**DEANERY SYNOD REPORT**

**21st April 2021**

The last time the Deanery Synod met in person was 19th February 2019 at Great St Marys, Sawbridgeworth and a report of that meeting was given to last year’s APCM.

On 21st April 2021 the Deanery Synod met via a Zoom meeting when we were given a talk by the Revd Harry Steele on our Deanery Synod Goals. He recommended we reach the wider community via outside coffee mornings, children’s groups, mother and toddler group, standing outside our churches offering teas and coffees, opening the church buildings to food banks, post offices and lending libraries. Many of these suggestions have been already been undertaken by Holy Trinity Church as initiatives for outreach and mission.

The Revd Mandy Brown was on annual leave and it was mentioned by the Revd Tim Weeks that as Mandy is Deanery Synod Area Dean, she will be standing down effective from May, due to her forthcoming retirement in August and the Synod will need to look to appoint a new Area Dean.

Forthcoming Deanery Synod meetings will either be held in person or via Zoom subject to the current situation and in line with Government guidelines.

Forthcoming dates:

Wednesday 30th June – Venue to be confirmed but possibly Braughing or Zoom meeting,

Wednesday 15th September – Venue to be confirmed but possibly St Michael’s, Bishops Stortford or Zoom.

Wednesday 17th November – Communion Service Great St Mary’ Sawbridgeworth or Zoom.

Gillian Micallef, Co Deanery Synod Representative.