

## **ST SIMON ZELOTES VISION, VALUES AND BELIEFS**

The Job Description refers to the 'vision, values and beliefs of St Simon's. This document is a brief summary of those things.

### **Vision**

We had adopted the words 'Standing fast in the true grace of God' as our motto and overall vision for St Simon's. These words are based on 1 Peter 5.12.

This Vision is unpacked in our Mission Action Plan 2019 – 2024

### **Values**

Our Mission Action Plan 2019 – 2024 - [St Simon Zelotes : Mission Action Plan](#) - identifies five main values which we hope and pray will mark St Simon's:

Knowledge

Love

Worship

Outreach

Stewardship

### **Beliefs**

We are committed to the supreme authority of Holy Scripture in all matters of life and doctrine.

We hold to the doctrine contained in the Book of Common Prayer especially The thirty nine articles

We hold to The Evangelical Alliance Basis of Faith:

The one true God who lives eternally in three persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The love, grace and sovereignty of God in creating, sustaining, ruling, redeeming and judging the world.

The divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God – fully trustworthy for faith and conduct.

The dignity of all people, made male and female in God's image to love, be holy and care for creation, yet corrupted by sin, which incurs divine wrath and judgement.

The incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ – born of the virgin Mary; truly divine and truly human, yet without sin.

The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross: dying in our place, paying the price of sin and defeating evil, so reconciling us with God.

The bodily resurrection of Christ, the first fruits of our resurrection; his ascension to the Father, and his reign and mediation as the only Saviour of the world.

The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ.

The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness.

The church, the body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers — given life by the Spirit and endowed with the Spirit's gifts to worship God and proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love.

The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to fulfil the purposes of God, who will raise all people to judgement, bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal condemnation to the lost, and establish a new heaven and new earth.

### **Prayers of Love and Faith**

St Simon's PCC passed the following Resolution at its meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024

"The PCC affirms its agreement with the received teaching of the Anglican communion on sexuality as expressed in Resolution 1.10 of the 1998 Lambeth Conference - [Section I.10 - Human Sexuality](#). We also affirm our support for the CEEC and the CEEC's Basis of Faith – Additional Declaration 2 [CEEC's Basis of Faith-Additional Declaration 2](#), and our support for The Alliance and its three main aims in its statement of purpose. Given this the PCC requests that the Prayers of Love and Faith not be used within this parish"

Trainees and employees are expected to uphold and commend the traditional view of human sexuality and marriage expressed in the CEEC's Basis of faith Additional Declaration 2 in their conduct and teaching.

### **Complementarian Convictions**

St Simon's PCC passed the following Resolution at its meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023

"Our flourishing requires the flourishing of our Vicar and other clergy, the safeguarding of their consciences and the maintenance of congregational unity. With that in mind, this PCC requests, on grounds of theological conviction, that arrangements be made for it in accordance with the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests."

The theological convictions on which this request are made are set out here: [Guidance - The Bishop of Ebbsfleet](#)

Accordingly, since November 2023, St Simon's has been under the Episcopal oversight of the Bishop of Ebbsfleet.

Trainees and employees are expected to uphold and commend the complementarian theological convictions outlined at the Ebbsfleet webpage above in their conduct and teaching.

