

SAINT LEONARD'S PARISH CHURCH  
CLENT  
WORCESTERSHIRE

ANNUAL MEETING  
2006  
DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

The Deanery Synod meetings have continued their policy of rotating their meeting places around the member churches of the Deanery, giving an interesting variety to venues, but bringing associated problems of finding (and parking at) some of them. Steve Eagle and myself have been Saint Leonard's representatives.

The past year's meetings have been chaired, jointly, by the Rural Dean, Revd. Simon Falshaw and our own Lay Reader, Mrs. Pauline Jones. The Synod meetings have had the secretarial services of Mrs. Joan Barwick. Both Pauline and Joan have indicated that they would like to stand-down from their positions and replacements are being sought.

The synod have experienced difficulty in filling vacant places on the Standing Committee and during 2005 made an appeal for volunteers. Two lay members, Mrs. Liz. Walker and myself, have stepped forward and have been adopted. The position of Clergy representative is still vacant.

Meetings continue in their established format with Opening Prayers being followed by Presentations from individual churches on chosen topics which they feel they are developing well and wish to share with fellow churches. The Synod then receives a formal Presentation on a leading theme, usually from an officer from the Bishop's staff. These items are followed by discussion on local topics; before Closing Prayers.

Themes from the past year have included:

'Mission at home and abroad'

'Developing Discipleship'

'Deanery / Diocesan Relationships'

'Parish Share'

'The Bishop's Certificate course'

Saint Leonard's representative(s) report back to the P.C.C. meetings and share their views and opinions with the Rector (a regular attendee of the Synod meetings: I wish the same could be said of all clergy).

Similarly, the reps. are charged by the P.C.C. to raise items at the Synod meeting.

Saint Leonard's church is entitled to representation by three church members;

- *THERE ARE VACANCIES* -

and this is significant when it comes to voting on issues that will have an influence upon the spiritual and financial life here at St. Leonard's (e.g. Parish Share).

There are on average three meetings per year: where you can join other involved Christians in helping support and develop the wider framework of churches and church-goers within the Deanery.



The Deanery Synod needs YOU

Harry Grove