

## ***‘New Chair of On Fire Mission Announced’***

The new Chair of Trustees for renewal charity *On Fire Mission* has been announced as The Reverend Canon Leah Vasey-Saunders.

After a period of transition, to concentrate on developing emerging areas of the Charity’s regional and national work, Leah (who currently serves as a Trustee of OFM and member of the Conference Organising Group - COG) will take over as Chair of Trustees from The Venerable David Picken, who has served in the role since 2005. David remarks:

*“I am delighted that Leah will be taking over as Chair of Trustees after this period of transition. On Fire Mission has experienced a rapid expansion of our work in recent years, and the Trustees and wider network have exciting plans to continue to reach out in new ways into the future. Leah is a gifted, prayerful and much-respected leader, and I can think of no-one more suited to picking up the role at this time.”*

Alongside her role with On Fire Mission, Leah also serves as Canon Precentor at Wakefield Cathedral and has a passion for renewal within the Catholic tradition of the Church of England. Leah is a key member of the OFM team; developing the network’s regional offering, building its presence on social media and pioneering new ways to enable members of the network to more easily connect with, and resource, one another. Leah comments:

*“I am humbled and excited to be elected as Chair but feel free, because of the type of leader David has been, to follow the Spirit’s leading with confidence into this new season. As Trustees, COG and a whole community, we are immeasurably grateful to David for all he has done, and also that he is willing to stay on to provide continuity in governance for the Charity through the challenges of this present time. This will provide the freedom and opportunity to explore how we develop, with a focus on empowering people to take what they experience at OFM back into their own communities and ministry contexts.”*

The On Fire Mission network will have the opportunity to formally thank David, and to welcome Leah into her new role, at the annual national conference in April 2021.