

## Can we follow Christ boldly?

**A**s we step into 2026 together, I find myself filled with a deep and genuine hope for the year ahead. The season from January through Epiphany is an annual nudge to step into the light that Christ shines upon the world, this brilliant light that does not ignore the shadows, yet refuses to be overcome by them. Many will be familiar with the collects and prayers of Epiphany, of revelation, calling, and courage. They ask us not only to remember the star that guided the Magi but to look for the light that guides us now.

I wonder what might it mean, in this season, to follow Christ boldly? Perhaps it begins with the quiet conviction that hope is not naïve but instead necessary. It may look like choosing generosity even when the demands around us feel a lot and our resources thin. It may sound like the steady, gentle words we offer when our communities are carrying more than they let on. It might involve stepping beyond what feels safe and comfortable

to bless and encourage what feels new.

Across our diocese, I delight in signs of

Christ's light: communities praying faithfully, clergy leading with compassion, and disciples of all ages and stages of life and Christian journey offering their gifts with humility and joy. As we move toward 2026, may we boldly believe that God is not done with us, far from it, that a fuller, braver discipleship and relationship with God is possible for each of us.

My prayer is that, in this Epiphany season, Christ will reveal again the paths we are called to walk and grant us the courage to walk them with hope. Amen.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Becky Dyball". The script is fluid and cursive.

The Revd Becky Dyball  
Bishop's Missioner