

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT FOR 2024

The St. Paul's representatives on the Beckenham Deanery Synod are Sandra Horner and Keith Howick.

The Beckenham Deanery Synod met three times in 2024:

- 20th February, 2024 at St. John's Penge, when Anna Khan from Welcare delivered a presentation about their work.
- 9th July 2024 at Christ Church Anerley. Claire Boxall from the Diocese had been due to attend to talk about the Diocesan Strategy, but was unable to come. Father Jeremy Blunden, the Area Dean, reported on the 'Change, Serve and Grow' vision, and this continues to develop. A current link can be found via the Diocesan website at <https://www.rochester.anglican.org/about-us/ourvision/> . Sarah Poole, Gloria Sherman and Keith Howick were elected as lay members of the Diocesan Synod.
- 3rd October 2024 (Revd Rachel's first Deanery Synod) at St. George's. Father Jeremy spoke on Diversity and Inclusion and gave examples of how St. George's had tried to improve inclusivity. These included work with children, a dementia audit (which led to more helpful notices), paying attention to Black History Month and the importance of visual signals.

On 22nd September, there had been 19 candidates for confirmation at St. John's, Penge and 12 at Christ Church, Beckenham on 1st September.
There was an opportunity for all the Deanery churches to give an update.