



The Bishop of Norwich
The Rt Revd Graham Usher

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

15th November 2023

To:
Licensed clergy in the Diocese
Parish Support Team
Churchwardens in the Norfolk Archdeaconry

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

I am writing to give you some challenging news from Archdeacon Steven Betts, Archdeacon of Norfolk.

Last Friday Steven was admitted into hospital and has been diagnosed with a rare form of leukaemia. This has been carefully investigated, including taking advice from colleagues at Addenbrookes, and a treatment plan worked out which has already started. There is some cautious optimism as this form of leukaemia is usually treatable and we hope Steven will make a good recovery although there is a long and potentially quite arduous journey to travel.

Please do remember Steven, his wife Sarah, and their three adult sons in your thoughts and prayers, as well as those treating Steven and supporting him and the family.

Steven is likely to be in hospital for some time and will be off work we are anticipating for several months, not least to avoid infection while treatment continues. I hope shortly to announce arrangements for acting archdeacon(s) to support parishes and clergy in the Norfolk archdeaconry in Steven's absence, working alongside Bishop Ian and the Bishop's staff team.

Bishop Ian, Graham Cossey and the Parish Support Team will, of course, do all that they can within the archdeaconry to offer support alongside these additional arrangements.

I hope you will join me in uniting your prayers with mine for Steven and all those who need our love, support and care.

Yours sincerely

+ Graham