

Welcome to Frome Deanery 2023

A transforming Christian presence in every community

where more and more people catch God's love and choose to be Jesus's disciples.

We seek to give God the glory and draw people to Christ, with clergy and non-clergy sharing in building God's kingdom in ways that are affirming and energizing for all involved.

Facts and figures

28 churches

9 benefices

19 parishes

35,000

people live here

1,090

active members*

*from the electoral roll 2018



28,000 in Frome

7,000 in villages



The Deanery Prayer

Prayer must be at the heart of everything we do.

The Deanery prayer asks for wisdom and guidance as we make our plans to take God's church forward into the 21st Century.

Almighty God

We love our traditions, but we live in a time of change.

Give us the vision to choose our priorities wisely:

To protect the things that matter, And let go of the things that no longer serve us well.

Give us the faith to believe that You have a plan for Your churches

And that it is good.

We pray now for eyes to see and ears to hear

As we move forward into a new and uncertain future.

In the name of Jesus

Amen

Planning

Fundamental to making our vision succeed is **thoughtful, prayerful planning**.

This will help us to:

- Focus on our priorities.
People rather than buildings.
- Use our resources more effectively.
Sharing rather than working in isolation.
- Measure our progress.
As we see things happen in our communities, for example better health or a reduced crime rate.

The Deanery Vision

We see ourselves as a pioneering deanery returning to the values of the early church as described in Acts 2:42-47 – fellowship based on love and prayer.

“That day about three thousand took him at his word, were baptized and were signed up. They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers. Everyone around was in awe—all those wonders and signs done through the apostles! And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person’s need was met. They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved.”

Communicating

The Deanery is putting good communication structures in place, so information can be cascaded down to the churches quickly and effectively.

The more we share our successes and struggles, the more we can see how to support each other and celebrate our successes.

We aim to do this using social media such as Facebook and any and all up-coming platforms.

Resourcing

We will have a team of 6 full-time priests across the Deanery who, together with trained/licensed readers, worship assistants and pastoral assistants, will enable networking and teams involving all our people to sustain Christian growth and witness in all our communities.

Initiatives will be cross-deanery and include both the rural and town churches working together.

The energy and passion of 1,090 church members will move mountains.



Supporting

Our vision is challenging, but we are confident we can succeed if we have the right mind-set and support each other.

This means having a can-do attitude and being prepared to take risks.

Honestly, we believe there is nothing more fulfilling than working together to create new beginnings and finding innovative ways of using our gifts.

Challenges can be fun, particularly when food is involved! Let’s explore this more together.

About the word cloud

In 2021, the Deanery sent out a questionnaire to all its churches asking for views on the work of the Deanery, both now and in the future.

This word cloud shows the activities and ideas that people mentioned.