

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT FOR 2025– For All Saints’ APMG 26th April, 2026



The Wycombe Deanery is a family of 35 Anglican churches across 28 parishes in the Wycombe area, all working together to serve their communities and follow Jesus. The role of the Deanery is to support these churches, not to centralise or control them. Like all families, our Deanery is diverse, stretching from the Thames Valley to the Chilterns Escarpment, encompassing urban areas in High Wycombe, some smaller towns, and dozens of rural villages. What unites us is a vision to see all of our churches flourishing in serving their parishes and working together to seek God’s Kingdom across our Deanery.

The Deanery is not a big Parish we do not aim to have our own worshipping or missional life independent of our churches, but exist to serve, enhance, and act as a catalyst to what God is doing in them. We are also not a small Diocese: we do not have significant resources to deploy. What we have we seek to use for the good of our Deanery.

The Deanery believe passionately that God is at work renewing and reforming his church in this country and is committed to playing its part in this work. It believes that as it joins together, with each sharing freely what God has given us, the Spirit will lead us into growth as we follow Jesus together.

To guide Synod on this journey, the Deanery worked together during 2025 to develop a new 5 year Deanery plan for 2025 – 2030. This was agreed at the October meeting.

Our vision is to help our churches serve their parishes and work together to see God’s Kingdom come. The Deanery set out four values to work to:

- To be centred on Jesus, Spirit-led, and rooted in prayer
- To be a catalyst for mission
- To work for the flourishing of our churches and their people
- To celebrate our differences

The Deanery website (www.wycombedeanery.com), details our churches, our strategic deanery plan and other information. Please pray for us and let us know how we can serve you.

All Saints’ Deanery Synod Reps (2025/26):

Clergy Reps: Fr Anthony Searle Revd Jackie Lock

Laity Reps: Barry Titchen Sue Lord

The Wycombe Deanery Synod has met 4 times during the past year:

29th January at Christ the Servant King
15th July 2025 at St Francis, Terriers

30th April at St Michael & All Angels Hughenden
7th October at Christ Church Flackwell Heath

These meetings are an opportunity to share what is happening in churches across the Deanery and inspire and encourage us in our work at All Saints.

This year the Synod shared experiences and ideas, and discussed:

- Reflections on the achievements of the last five years: the introduction of a Rural Partnership to support rural churches; the introduction of Wild churches, Forest churches and Messy churches; revitalising St Marks Bourne End and growing congregations in the Deanery; well-being and help for priests and churchwardens; realignment of parishes and finance so that the parish share is more sustainable for most parishes.
- The rich diversity of communities and churches within the Deanery, each with their own priorities and ways of sharing the fire.
- The need to support the wellbeing of our ministers and churchwardens.
- The desire to develop and grow our engagement with young people in our churches.
- Our hopes and priorities for the Deanery over the next five years

During the year, the Deanery has:

- Said farewell to our former Area Dean, Dave Bull, as he took up his new post as Bishop of Buckingham, and presented him with a painting of St Katherine's Parmoor with thanks.
- Welcomed our new Area Dean, James Dwyer, the vicar of Christ Church, Flackwell Heath.
- Welcomed our new Deanery Environmental Advocate Julia Grant and said farewell to our Assistant Lay Chair Nick Gallant.
- Made a Deanery mission fund of £30,000 available for small grants to support mission work in the Deanery.
- Modified the parish share system introduced during 2024 slightly, to adjust for anomalies.
- Extended support for Churchwardens across the Deanery
- Introduced a new Deanery Plan for 2025-2030 – the Plan sets out the aims and objectives for the Deanery over the period and is available on the Wycombe Deanery Website (www.wycombedeanery.com).
- Obtained a rebate of 2.5% (£31,150) of Parish Share from the Diocese, as all the churches in the Deanery were able to meet their Parish Share this year. This will be used to facilitate mission in the Deanery going forward.
- Issued a rebate of 2.65% of Parish Share to churches in the Deanery from the surplus built up over previous years. All Saints received a rebate of £2575.

The focus for the next 5 years will be on discerning how God may be calling us to support our churches. In the Deanery Plan four priorities were articulated:

- Shaping our future
- Discerning opportunities for new congregations
- Developing clergy for lifelong mission and ministry
- Supporting churchwardens and lay leaders

Each church is being encouraged to consider how these might apply to our own context.

A detailed report on each meeting of the Deanery Synod is presented to the All Saints PCC and is available from the PCC Secretary.

The next Deanery Synod Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 22nd April 2026.

Sue Lord Barry Titchen

April 2026

(All Saints' Laity Deanery Reps)