## Annual Deanery Synod Report: 2023-24

All Saints with Holy Trinity is situated within the Akeley East Deanery and returns three lay representatives. For the last period, the representatives were Deb Green, Kath Lewis, and James Badger. All Clergy licensed to the deanery also sit within the Synod.

Deanery Synod has two roles; a Church governance role, and a community building function. For church governance, the main role is to act as the electorates for Diocesan Synod and General Synod but there are other roles to perform as required.

By bringing together members of each community from across the local area, the Synod fosters a community of practice and relationships between the constituent churches. Meetings provide space to catch up on what each church is getting up to and offer prayer and support for any challenges they are facing. We also celebrate and share successes and ideas.

Deanery Synod met three times in the period. Meetings start with a period of worship; we then receive a presentation on a topic followed by discussion and questions. The meetings in the last period covered: Minster Communities, Diocesan Finances, and Vocations.

The Vocations evening included a presentation from the Diocesan team on different types of vocation and routes to explore them. Our Minster Community discussion was held shortly after the deanery joined the formation process so was a useful pit stop to check in with how other churches were feeling and approaching the work. At our most recent meeting, the Diocesan Finance Director attended to present on the diocesan budget, explaining how the diocese spent its money and providing some context to explain the current deficit position.

For reference, the Deanery map can be found below.

