

## ST PAUL'S WOLDINGHAM ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 14 APRIL 2016

### DEANERY SYNOD AND TEAM COUNCIL

#### Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod is made up of clergy and lay representatives from all the parishes in the Caterham Deanery, under the chairmanship of the Area Dean, the Rev. Duncan Swan. During the past year it met three times, the main subject on each occasion being the role of deaneries and particularly the proposal to merge the Caterham and Godstone deaneries. The case for this proposal is that a larger deanery will be able to discharge its functions, particularly for training and mission, better than either Caterham or Godstone can on their own. If it goes through, the new structure will require some reorganisation of the way in which Synod meetings are run. The area covered by a new Tandridge deanery would be very similar to that of Tandridge District Council. All of the Caterham clergy and most of the Godstone clergy are in favour. The proposal has been approved by Caterham Deanery Synod and is due to be discussed by the Godstone Deanery Synod in June. It will then be put to the Church Councils of the individual parishes.

The Deanery Synod also provides the opportunity for an exchange of information and ideas about activities and plans for the future in the various parishes represented.

#### Caterham Team Council

The Caterham Team Council is made up of the clergy, churchwardens and two elected members from each church in the Caterham Team. This is a practical body which holds fairly short meetings every quarter to review the main activities in each parish, and in particular to discuss ways in which the churches in the team can work together. At its meeting in November the Council discussed the proposed merger between the Caterham and Godstone Deaneries and, in principle, was in favour of going ahead with the proposal.

During the year there have been several team services at which all the churches were represented, including a team confirmation service in October. In January there was a team marriage preparation day hosted by St. Paul's and led by Rev. Tim Goode, Team Vicar at St. Luke's Whyteleafe and Rev. Catherine. All churches are invited to the Holy Week services at St. Mary's at which the Rev. Canon Mandy Ford, Diocesan Director of Education, will be the preacher. This year St. Mary's will be celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary and there will be a number of special team events.

Christopher Roberts/Maureen Westmarland

28 February 2016

