

The Weald Deanery

Thank you for considering this post in the Weald Deanery and the Diocese of Canterbury. The Weald Deanery comprises a total of eight benefices, and fourteen parishes. Once the recruitment of this post in the benefice of Headcorn and The Suttons is complete, the Weald Deanery will have a full complement of incumbents once again.

Our Clergy Chapter comprises the eight incumbents of the Deanery, a part-time Associate Priest, and a training Curate – who was priested in June 2025. We therefore have relatively good cover of priests across the Deanery. We are also supported by a number of active priests with Permission To Officiate – PTOs. Chapter meets every 6-8 weeks; the venue rotating around the Deanery as, geographically, it is quite a large area.

Members of Chapter are very supportive of one another. We have, over the last few years, generated a real sense of collegiality. Though between us we hold different views on the issue of Living in Love and Faith and the use of the Prayers of Love and Faith, we can discuss these differences and hold them together. We are open to guiding same-sex couples who may enquire about receiving prayer to priests and parishes who are prepared to offer the PoL&F. Above all, we are supportive of one another, and we pray for one another.

We are always seeking ways that we can work together and achieve more collectively than as individual parishes. The Weald Family Hub is a good example of this collaboration. The WFH provides counselling and support for children in their Schools. The WFH is centred in one benefice in the Deanery but is funded and supported by all the benefices.

Chapter are praying for this vacancy in Headcorn and The Suttons; for the benefice; and for you! (We just don't know who you are yet - but God does! - and we look forward to you joining us.)



Revd David Commander
Rector,
Benenden & Sandhurst
Area Dean,
The Weald Deanery