Social Media Policy

This policy sets out how we use Social Media, and will tell you what you can expect from us if you follow the Christ Church official accounts on Twitter and Facebook.

Our social media accounts are managed by the Rector or a representative of his. We do not use any automation to post content, such as tools that generate tweets from RSS feeds. If you follow us, you can generally expect no more than 5 tweets or posts a day at this time, usually less, covering the following:

- alerts about new content relating to Christ Church (news, events, publicity campaigns, etc)
- alerts about new content relating to the wider Church or charitable concerns supported by the Parish.

Following

We follow organisations and public individuals which share in or represent the ministry of Christ Church in the Diocese of Chichester. They include (but are not exclusively limited to) other parishes, Christians, the local community with whom Christ Church works, and charitable organisations which they support. We do not automatically follow back new followers. Due to resource of time, we infrequently review our follower list. Being followed back does not imply endorsement of any kind.

Availability

We will update and monitor our social media account as necessary. Twitter and Facebook may occasionally be unavailable and we accept no responsibility for lack of service due to third party downtime.

@Replies, Direct Messages, Comments

We welcome feedback from all our followers and endeavour to join the conversation where possible. However, we are not able to reply individually to all the messages we receive. The Rector or his representative reads all posts, comments, @replies and Direct Messages. We do not engage on issues of party politics or answer questions which may infringe personal privacy. Communicating directly online with is not encouraged. We may send messages to groups, rather than individuals, or share them publicly. If content relating to the parish or individuals is unwelcome or offensive it may be reported. Social media users should be aware that the Parish Office is the point of contact for all enquiries relating to the Parish. The usual ways of contacting the office are detailed in the Contact section of our website.

Safeguarding

Twitter is not the place to report any safeguarding issue. Any serious concerns relating to individuals (past or present) should go to Sussex Police. The Diocese of Chichester safeguarding officers are available to speak to anyone who wishes to talk in confidence.

Law

Whilst sharing thoughts and reflections with friends or followers via social media can seem personal and private, it is not. By law, if one or more people can access it, content is classed as published, in the public domain and subject to legislation around libel, defamation, copyright and data protection. If you wouldn't say something in a public meeting or to someone's face or write it in a newspaper or on headed paper – don't say it online.

Additional Information

The Christ Church official social media accounts are:

- Twitter: @ChChStLeonards, (remember to follow @chichesterdio too)
- Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/ChristChurchStLeonardsonSea</u>