

Diocesan Synod Report

7th March 2024

▶ **Notes From Diocesan Synod are on Deanery Website**

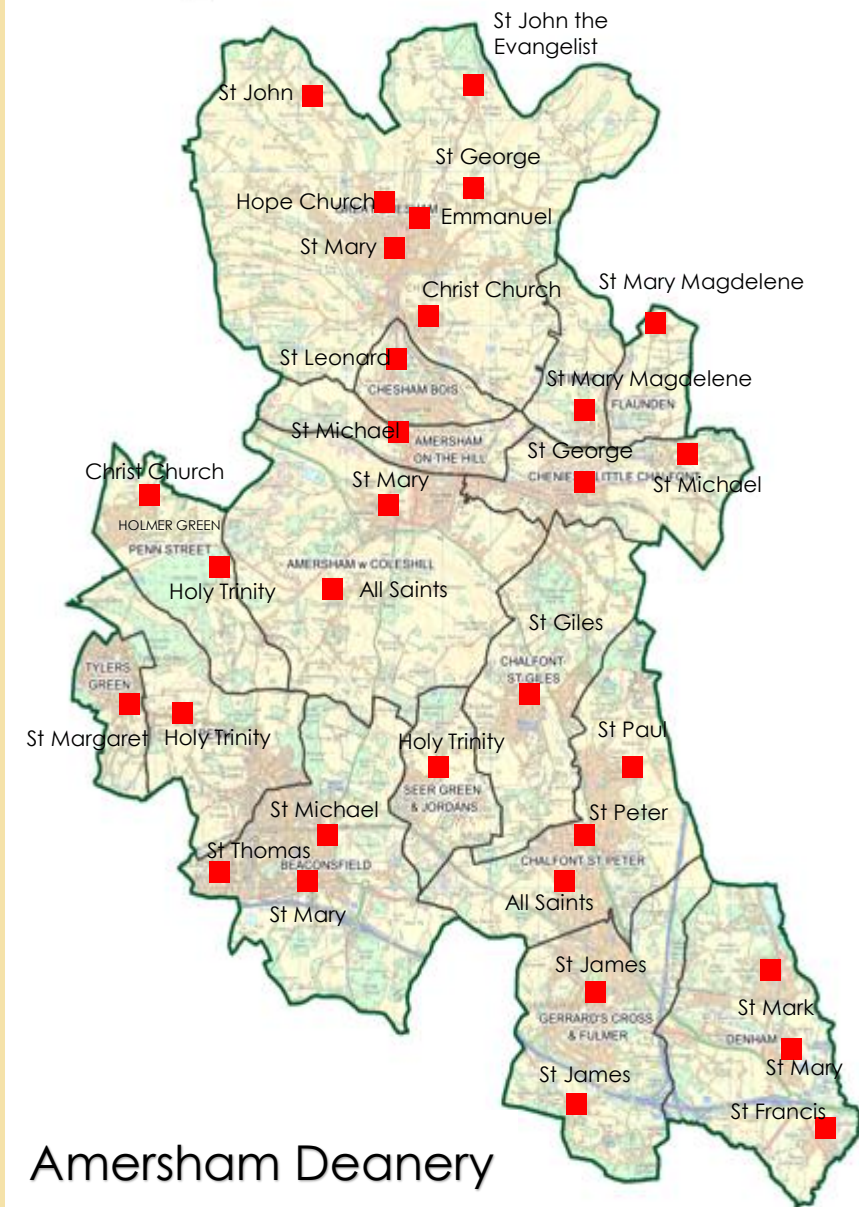
▶ **Diocese Vision**

“Sharing God's love with children and young people: transforming our engagement and recommitting to our Diocesan strategy”

<https://d3hgqlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/61f2fd86f0ee5/content/pages/documents/ods-24-01-youth-strategy.pdf>

▶ **Synod Resolution**

*‘That this Synod endorses the need to significantly increase our engagement with children, young people, families and schools building on Disciples Together, **and to share the good news of Jesus Christ**, and calls on every deanery and benefice in 2024 to develop plans and partnerships for growth’*



Amersham Deanery

Disciples Together

PUTTING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES
AT THE CENTRE OF A MORE CHRIST LIKE CHURCH

Where are we now?

- ▶ COVID accelerated long term decline and reduced resources
- ▶ 42% of churches have fewer than 5 children aged under 16
- ▶ Only 6% of churches have a ministry with over 20 children
- ▶ This is a critical moment

BUT

- ▶ Every church wants to grow younger and connect with children, young people, families and schools

Every deanery needs

- ▶ To recognize and build from good practice
- ▶ To actively listen to the voice of young people
- ▶ To help parishes support one another
- ▶ To cluster parishes with secondary and primary schools
- ▶ To develop intentional youth and young adult ministries

How can deanery plans best encourage and enable this to happen?

How can every deanery reconnect with secondary schools and network young people together?

What resources do we need for this?

What is our vision?

- ▶ A growing number of children and young people deeply rooted in Christ and living out their faith in the world in the whole of their lives
- ▶ To see every benefice growing and deepening its ministry to children, young people and families by 2030
- ▶ To see flourishing, sustainable provision for young people and young adults in at least 50% of our deaneries by 2030
- ▶ To see strong connections between churches and schools in every place
- ▶ To call, form and equip at least 1000 volunteers and an additional 100 paid childrens and youth ministers and school chaplains by 2030
- ▶ To play our part in the national vision to double engagement with children and young people across the Church of England by 2030