

## **DEANERY, DIOCESAN AND GENERAL SYNOD REPORT FOR APCM 2023**

### **DEANERY SYNOD**

Meetings were held on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023.

We welcomed 3 new incumbents: Revd Peter Allen (NQRW), Revd Louis Wilson (HEU), Revd Gerwyn Capon (Thaxted) and SW curate, Revd Ella Harris (SW)

Regular agenda items include:

#### **Finance**

- Parish Share, and the challenges of the cost-of-living crisis/ energy costs

#### **Diocesan Synod Reports**

- Diocesan Synod meets 3x per year and representatives report back to Deanery Synod

#### **General Synod reports**

- General Synod meets twice a year and General Synod representative reports back to deanery (each rep reports to 2 Deaneries)

#### **News from the Parishes**

- Vacancies and farewells to clergy
- Initiatives and encouragements in ministry

There is always a **topical presentation** led by an outside speaker or by the Area Dean. This can take the form of group work. Topics covered this past year include:

- Mrs Jess Cooper spoke about the work of Kintsugi Hope- a Christian charity which aims to create "safe spaces for people to share their struggles", through developing wellbeing groups.
- Mr Steve Hasler presented various useful energy saving ideas for churches and church halls as we face high energy bills.
- Revd Canon Janet Nicolls, Rural Adviser and Agricultural Chaplain spoke about her work in the Diocese

In July there was a Deanery Service at St Mary's Saffron Walden. Bishop Guli spoke about her vision for the Diocese of Chelmsford.

*Sandie Turner (Deanery Secretary & Deanery Standing Committee)*

### **DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT**

Diocesan Synod met in person in June and October 2022 and March 2023

There is always a Presidential Address from Bishop Guli.

#### **Topics presented/ debated include:**

- The challenges of Parish share.
- Carbon neutral update
- Approving the annual budget
- We agreed to sign up to a Clergy Wellbeing Covenant
- Revised rules for deanery Synods and deanery elections.
- Update on the Living in Love and faith process.
- There is time for questions which are put in writing ahead of the Synod

*Sandie Turner (SW Deanery lay representative on Diocesan Synod)*

## **GENERAL SYNOD REPORT.**

General Synod met in person in July 2022 in York and then in February 2023 in London.

There is always an address from the Archbishop.

### **Reports presented** included:

Routemap to carbon Zero by 2030

Review of strategic development funding

### **Some are debates e.g.**

Cost of living

Governance review

Safeguarding

Prayers of Love and Faith

### **Some motions are raised by Diocesan Synods**

These eventually work their way to General Synod e.g.

Call for review of qualifications of PCC membership

### **There is often group work e.g.**

Vision and Strategy

LLF and the Prayers of Love and Faith

### **And some business is legislation, e.g.**

Pensions

Setting of Parochial fees

Revision of Standing Orders

### **Elections were held for membership to the Crown Nominations Commission**

### **There are now 2 question sessions**

*Sandie Turner Elected member of General Synod for Chelmsford Diocese.*