



The Bishop of Norwich
The Rt Revd Graham James

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

2nd March 2017

**To all clergy (Honorary Assistant Bishops, licensed and with Permission to Officiate)
and copied to all Readers, Churchwardens and PCC Secretaries**

Dear Colleague,

**Maundy Thursday: Thursday April 13th
Chrism Eucharist: Norwich Cathedral 11am**

I am writing to invite you to share with me in the Maundy Thursday Chrism Eucharist in the Cathedral at 11am where we renew our ordination vows, bless the oils for use in initiation and healing, and recommit ourselves as clergy and lay people in our ministry for the coming year.

Retired clergy as well as licensed clergy are welcome to attend and robe as well. I hope many clergy present will do so (surplice and white stole or scarf as preferred). The Weston Room in the Hostry will be available for robing. Once robed, please make your way to the eastern end of the Cathedral for the procession. I will preach this year.

Increasing numbers of lay people now attend this service. Members of your family will be very welcome. So too will your parishioners. The liturgy includes an opportunity for lay people to commit themselves afresh to supporting you in your ministry as a priest or deacon in preparation for the renewal of baptismal promises in which we all share at the great Easter feast.

I know this is a busy time of year but please give this service priority in your diary so that it may be a truly diocesan celebration within Holy Week. It is for clergy and people of all traditions in the Church of England.

The increased numbers in recent years has put pressure on parking in the Cathedral Close where it is an ordinary working day. Those working in or visiting the offices have priority. If you can park elsewhere in the city (such as the Bishopgate car park near the Adam & Eve Pub) that would be very helpful.

A sandwich lunch will be available for all after the service in the north and south transepts. It would help enormously in our catering if you sent an email to my Chaplain, Susanna Gunner, to say whether you would like to stay for the sandwich lunch afterwards and to give any indication of the numbers of those who will be with you and any relevant dietary requirements (bishops.chaplain@dioceseofnorwich.org). Lunch is provided free, of course.

This comes with my prayers for you all as we approach Holy Week and Easter.

Yours sincerely,

