

INCLUSIVENESS AT ST MARK'S

Our church is an inclusive community which welcomes diversity, promotes equal treatment, and seeks to eliminate discrimination.

In a Pastoral Letter to the churches of our Diocese, the Bishops have said “Intolerance and racism is a worrying feature of contemporary Europe, so we emphasise that our churches are open and inclusive places where all are welcome.”

The Anglican Church is aware that issues of gender and sexuality are intrinsic to people's experience; their sense of identity; their lives and the loving relationships that shape and sustain them. The life and mission of the worldwide Anglican Communion are affected by deep, and sometimes painful, disagreements, which have come into sharper focus because of society's changing perspectives and practices, especially in relation to lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and intersex people. That is why the Anglican Church is promoting the "Living in Love and Faith" resources (see link below) whose purpose is to enable us to discern a way forward in relation to these matters.

We fly the rainbow flag at St Mark's to emphasise the Anglican Church's inclusiveness and support for marginalised communities, and our commitment to making St Mark's a safe and welcoming place to all. The rainbow flag is not intended as a political symbol. St. Mark's does not take a position on matters of Italian politics.

Living in Love and Faith

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith>