

## **Armley Deanery Synod Report 2021**

In 2021 there were two Armley-only Deanery Synods and two joint Deanery Synods.

The first Armley-only Deanery Synod took place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021 on Zoom and was led by Area Dean, Rev Lindsey Pearson. 2021 was the start of a new three year term and many of those present were new to synod. At the meeting there were elections for the Lay Chair, the Standing Committee and Mission & Pastoral Committee for Armley Deanery. David Jorysz was elected Lay Chair. Rev Canon Robin Gamble led a session on “Evangelism as we emerge from Covid” about sharing our faith in God and our experience of Jesus to encourage people to become followers of Jesus and part of his church. There was also a session on Looking Ahead to Easter.

The second Armley-only Deanery Synod took place on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021 on Zoom and was led by Area Dean, Rev Lindsey Pearson. Lindsey led a short session on Emerging from Covid and reported that a Churchwardens’ Forum had taken place led by David Jorysz which had been useful in providing support for them. Their main sessions were on the Leeds Deaneries Consultation and the Diocesan Synod Elections process.

The first Leeds Area Joint Deanery Synod took place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 on Zoom and was led by Bishop Paul Slater and Archdeacon Paul Ayres. The session was to discuss how our churches have been doing through Covid and to introduce a tool to help us reflect on what we have learned about our strengths and weaknesses and what we will continue with in the new normal.

The second Leeds Area Joint Deanery Synod took place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 in person at St George’s and on Zoom and was led by Rev Joanna Seabourne and Bishop Paul Slater. Jonathan Wood, the new Diocesan Secretary for the Diocese of Leeds, was the speaker and talked about his plans for implementing the Diocesan Strategy and its relevance for the parishes.