

LANCASTER PRIORY

Deanery Synod Report to the APCM in May 2023

The Deanery's first meeting of 2022 was held in St John the Divine, Sandylands, Morecambe in February. We were addressed by Revd Canon Professor John Rodwell, Diocesan Environment Officer, whose subject was "The Challenge of 2030 Net Zero and how Eco Church can help". It was an encouraging and challenging presentation. Revd Carol Backhouse of Christ Church also described the challenges their Eco Church Group had faced en route to winning a Silver Award. Contributions were also made by Revd Canon Cindy Rigney and Revd Canon Linda Macluskie.

The October 2022 meeting of the Deanery Synod was held at the Church of the Ascension, Torrisholme. The speaker, Richard Carter, made a presentation on discipleship called "Everyday Faith". Richard outlined eight small shifts in perspective which aim to effect large changes in discipleship. Discussion resulted in some suggestions of small changes which could improve the lives of congregations.

Revd Cindy Rigney, Vicar of Dolphinholme, Quernmore and Over Wyresdale as Area Dean of Tunstall suggested that Tunstall and Lancaster and Morecambe Deanery should work more closely together for mutual benefit.

The February 2023 meeting was at St John's Ellel with the Revd. Steve Haskett, Parish Renewal Lead in the diocese as speaker. He led a lively interactive session on parish renewal and lay leadership.

The meeting also heard a brief report on the General Synod sessions held in February which were dominated by the Bishops' report on Living in Love and Faith.

The next meeting on 27 June will focus on the cost of living crisis and the 13 October meeting will be the occasion of Bishop Philip spending the day in the deanery. Members were asked to flag up interesting projects or schools for him to visit.

Pauline Fielding
Deanery Synod Representative