CROYDON CENTRAL DEANERY NEWS

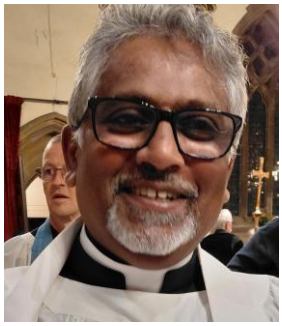
Christ Church, Emmanuel, Croydon Minster,
St Andrew, St George, St Matthew,
St Mary Magdalene with St Martin,
St Michael & All Angels with St James,
St Mildred, St Peter & St Augustine

October 2026

Congratulations and blessings:



Rev AMY SYKES, Associate Vicar at St George's, was licensed on 7th September.



Rev MICHAEL NAYAGAM, Vicar of South Croydon Benefice (St Peter's and St Augustine's), was inducted on 21st September.



RONA ROBINS, Lay Reader of St Mildred's, was fully licensed at Southwark Cathedral on 11th October.

House of Laity Social Event Pat Howard, Lay Chair, suggested holding a social event for the House of Laity, possibly in January/February, to build community amongst the laity of our Deanery. Representatives will be contacted with details in the New Year.

Snippets from the Minutes of September's Deanery Synod

- Our guest speaker was Sophie Roberts, Environmental Officer, Diocese of Southwark. Sophie's role largely focuses on supporting churches with Eco Church, energy data collection, and environmental action. She also leads on some of our diocesan environmental goals, including work towards Eco Diocese Silver and coordinating the Eco Diocese Working Group. The average carbon footprint in the UK is 8 tons of CO_2 per year, with the global average being around 4-5 tons; 73% of monitored species have been depleted in the last 50 years. The world's most littered item is cigarette butts.
- Deanery Synod Model Rules have been updated. The fundamental role, purpose, and constitutional position of Deanery Synods remain unchanged. Southwark had asked that we adopt them at our next Deanery Synod, but since the document was circulated late, this will be added to February's agenda to give people time to raise any questions.
- Rev Michael Nayagam reported that the night shelter will run again this winter. Funding has been secured, but success depends on fundraising and volunteers. A daytime hub will run Mon-Weds at the Voluntary Resource Centre from October. Synod was asked to please spread the word for more volunteers. There is a dedicated web page to register and choose the shift you wish: **https://app.betterimpact.com/Application?OrganizationGuid=83287034-913f-4ef1-92a6e82b099393de&ApplicationFormNumber=1?**
- Deanery Lay Vocations Champions – Dr Michael Brockett, Licensed Pastoral Lay Minister, explained that across the Diocese, we have Lay Ministry Champions. These ministries were very important to Bishop Christopher, who really established this, and are also important to Bishop Rosemarie. This past year has seen a rise in the number of people going into Lay Ministry and we want to encourage more. Michael has put together a 145-page handbook which explains all the lay ministries, along with the regulations around ages, as well as the training and support available.

Our annual Deanery Epiphany Carol Service will be taking place at St Michael & All Angels with St James at 6.30 pm on Sunday 10th January, 2027. All are invited and refreshments will be available after the service. Our thanks to Fr Tim Pike for hosting.

What's happening in our Deanery?

- 5th December, 12-4 pm Christmas Market @ St Mildred's, Bingham Road, CR0 7EB

Next Synod – 8th February 2027 – 7.30 pm @ St George's, Barrow Road, CR0 4EZ

Guest speakers: Reginald Amoah, Diocesan Racial Justice Training and Resources Officer and Sue Newman, Mothers' Union