Dear All

Both Ven. Paul and I are aware that there are various rumours circulating about his future plans. Whilst he has had conversations within the parish's council (association - executive committee) during recent months a final decision has only just been reached.

I am truly saddened to share with you that Ven. Paul has felt unable to accept a further three-year fixed-term contract to remain as our Parish Priest and as Archdeacon. He has kindly agreed to accept a three-month extension contract and both he and Paula plan to leave us and the island at the end of April - so he will be with us to lead during Easter.

Ven. Paul's decision is for financial, pension, future/retirement housing, Paula's career and family reasons, maybe now helped by the wonderful news of their granddaughter Evelyn's arrival.

Your Council (executive committee) and the Diocese led by Bishop Sean is working on finding a future way forward but it will be many weeks or months before we may have news to share. It is very likely that we will be heavily dependent on our volunteers to lead services - clergy with permission to officiate, readers and lay worship leaders - in the times ahead. I would ask you to keep the Ven. Paul, Paula and volunteers in your prayers and that you examine your hearts to support and encourage everyone involved in this change to our Church lives.

Wishing Ven. Paul and Paula every future happiness.

Graham Hare
Vice-Chair, Anglican Church of Paphos