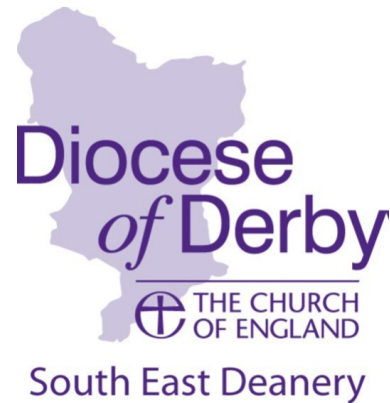


# South East Derbyshire Deanery Newsletter March-April 2024



**We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul (Hebrews 6: 19)**

## *From Bishop Malcolm*

***Hold onto your seats, folks, as we enter this most challenging and exciting season!***

In our online Lent reflection this week we were thinking about the frequent use of the word 'now' in St John's Gospel, especially as we head towards Jesus' crucifixion. 'Now my soul is troubled....now is the judgment of this world....now the ruler of this world will be driven out.' In these solemn days the present moment is almost electrically charged with significance. You get the feeling anything could happen, as even Jesus wrestles with the various options, praying in Gethsemane. Despite temptation to seek an easier option, he chooses the way of the cross.

Anything could happen. I've heard that said often of the current world picture. We haven't seen times such as these. Where will it lead? Will we make it through the anguish, through the conflict, through the uncertainty, to real Easter joy and peace? Is change possible? Is forgiveness real? Does love win through in the end? Will the church grow again? Can these bones live?

To all these questions Easter answers a resounding YES! When we say in the Eucharist, 'Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!' we are saying all this is real and true *now* and it gives us hope both for today and for the future. It also means we can use this *now* to make a difference, in the power of the Holy Spirit, for the good of all. This is stunningly good news for everyone.

It means that we, through our giving and praying and serving, can be part of the answer to our own prayers for peace and justice in the world. Gaza, Israel, Sudan, Ukraine, Yemen – the list goes on of places where we long for '*now*' to bring better news and signs of peace.

With all this going on, and with Easter and the promise of Pentecost only weeks away, it is only right we choose to pray, wherever and whenever we can, for God's coming Kingdom – and to see that Kingdom understood as Good News for all where we live too.

*(more from Bishop Malcolm overleaf on praying for God's coming Kingdom)*

## ARCHBISHOP JUSTIN WELBY TO PRAY IN ILKESTON—SATURDAY 13TH APRIL

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April the Diocese of Derby is hosting a diocesan day of prayer, looking to God to bless our communities and neighbourhoods, as well as our churches. We are being joined for the day by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who will spend the day praying with people up and down the Diocese in various locations – one of which will be the marketplace just outside St Mary’s Church in Ilkeston. This will happen between 2pm and 2.45pm that Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> April – and anyone is invited to come and pray informally with Archbishop Justin, in the street by the church, during that time. It’s open to anyone – and it is about offering prayer of blessing both for individuals and for the town and wider deanery and borough. Archbishop Justin simply wants to join us in prayer, and encourage us to pray. Why not bring someone who might really appreciate this opportunity? Perhaps someone not usually in church?



You can see more information about the Archbishop’s visit on the Diocesan website at <https://derby.anglican.org/en/archbishop-of-canterbury-to-visit-the-diocese-of-derby.html>

### BISHOPS TO PRAY ‘THY KINGDOM COME’ IN SOUTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DEANERY ON MONDAY 13TH MAY

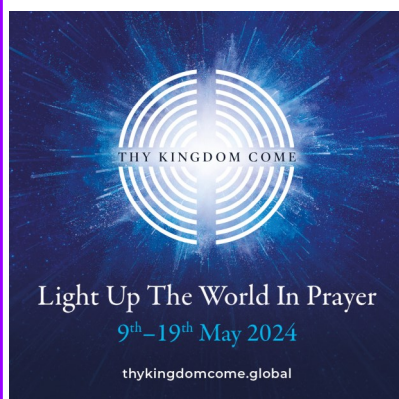
Hard on the heels of the Archbishop’s visit comes the season of ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ when we pray for people we know who haven’t yet discovered the love of God in Jesus, looking to God to send the Holy Spirit amongst us to equip us to share the good news in word and action, so many more become Jesus’ disciples. This year Bishop Libby and I will be spending much of the period leading up to Pentecost walking around the diocese praying Thy Kingdom Come prayers with anyone who will join us. More details soon about this. In the meantime we have ordered lots of resources – a prayer guide for members of our churches, some postcards to help set up Thy Kingdom Come prayer stations in churches or schools or other places, and various other resources that churches may find helpful.

Clergy and readers are asked to collect these resources, for your church, at Derby Cathedral at the Maundy Thursday Eucharist.

I wish you all a blessed Holy Week, and a joyful Easter to come!

In Christ,

+Malcolm



*Click on the image for resources and more information on the season of Thy Kingdom Come*

## Contact Us



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## Safeguarding Conference—20th April

The Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Team are holding their first Safeguarding Conference on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April at Cliff College, Cliff Lane, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S32 3XG.**

The Conference will run between 9.30am and 4pm, with lunch and refreshments provided. There will be guest speakers during the morning and the opportunity to attend workshops during the afternoon, covering topics including: Prayer Ministry, Dealing with conflict in your parish, Self-care, wellbeing and resilience, Healthy Cultures, Safe Spaces & Survivors, What happens to a referral.

There is no charge for attendance. Further Details and a registration form are available here:

[Safeguarding Conference 20th April 2024 - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#)

## For Your Diary

**Maundy Thursday** Chrism Eucharist, 11.00am, Derby Cathedral

### **Thy Kingdom Come**

**13th April, 2.05-2.45pm** Visit of Archbishop Justin Welby to the South East Derbyshire Deanery—Ilkeston Market Place

**13th May:** Bishops' visit to the South East Derbyshire Deanery



### **Archdeacon's Visitation**

**Wednesday 3rd July, 7.30pm** at St Andrew's Langley Mill.

Come along and support your Churchwardens as they are sworn in for another year's service.

## Return of Parish Finance and Energy Footprint Data

**Thank you to those who worked hard to submit  
Statistics for Mission by Mid-March.**

*Congratulations!*

*We achieved a 100% response rate in our Deanery*

*Now...Just when you thought it was safe to stop counting things...*



**Treasurers:** you will shortly be contacted by the Finance Office about submitting the Return of Parish Finance forms on the online parish returns system, accessible here:

<https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>.

Please note that this year, Treasurers are encouraged both to submit these online **and** to send in their accounts to the Finance Office ***even before APCMs take place***. (Any necessary adjustment to the figures post-APCM can be made). If you are having difficulty accessing the online system or need help, please let Helen Bridger know.

**With the Help of Treasurers:** parishes are to submit data to the Energy Footprint Tool on the online parish returns system (same link as above) by 31st July. This may seem ages away, but will be here before you know it. In the light of energy crises and the goal of Net Zero by 2030 there is a push to increase submissions for these data, and the diocese is aiming for a 90+ response rate. Let Helen know if you need help or access to the system.

# Annual Parochial Church Meetings—Before the Meeting

It certainly doesn't feel like a year since we last did this, but time flies and it's APCM season once again. This means diving headlong into the world of official notifications, nominations, reports and elections.



**All APCMs need to take place by the end of May 2024.**

If you're like most human beings, you'll lose track of what exactly is required by way of paperwork and procedures. If that's the case, have no fear! Below you'll find a link to the Church Representation Rules covering APCMs, as well as a link to FAQs and a further link which will take you to all the forms you'll need:

[Church Representation Rules online - part 9 | The Church of England](#)

[APCMs - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#)

[APCM-FAQs - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#)

## **Essential to include on the agenda are:**

- Safeguarding (a safeguarding report can be generated from the Safeguarding Dashboard)
- Fabric Report
- Deanery Synod Report (available here—scroll down to “Deanery Synod”)  
:[South East Derbyshire Deanery - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#)
- Proceedings of the PCC

## **A Prayer for your APCM**

Almighty God, we come together in the service of your Church to remember with thanksgiving all that you have been able to do through us in this parish during the past year, and to seek your guidance in the elections for the coming year.

We pray that this may be something more than a business meeting but rather an occasion when we receive fresh encouragement in our work, catch a wider vision of your purpose and dedicate ourselves anew to your service.

We ask this in the name of him who came to this world not to be served but to serve, and gave his life as a ransom for many,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.\*

If you have any questions about your APCM, let Helen Bridger know in the first instance and she'll address or direct your enquiry as appropriate: [helen.bridger@derby.anglican.org](mailto:helen.bridger@derby.anglican.org)

\*Michael Botting, in Contemporary Parish Prayers © 1975 by Frank Colquhoun

# Annual Parochial Church Meetings—After the Meeting

Anticipatory Congratulations on getting through APCM season, and to those who those who have been called and elected to serve as Church Officers and PCC Members. Many thanks are also due to those who have relinquished these roles for their hard work.



Before you put all things APCM to the back of your mind for the next twelve months, there are a few things you need to do:

**PCC Secretaries** please make sure that after the APCM:

- 1) the form 10-APCM Results of Elections form has been completed and sent back either by post to *Enquiries, Church House, Full Street, Derby, DE1 3DR*, or by email to [diosec@derby.anglican.org](mailto:diosec@derby.anglican.org).  
You can access the form here: [APCM Forms - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#)
- 2) you let Helen Bridger know about any Deanery Synod reps you have identified to fill a casual vacancy (that is, if your church didn't elect its full allowance of Deanery Synod reps last year, or if one of your reps has stood down before their term of office ends in 2026).

**Helen really needs you to give her that information, so that she can keep accurate lists of the Deanery Synod membership.** You can email this information to [helen.bridger@derby.anglican.org](mailto:helen.bridger@derby.anglican.org)

- 3) you ask all newly elected office holders and those whose details have changed to fill in and sign the GDPR form and send it back to Church House either by post or by email: [enquiries@derby.anglican.org](mailto:enquiries@derby.anglican.org). This form can be accessed using the above APCM forms link.

**Incumbents and Churchwardens:** Please make sure that Certificate Validating the Election of Churchwardens has been sent to the Archdeacons' Office.

**Treasurers:** If you haven't already done so, file a copy of your approved 2023 PCC Annual Report and Financial Statements with the Secretary of the Diocesan Board of Finance **within 28 days of your Annual Meeting.**

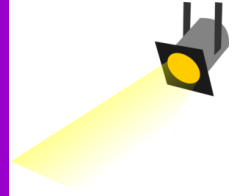
You can send these electronically to:

[finance@derby.anglican.org](mailto:finance@derby.anglican.org) or by post to *Finance Office, Church House, Full Street, Derby DE1 3DR*

# Diocesan Synod Spotlight

Report from Brian Parker on the Diocesan Synod of

16th March 2024



I was joined by Andrew Baguley, Peter Hallsworth, Phil Selby, Ralph Homer, Rosemary Hoole and Sue Cavill at the most recent meeting of the Diocesan Synod and I'm grateful for their contribution to this report. The meeting had more of a collaborative feel than it has previously been but for the collaboration you had to work with an APP!

A large part of Diocesan Synod was given to understanding the current state of the Diocese of Derby, and how things might move forward with a new Diocesan Strategy. It looked at Vision, Resources and Resourcing.

## Vision

Bishop Libby would like the new Diocesan Strategy to be centred on 4 priorities

Deepen relationship with God

- >Community of Prayer
- >Growing in Faith

Serving the local community

- >Supporting community service projects
- >Providing mental health support

Challenging injustice

- >Net zero carbon 2030
- >Generating affordable environmentally friendly housing

New disciples

- >Training modules on evangelism
- >Thy Kingdom Come
- >Resourcing new worshipping communities

All these elements seek to support what is already happening – or could happen - in the local context rather than being an additional burden.

## Resources

I was asked to speak to Synod on the concept of Common Fund. It's a fund held in common between the diocese and all the parishes to which all parishes are invited to contribute to and all parishes receive its benefits irrespective of what it is able or willing to put into the fund. My contribution was the prelude to a wider discussion on adapting the formula used to calculate the amount parishes are invited to contribute. Currently it is based on the size of the worshipping community and so successful evangelism leads to an increase in the ask: a tax on growth. The proposed model will look at the cost of ministry adjusted by deprivation data. There will be a wider consultation on how the model should be adapted, which will be open to everyone. Look out for details.

(continued)

## **Resourcing**

We undertook something of a fun activity which actually had a very serious message: the challenge of deploying the stipendiary clergy that we can afford to engage. Do we just 'keep the show on the road' by straight replacement of vacancies or do we look more imaginatively, even daring, to focus on potential new opportunities: work with families through schools, planting in new housing developments, more attention to chaplaincy. There was no correct answer to the exercise but it left us appreciating the challenges of resourcing our mission

There is just one more meeting of the Diocesan Synod in the current term. Elections will happen shortly to fill the nine clergy places and nine laity places available for South East Derbyshire Deanery. Look out for details.

## ***Deanery Synod Spotlight***

### ***Report on the Deanery Synod of 6th February 2024 about CHURCH FINANCE***



It was excellent to see so many of you at our last Deanery Synod meeting, and especially wonderful to welcome so many treasurers and PCC members alongside Synod members to hear three presentations about various aspects of church finance.

In case you weren't there, here is a brief synopsis of what you missed:

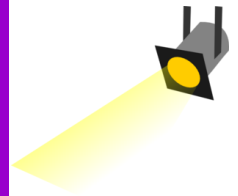
- 1) Brilliant hospitality from the folk of Christ Church Cotmanhay, who provided a warm venue, hot drinks and fantastic cake—thank you!
- 2) A valuable insight into Diocesan finances, including the place of Parish Share contributions to our financial life as a diocese. Martyn Marples (Diocese of Derby Head of Finance) talked us through the publication “On the Money” [On the money - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org), detailing where diocesan funds come from, the role of Parish Share, and financial challenges post-Covid and ongoing. At the heart of his message was the central importance of mission and the extent to which monies contributed via Parish Share go back to the parish frontline.
- 3) An introduction from Gareth Greenwood to his new role as Church Buildings Support Officer, focussing on the sustainability of our church buildings. On a reduced scale he is still available to support churches with grant applications, and spoke about the new Church Commissioners Minor Repair and Improvement fund, as well as existing Raymond Ross funding (a legacy fund providing both small and large grants), and the Building Community Fund (oriented towards growing community through buildings use). See [Grants and Funding Sources - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org) for details of these.
- 4) An encouragement from Steve Johnson (Living Generously Adviser) to consider a variety of mechanisms for giving, including QR codes, contactless devices, the Parish Giving Scheme and legacy giving.
- 5) A chance to chat with people from other churches and share questions, challenges and good practices.

***Date and location of the June 2024 Deanery Synod will be announced shortly.***



# General Synod Spotlight

Report from Sue Cavill on the General Synod of  
23rd-27th February 2024



February's General Synod was held in Westminster and covered a wide range of issues. I'll pick out a few in this report but to know more about the items we discussed do visit the [Church of England website](#), although at the time of writing this has not been updated with the final motions.

There was a good-natured debate about Living in Love and Faith. As there was no new guidance to debate, Synod members agreed after a while to move to next business. Practical proposals for implementing the decisions made in February 2023 are due to be brought to the July Synod.

A video message introduced Professor Alexis Jay's report 'The Future of Safeguarding' at the beginning of a debate. The report explores how to make safeguarding and its scrutiny in the Church of England truly independent and recommends creating two new charities, both funded by the C of E, but operationally and legally independent. There is some controversy about whether this is the right path to take. The Synod debate also took into account the recently published report by Sarah Wilkinson on the collapse of the Independent Safeguarding Board. Synod voted to thank Sarah Wilkinson and Alexis Jay for their work and request that a process for forming a response to their recommendations is pursued. The motion also included an apology to those impacted by recent events. This is a complex issue and there will hopefully be more clarity in the next few months as to the future shape of safeguarding in the C of E.

The Synod voted in favour of a private member's motion about bullying by lay officers, asking the Archbishops' Council to bring forward legislative proposals which would enable a church warden, PCC member or other lay officer who bullied to be disqualified from office. Synod also voted in favour of a separate motion asking for the Archbishops' Council to consider drawing up a Code of Conduct for PCC members and lay volunteers.

A private member's motion to ask for improvement in the real value of clergy pensions resulted in a passionate and revealing debate about how the value of clergy pensions has fallen and how many clergy are struggling and expect to struggle financially once they retire. Synod voted for the relevant bodies to look at what steps can be taken to remedy the fall in value of clergy pensions.

I was personally pleased that a motion asking for the encouragement of greater biodiversity and sustainable land use was passed. The motion welcomed the work already being done on church land to manage it for climate and nature and asked for all those with responsibility for church land, including parishes, to get further involved in effective use of their land.

One item which has provoked controversy since Synod is the Church Commissioners setting up a £100 million impact investment fund to make investments to help heal the legacy of slavery. They reported on this fund in a presentation at Synod. The hope is that the fund will be a starting point for other bodies with historical links with slavery also to invest in, providing the opportunity to invest in programmes that benefit people who have been affected by the racism and other legacies of slavery. My understanding is that this is one way the Church Commissioners are choosing to invest some of their money (rather than investing in other funds), and it should not have any impact on the amount of money they are allocating to the work of the Church of England.

Finally, Synod passed a motion to redirect to PCCs the £34 fee for funeral services at crematoria or cemeteries when there is no service in church. PCCs received this money until 2020, when it was redirected to Diocesan Boards of Finance, but it was agreed that the money should once again go to PCCs to reflect the time and effort of clergy, lay ministers and volunteers involved in this important ministry.

# Sozein

Reg charity 1044449

The Old Vicarage,  
Church Lane in Horsley  
Woodhouse, DE7 6BB



*invites you to..*

# Afternoon Tea

in the peaceful  
gardens

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June  
from 12noon to 4pm



Plus various stalls and games

