## Annual Deanery Synod Report

All Saints with Holy Trinity is situated within the Akeley East Deanery and returns three lay representatives. For most of the last period, the representatives were Lee Bradley, 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: Upbeat Communities, Cursillo, and Exaireo.

We hosted the first meeting of the period which focused on our response to the war in Ukraine, more specifically the support offered to refugees. We received a presentation from Upbeat Communities, a charity offering support to refugees in Derbyshire. The presentation was really interesting and gave food for thought on how we as church communities might be able to support charities and other groups that support refugees.

The Cursillo evening, hosted at Quorn, gave synod members an insight into the Cursillo community. The community runs retreats designed to support attendees to develop their own rule of life.

Our final meeting of the period was at All Saints Thorpe Acre, and was on Exaireo, a local Loughborough charity providing housing and support to homeless people. Following the usual pattern, we received a presentation followed by discussion and questions.

For reference, the Deanery map can be found below.

