

# DIOCESE IN EUROPE

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

The Bishop in Europe:  
**The Right Reverend Dr. Robert Innes**



The Suffragan Bishop in Europe  
**The Right Reverend Dr. David Hamid**

July 16th 2021

## *For Clergy, Readers and Churchwardens*

Dear Sisters and Brothers Christ,

*“Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck...I have come into deep waters and the flood sweeps over me.” (Psalm 69)*

We write to you in the wake of the terrible flooding disaster which has afflicted Western Germany, parts of France and the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Southern Belgium. These are for many people the worst floods they can remember. There has been significant loss of life, widespread destruction of property, disruption of roads and rail, interruption of electricity supplies and contamination of fresh water by overflowing sewers.

As bishops, we want to express our deepest sympathy and support for all whose lives have been affected by these dreadful events.

Flooding has an almost unique capacity to cause devastation. Its effects last for many months after the events themselves. In these dreadful floods many have lost their homes and treasured possessions, and some have lost loved ones. Ahead there lies a massive task of restoring traumatised families and rebuilding shattered towns and villages. Naturally, a weather disaster on this scale presses again the need for all of us to confront changes in our climate. And these floods come at the end of a year when we have already suffered the pandemic.

We ask all of you to join with us in praying for the victims of this disaster and those striving to help them. We invite all our chaplaincies to make time in your gatherings on Sunday to pray especially for the countries and people in our Diocese who are affected.

*Compassionate God, source of all comfort,  
We pray for those whose lives have been devastated by rain and flood.  
Comfort the bereaved and bring healing to those who are traumatised.  
Give strength and compassion to those who bring relief and aid.  
In the power of your Spirit we pray for the rebuilding of physical communities,  
and for a shared sense of solidarity and trust in your goodness known through human kindness.  
We pray in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.*

*+ Robert Gibraltar in Europe*

*+ David*

**+Robert Gibraltar in Europe**

**+David Hamid**

Rue Capitaine Crespel 47 box 49, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +3222137480; E-Mail: [bishop.europe@churchofengland.org](mailto:bishop.europe@churchofengland.org),

Diocesan web site: [www.europe.anglican.org/](http://www.europe.anglican.org/)

Rue Capitaine Crespel 47 box 49, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

*Tel:* +3222137480; *E-Mail:* [bishop.europe@churchofengland.org](mailto:bishop.europe@churchofengland.org),

*Diocesan web site:* [www.europe.anglican.org](http://www.europe.anglican.org)