Dear Sarah,

Further to my email of yesterday, and having a ‘good head of steam’ once started, I’ve prepared most of the other documents requested and attach them now.

Draft Order of Service: this includes baptism on the assumption that the one candidate not yet baptized is willing to do so at the confirmation. (I have another draft which omits baptism but hope it won’t be needed).

I have four queries:

(1) is the Bishop happy to use the collect for confirmation (as included) or would he prefer the collect for the week, which is Lent 5?

(2) I have included a New Testament treading – the one set for the day. It can easily be removed if the Bishop so desires but without it, the introit and gradual hymns come very close together.

(3) Would you confirm the gospel reading given in the covering letter please? The letter gives John 8. 21-30 but this is the gospel for Tuesday 20th March and I wonder whether the Bishop intended to use the gospel for the day from the Lectionary which is John 8. 31-42

(4) The guidelines suggest a hymn to the Holy Spirit immediately after the sermon but the pro forma service outline places it in the middle of the confirmation rite. I have included it after the sermon – is this OK?

I also attach the Information Sheet. I am still waiting to hear from two potential candidates and will update you if the numbers change. One has mobility issues so may need some accommodation during the service. I have still to nominate a chaplain to the bishop unless I act in that capacity.

The Return I will sort immediately after the service once numbers are properly known!

I hope this is all satisfactory.

Best wishes  
  
Michael