as, alongside the Church Wardens, they guide our churches during the Vacancy
- That God will be preparing all the staff for the arrival of a new Rector

#### **For every member of the church family during the Vacancy and in preparation for the new Rector:**

- For faithfulness in praying for our Benefice and our new Rector both now and in the future
- For God to prepare our hearts, minds and wills for the part he wants us to play in the future ministry of growing God's kingdom at The Minster with St Matthew's and St Luke's
- For the message of the Gospel to be at the centre of all we do and say
- That our way of life will draw others to a living faith in Christ