

REFLECTING ON **GENEROSITY WEEK**



We've come to the end of our first Diocesan Generosity Week. I hope that you've found the resources, including the daily prayer, reflection and challenge useful. One of the big questions, and we would be interested to know about this in feedback, is the right time of year to hold this. This year we held it between the Festivals of Christ the King and Advent Sunday. Maybe there is too much going on then and another time would be better, or maybe this is a perfect time as we reflect on Christ as King of our lives and look to the beginning of a new Christian year on Advent Sunday.

And the new year in secular terms often means resolutions. I tend to not make any because they often last a depressingly short time before I break them, but Advent is yet another chance in our lives to make a new start, and a lasting new start!

What have the resources of Generosity Week provoked in you? As we look forward to the celebration of the birth of Jesus, as we reflect on the gifts we are given day by day, can we also consider how we use those gifts, whether they be money, time or talent, or a combination.

As we celebrate the greatest gift of all in the birth of Jesus, may we focus our minds and our whole lives on the recognition of the gifts we have and how we can use them for God's glory.

So many of you are already doing so much for our churches, and it isn't just for our churches, it is for God. Your contributions are appreciated so much, even when they seem to go unnoticed. The church cannot function effectively without you!

Each one of us has gifts we bring. In making a new start at Advent, let's look forward, confidently and expectantly, to a future filled with the Hope, Peace, Love and Joy which Jesus offers for us and invites us to share extravagantly.

