

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, BOYNE HILL, MAIDENHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



To encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament

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To encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament

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Overview of the Year

The Vision of All Saints

TO ENCOUNTER CHRIST IN WORD AND SACRAMENT To be drawn into the story of faith to live the story of faith. This is the story of the early disciples seeing Christ following the crucifixion and then encountering him in the word (Bible) and the sacrament (Supper at Emmaus) or Eucharist. They realised that he was alive and that they were to return to Jerusalem to be HIS body in the world. This is partaking to become. All that we do should enable us to encounter our risen Lord and try to share HIS life with others. This will be in our Worship, our welcome, our ministry to schools and outside bodies, and in all our contacts and connections. Within the All Saints Community this has been summarised in our Mission Aims Statement, which brings together the actions needed to achieve our Vision.

The Mission Aims of All Saints:-

TO BE A WELCOMING CHURCH FAMILY, ENCOURAGING AND SUPPORTING PEOPLE OF ALL AGES ON THEIR JOURNEY TO FAITH AND RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS; THROUGH VIBRANT EUCHARISTIC WORSHIP, SUPPORTIVE SMALL GROUPS AND STRONG COMMUNITY AND SCHOOLS OUTREACH TO BUILD A JOYFUL AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE, ENABLING OUR COMMUNITY TO LIVE AND SHARE IN THE LOVE OF GOD.

2. When planning our activities for the year, the Commission's guidance on public benefit has been considered along with the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. All Saints tries to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work
- Community Engagement
- Community use of the Church facilities, including the Quadrangle and Parish Centre

Maintenance of the Church Buildings of All Saints, along with the support of many volunteers, is needed to facilitate this work.

2020 Pandemic Response

The Coronavirus and Covid-19 pandemic changed life completely in 2020, although the core aims of All Saints, and the resulting public benefit, remained a bedrock in formulating our response. The Pastoral Support team quickly implemented regular contact with otherwise lonely and potentially vulnerable members and established who was shielding and who may need assistance with food shopping. A team of volunteers arranged shopping for those in need. This support was carried out in collaboration with the support and response provided by the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead to ensure that people in need were responded to. This was augmented by regular phone calls by members of the Pastoral Team to support people on their own.

During this time the web site was extensively used for virtual worship and communication. Fr Jeremy recorded services were posted, both on the web site and on a new You Tube channel set up for this. The on-going consideration meant that the Church, when it reopened, could not accommodate as many people as usual; and, apart from a short period, the Parish Centre was unable to be used by the community groups.

This also had a significant impact upon Church Finances which will be covered in the Finance section of this report. During this time, and during the time that the Church could re-open, All Saints attempted to maintain its planned activities which are noted below in the report.

Activities and Achievements

As a church family, and as individuals, the parishioners of All Saints Parish Church, Boyne Hill aim to meet the Vision and Mission Aims developed by the PCC, in consultation with the congregations and the local community. That is 'to be a welcoming church family, encouraging, and supporting people of all ages on their journey to faith and relationship through vibrant Eucharistic worship, supportive small groups and strong community and schools' outreach to build a joyful and sustainable future, enabling our community to live and share in the love of God.' The Parish had previously undertaken a review of its Mission aims and objectives. Through encouraging the parish to listen to the word of God through reflective Bible reading and listening to each other within the congregation as well as engaging with the community, the key areas discerned for focus are:-

1) Welcome – Being a welcoming Church in everything we try to do.

2) Worship – Making our worship more vibrant and engaging to all.

3) Schools – Developing our schools ministry, both in school and in Church These three aims are underpinned by three key areas of Sustainability:-

a) Financial and Stewardship – Ensuring sufficient funds to meet our Mission Aims

b) Administrative – Ensuring good administration to deal with enquiries, make bookings, organise services and events and to ensure that statutory and legislative requirements are complied with

c) Buildings – Maintaining the Grade 1 listed Church Buildings and the other listed buildings in the Church complex.

1) Welcome

To help develop and improve the parish's welcome and links with the community a Branding Project was initiated with the aid of a congregational member with branding expertise. This involved identifying and interviewing congregational and community members. This gave great insight into perceptions of All Saints, the welcome experienced, expectations of the Church and ministry along with engagement. This project was put on hold after the Pandemic hit and will be incorporated into the welcome team's work planned for 2021.

2) Worship

The worship group moved their short-term focus to meeting the needs of the community whilst the Church was initially closed, and then during its limited re-opening. Thanks go to all of the volunteers who enabled a Covid secure (short) reopening and set up cleaning teams to maintain the Church in a usable condition. Extra costs were incurred for sanitiser, gloves and face mask provision. Whilst closed a blend of recorded on-line services and "meetings" was established. It is likely that some of these will also continue when the Church re-opens.

A regular weekly newsletter was also set up – distributed to around 150 people – which included updates, sermons, service information, links to on-line services and links to music. The website also hosted recorded services and information.

3) Schools ministry

In our three church schools and 3 other community schools we normally offer a combination of assemblies, classes in church, school services at schools and services which take place in the church. We worked with local schools to provide recorded assemblies, Zoom and Microsoft Teams assemblies, and support where needed. The ecumenical Open the Book team, which normally shares the Bible stories with up to 500 children each week of the academic year, moved to producing Zoom recorded versions which are supplied to the schools. The Zoom recorded Open the Book stories are now going to an extra Church of England School, Boyn Hill Infants. The 7 members of our congregation who act as school governors continued to support the running of our schools within the community.

4) Welcome

The welcome group worked hard to support access during the lockdown and then to make the Church a safe and welcoming place to return to during the limited reopening. Our thanks go to the many volunteers from our congregation who assisted in enabling this reopening in such difficult circumstances. The Church is following a course 'Everybody Welcome' by Bob Jackson. This course explores how we help people discover the church's existence. This year of the Pandemic we have grown the impact of the Website with access to our regular on-line services and recordings, a regular blog by the vicar, a newsletter that goes to 180 households, and an on-line coffee morning. As part of the course we are learning about how we might offer people a good experience of the church premises.

The Parish also took part in Heritage Open Days in 2020 on a Virtual Tour basis which is on our website and enables people to get a feel for the building. We have also worked hard on decorating the surrounding buildings to provide a more positive experience of a visit to All Saints. Before Lockdown we had just started experimenting with new chairs and coffee table at the back of the church to encourage people to stay following services. Following the major floor project in 2021 we hope to offer a really exceptional grade one listed building that allows people to feel comfortable within the surroundings.

The third part of the course is to offer people a good experience of the church community. We are learning through the Pandemic that this welcome can happen within the church but also on-line. We are hosting study courses for people to grow in faith and we are running an adult confirmation course by Zoom. Alongside that we run art courses and bible study courses on zoom.

Finally, the welcome course helped us to think how people move from being attendees to also being people who contribute to the community. We again witnessed evidence of this as people gave their time to assist with pastoral phone calls to people who were living alone and providing food and medical supplies when needed. Many of the people who helped were on the fringe of the church community but found they could find a way of helping. A few of these people have supported the decoration of the buildings.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

During 2020 All Saints has supported families from the church and wider community with, sadly 22 funerals, and, due to the pandemic, a reduced number of 4 baptisms and no weddings. Thanks go to our Priest, Fr Jeremy, who undertook the sad funeral support, many in the midst of the pandemic. Despite not being able to take weddings we kept supporting the families and as a consequence we have two weddings booked for 2021 and three for 2022.

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A member of the Baptism team is continuing links with over 20 baptism families as we hope to rearrange these, starting in the Autumn.

Diocesan and Deanery links

Including our Priest we have 3 members on the Deanery Synod, 2 members involved in the Deanery Standing committee and also 2 members serving on the Diocesan Synod. This gives All Saints congregation a greater awareness of the mission objectives of the wider church. One example of this wider ministry is during the Pandemic the Diocese has been looking at 'The Value of Work' and Sustainability of the planet. Sermons and blogs are trying to reflect some of these important issues.

Parish Centre activities

Sadly our parish centre had to remain closed for most of the year. We would normally welcome the AA, the Brownies and Rainbows as well as parent and toddler groups along with the church Tiny Saints group that offers activities, healthy food and a nursery rhyme service each Friday for parents and toddlers. We maintained close contact with these community groups and there was some limited reopening during 2020 where possible and permitted by government guidelines. One evening group was able to meet continually since August. The hall also normally serves many community people who want to share celebratory occasions. The parish centre also acts as a Voting Station for local and national elections. We look forward to when the Parish Centre can re-open to the local community groups; and during the church floor restoration project to provide Eucharistic worship for the community.

Sustainability

We have a good number of volunteers who are working hard in areas of finance, stewardship, administration and buildings work. Our members are guardians of a Grade 1 listed building designed by the Victorian architect George Street, who also designed the London Law courts. The community of buildings at All Saints is in the design of an Oxford college and continues to serve the Almshouses that are part of the complex. We also have experienced people who are willing give their time to ensure we comply with all regulatory requirements; this is especially helpful with respect to the matters of Health & Safety, Safeguarding and, more recently, GDPR.

With the increasing regulatory demands being placed upon the Church Office, along with health issues with volunteers, the PCC agreed to employ, and fund, the parish's first part-time paid administrator, who started work in Oct 2019. During 2020 the cost of this administrator was kindly met by a local business, with indications that this support will continue in 2021.

Buildings

The challenges of maintaining the fabric of a Grade 1 listed building and a collection of Grade 2 and 2* buildings continue. Along with regular maintenance there is a major issue with the Church floor which is increasingly suffering from loose, broken and missing tiles. Exploratory work has shown that the floor will need to be taken up and new substrate laid following digging out. Some of the tiles may be reclaimed and new ones need to be made. This restoration will incur major costs as well as disrupting the use of the Church for a significant period. Thanks to generous donations, mainly from within the Church community, the PCC have approved progressing the restoration contract. This was after engagement with the Diocese Advisory Committee, the Victorian Society and English Heritage which led to the proposal to replace the affected section of the floor during

2021, with the faculty for the work being approved (in 2020). The overall cost, excluding VAT, is in the order of £230,000.

The PCC gave approval to proceed and work will start in March 2021. The funds raised for the floor restoration are approximately £30,000 less than the total cost. The PCC approved that this shortfall could be met from the Church Building and Restoration fund, although fund raising continues and this shortfall is reducing.

During the floor restoration contract, and when the Church is able to reopen for services, the Parish Centre will be used for services. This will mean numbers will be limited and a mix of on-line and in person services will be established for this period to meet the needs of the All Saints congregation.

Social Media

As commented above the Church social media presence (website, Facebook and twitter) was vital for communication during the pandemic and continues to help generate interest in All Saints.

Volunteers

Fr Jeremy Harris as the parish priest and the PCC of All Saints would like to express gratitude to the many volunteers that contribute to both the running and the mission at All Saints Church. The number of volunteers grew in the community through the pastoral care offered during the Pandemic.

Report of the PCC of All Saints

The PCC carries out its duties in assisting the priest in his role of promoting the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ and carrying out the mission of our church covering pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical matters. It is also responsible for practical matters regarding maintenance and repairs of the buildings to ensure mission can be carried out unhindered.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is made up of church members currently on the church electoral roll. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Annual General Meeting, which is open to all church members on the church's electoral roll, gives them the right to vote at that meeting on matters on the agenda and how the PCC is constituted.

During 2020 the PCC met on eight occasions. Only the first two were physical meetings the remainder were either by Skype or Zoom. The APCM did not take place until 28 September and at the meeting following that the following were elected to key roles for the next year. The Treasurer, Rod Broad assisted by Sue Stannett Financial Administrator, PCC Secretary, Jan Moss with David Morgan retaining his role of PCC Minutes Secretary.

The Standing Committee comprised Fr Jeremy (*Vicar*), Rod Broad (*Treasurer & Deputy Churchwarden*), Sue Stannett (*Financial Administrator, co-opted member supporting the Treasurer*), Jan Moss (*PCC Secretary*), Ken Smith and Ann Rawlings (*Churchwardens*), supported by Stella Harding and John Bolodeoku (*Deputy Churchwardens*). This committee usually meets between PCC meetings to deal with day to day matters arising and to plan future PCC meetings and future mission requirements.

Jan Moss, PCC Secretary

Churchwardens' Annual Fabric Report

A: Introduction

The Churchwardens are responsible for the maintenance and repair of the church buildings and are assisted by others. Primarily at All Saints they are Mike Watts and Roger Towers, with Fr. Jeremy and Rod Broad as very able consultants and our architect, Roderick MacLennan. We thank them for their support.

Ann Rawlings and Ken Smith were the churchwardens throughout the year.

In many churches the group that looks after the buildings is known as the Fabric committee or Buildings committee. At All Saints we prefer to call it the Resources Group because the bricks and mortar were designed and built to the glory of God and as a RESOURCE for the Mission of the Church.

Information about the church itself is recorded formally by Canon Law in the **Terrier** (a record of the land we occupy), the **Inventory** (a record of the contents of the church both fixed and movable) and the **Log Book** (a record of church maintenance and repairs). The last named is maintained by Sue Stannett to whom thanks are due.

This report describes the work done in the church, the progress of the floor project, and work in the parish centre and the properties in the quadrangle.

B THE CHURCH (EXCLUDING THE FLOOR)

Repairs to the stained-glass windows, the boiler chimney and the leak in the turret are still outstanding and are being monitored. These are our priority tasks other than the floor restoration and will be addressed in 2021.

The clock mechanism in the programmer for the heating system failed. As it was some years old the decision was taken to replace it as a matter of urgency. A better timer is now installed and working. A new gas valve control panel unit had to be fitted in the boiler room in order to restore the heating, and the boiler annual service was carried out at the same time.

During the weekend of 3/4 October, when there was torrential rain, the church toilet and carpet outside were flooded. The problem was traced to a blocked hopper above the flat roof of the toilet. The hopper was cleared promptly and the gutters of the lower roof of the church were cleared at the same time.

Since then a further leak occurred, traced to split lead on the roof of the toilet. This has now been repaired.

A hazardous tree in the churchyard was felled by the Council in October as it was leaning over significantly, and fungus was discovered at the base. The Tree Officer assured me that the other trees do not require pruning as trees are best left lone unless they have outgrown their space or have health problems and there is no sign of fungi elsewhere. The Council continues to cut the grass in the churchyard regularly.

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I continued to pursue the Council requesting the churchyard fence, which is in a poor state, be repaired as it is their responsibility, and it was finally repaired. Some work remains to be done.

One of the windows in the office is now openable. During this time of Covid ventilation has become especially important.

An ant infestation was discovered in the chancel under a choir stall. It appears to have ceased but the pest controller has sprayed the area and will continue to monitor it.

The churchyard fence has been repaired by the Council after many years of dialogue (but one of the panels has broken again – being followed up).

Monika is to be congratulated for painting the walls of the tunnel between the church and the vestry. I am sure we would like to express our thanks for a job well done.

Fr Jeremy has also been relaxing (!) by painting the Birinus Room with Chris Burnett and Guillaume Damagnez. It was still a work in progress at the end of 2020 but has now been completed. Again, very hearty thanks.

Let us also remember the cleaning teams who week by week have been keeping the church Covid safe.

C FLOORING PROJECT

Introduction. The first aim of the floor restoration is to provide a safe and secure place for the continuation of worship and for outreach to the community. It is the latter which has increasingly led us to consider expanding and exciting opportunities for engaging with the parish and our schools.

Following an internal appeal in September 2019, by the beginning of 2020 the congregation had donated or pledged £140,000 towards the then estimated cost of £287,000. And we were working towards a start date on-site after easter 2021 and completing in October 2021.

Faculty. The Faculty permission for the work was granted by the Diocesan Chancellor in March.

Ground Penetrating Radar Survey. In order to ensure that there were no unknown issues under the floor a GPR Survey was carried out in June. This did not reveal any problems.

Tenders. Three specialist floor Restoration companies were invited to tender formally – MOSAIC Restoration Co., Cliveden Conservation and Daedalus Conservation – and the winning tenderer was Cliveden Conservation. At this time the forecast cost of the works, including fees, was £242,000.

Worship during Church Closure. It was agreed that whilst the church was closed for the floor work services could be held either in the parish centre or in a suitable school hall or other church.

Prior Inspection. A condition of the Faculty was that the DAC, Victorian Society and Historic England should be able to inspect the floor after the lino was removed and before any work was started on-site, in order to inspect the floor and judge how many tiles may be saved. This inspection took place in September and all three planning bodies declared themselves well satisfied.

External Grant Applications. The year began with high hopes that there would be a good level of support from external Trusts who would want to ensure the preservation of such an important building. In the event the coronavirus struck early in the year and it became more and more apparent

that demands were being made on the charities for support to the poor, the homeless and the jobless who had been made so by the effects of the coronavirus, and this reduced the amount available for buildings support. We therefore were not as successful as we had expected to be. Nevertheless we were supported by a number:

Successful

Berkshire Churches Trust

Allchurches Trust

Shanly Trust

Baylis Trust

Garfield Weston Trust

Claire's Court School

Ward Councillors' charity grant

Unsuccessful

Mobbs Memorial Trust

Laing Family Trusts

Historic England

Hintze Family Trust

Jill Franklin Trust

No.1 Trust

National Churches Trust

Iliffe Family Trust

Wolfson Trust

Awaiting a decision as at 31 December 2020

Englefield Charitable Trust

Payne Gallwey Trust

Sabina Sutherland Trust

Citygate Automotive

The National Lottery Heritage Fund used to ring fence some millions in order to support churches but the ring fencing was removed some two years beforehand. The conditions they subsequently laid down were too onerous for volunteers to meet, as indeed most other churches have also found, so we were unable to apply to the NLHF for a grant.

WEST END RE-ORDERING In parallel with the Floor Project plans were prepared to improve the servery with running water and a sink, and to provide more appropriate cupboard storage along the

West wall. Tables and chairs would also be included café-style, all intended to provide a better ambience for increased community activities.

Although we regard it as important, we were not able to work actively on further work for the West end but needed to concentrate first on the Floor Project. Nevertheless, thanks to the Rowing Club for donating them via the good offices of Paul and Laura Lion, we were able to install four tables and sixteen chairs as a trial and a good majority of our people who tried them after the Sunday morning services liked them.

Enthusiasm for carrying out the re-ordering as soon as possible remains high.

Project Authorisation. For the first half of the year, although plans were in place in principle, the uncertainty of the financial situation was preventing the PCC from deciding that the project could be authorised. This changed on 7 July when, after a full review of the income achieved, the forecast for further income both internally and externally, the technical issues and the results of the tenders, the PCC were confident enough of the situation to formally authorise the project. The financial position as the year progressed continued to be monitored closely and it was not until 27th November that it was decisively agreed that the floor project would proceed, after an exercise in cost pruning brought the overall figure down to £224,000.

FOOTNOTE In 2021 the continuing lockdown requirements caused a review of the timetable to be carried out and resulted in the on-site start date being brought forward to 1 March 2021. The contractors are now scheduled to finish on 31 August, after which the organ will need to be restored, the radiators re-fixed and the church thoroughly cleaned and tidied. Everyone's help will be welcomed then. We are still £30,000 short of the funds to cover the cost of the project so we will need to use church reserves unless we can raise the remainder of the money.

PARISH CENTRE.

The Parish Centre was shut, in line with both Government restrictions and advice from the Diocese, from 23 March until June. This led to a cessation of all use for Parish purposes: ie. Tiny Saints, Guiding, AA Support Group, and all social groups like Mother and Baby exercise. Private hires were prohibited. This led to a complete lack of income to the Hall finances. In July, when permitted by National Government, we allowed the AA Support Group to restart on a Friday, following a Covid Risk Assessment being done by both parties. The Brownies and Rainbows asked if they could return in January, and a Risk Assessment was carried out but opening was superseded by Lockdown 3 coming into force.

Parish Rooms/Clear Physio Centre

The Clear Physiotherapy Centre was closed from 23 March - June due to the First Covid Lockdown, and the Standing Committee agreed to suspend the rental due from our Tenant as a gesture of financial support. This was much appreciated by our Tenant, Laura Howell. Fortunately, Government Guidance allowed her to reopen in June and this has continued for the rest of the year.

Numbers 1,3 & 4 Church Close:

They are all tenanted and the rents have stayed paid. All have renewed during the current year. No 1 asked for a rent reduction of £250 p.c.m. due to a health crisis and this was granted for 1 year.

Maintenance:

This has been a relatively light year. Nos 1 & 3 have had plumbing attention to their boilers and the shower. It was replaced in no v.

No 4 has needed a replacement cooker, but considering the previous one's age, this was well overdue, and the Tenants have an urgent need for a stairlift to be installed, at their own expense, for health reasons, but Listed Buildings Consent has first to be granted by the RBWM.

Ken Smith and Ann Rawlings, Churchwardens.

Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery

The Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery comprises 14 parishes and benefices. The Deanery Synod comprises all the clergy in the deanery and Lay Representatives elected by their respective parishes for a period of three years. Many of the parish elections to the Synod in 2020 were delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic so only took effect at the end of 2020. There were 72 members of the Synod during most of 2020.

All Saints Boyne Hill is represented on the Deanery Synod by Fr Jeremy as a Clergy representative and by Rod Broad, Ursula Hutchinson and David Morgan as Lay Representatives. David Morgan stepped down at the APCM held in September.

Fr Jeremy and Rod Broad are also members of the Deanery Standing Committee. In addition, Fr Jeremy and Rod Broad are Clergy and Lay Representatives, respectively on the Diocesan Synod.

There were two meetings of the Synod during 2020:

Tuesday 18th February 2020 at St Stephen and St Agnes, Windsor:

- Revd Tina Molyneux, Diocesan Discipleship Enabler and member of our own Synod, spoke about the Everyday Faith initiative from the Church of England and the work being done in our diocese to support it. This aims to encourage Christians to be confident and equipped to live out the good news of Jesus Monday to Saturday as well as on Sundays. Tina also spoke about how Personal Discipleship Plans can help encourage believers in their faith.
- Quench Christian Bookshops spoke about their current financial difficulties and how they could be supported.

Thursday 15th October 2020 on Zoom:

- Bishop Olivia, Bishop of Reading, spoke about her vision for the church in this area, encouraging us to be kingdom-focused, to celebrate what we have been given, and to celebrate all God's people.
- Various members of the Synod commented on new ways of doing church and encouragements that had been seen during the pandemic.

Thanks to parishes' hard work and generosity, and careful management of resources, the Deanery paid its parish share of £ 1,024,799 for 2020 in full and on time, despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was necessary to draw on reserves at parish and Deanery level, meaning that further challenges can be expected going forward.

David Morgan, Deanery Synod Lay Rep (retired 2020)

Mission and Evangelism

The mission aims of All Saints are;

To be a welcoming church family, encouraging and supporting people of all ages on their journey to faith and relationship with Jesus; through vibrant Eucharistic worship, supportive small groups and strong community and schools outreach to build a joyful and sustainable future, enabling our community to live and share in the love of God.

The three areas of Mission and Evangelism that we have focussed on following three years of Partnership in Missional Church from 2015-18 are Schools ministry, Welcome, and Worship.

Starting with the schools ministry one might think that with the year of the Covid 19 pandemic this would have suffered. However, 2020 saw, if anything, a growth in this area of ministry and school contact.

Open the Book teams – Following years of live presentations of the bible stories in the schools of Larchfield and All Saints Juniors we have had to adapt the way we present. Thanks to Mike and Jan Moss and a mixture of Open the Bookers from both teams we have been offering zoom recorded Bible Story assemblies. These assemblies are made by each team member joining the zoom link and we play our parts with the help of Mike's creative use of on-line visuals. The volunteers seem to have great fun making the recordings even if on some occasions we find the telephone ringing just before our conclusion to the story!

The feedback to these stories (We would normally expect to record three stories at a time) has been wonderful. Richard, the Headteacher at All Saints, has been thrilled with the input and this has enabled him to offer a weekly Thursday Open the Book assembly either in school or via the school website for children and parents to view at home. The recordings have not just gone to the 500 plus students at All Saints and Larchfield but also to Boyn Hill Infants for a period of time and to a school in Cox Green. The stories themselves allow the children to learn and hear about the messages from the Bible as well as offering the chance to reflect upon the meaning for themselves in their daily lives.

We have also been able to record assemblies for All Saints School and in Advent began sending recordings to Altwood Comprehensive. Thanks goes to Monika who records me offering the assembly and this is then sent to Rod Broad who converts the assembly ready for the school to use.

Finally, we are able to share live assemblies at Boyn Hill School via Microsoft Teams. The headteacher Jane invites me to the meeting and I am met with the four classes, their teachers and the Head and we can share inter- active assemblies this way. We had a wonderful assembly for All Saints Day when all the children explored what qualities a Saint might show.

Looking forward the three headteachers of the church schools are meeting in 2021 with myself as we plan a mission with Bishop Olivia looking at our understanding of sustaining creation. This is a very important issue facing the whole world and we look forward to this exciting project for 2022.

Our worship has had to develop over the last year due to the Pandemic. Clearly, we have been limited by not always being able to worship in the church. However, thanks to Monika and Rod we have been able to offer recorded services with a theme throughout much of 2020. Viewing figures

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were reasonably good in the early part of the year with close on 100 views for some of the early services around Easter. These figures have dropped considerably since the early days.

The other feature of worship has been through zoom. Some people seemed to have found value in joining for Night prayer worship on Thursday evenings, prayer time on Monday's when we look back over our week and Sunday morning prayers. Some highlights of this worship have been the use of Jesuit forms of prayer like the examen at night prayer and the increase in the number of people willing to lead worship. On Sundays we have as many as 7 leaders of worship at morning prayer. Thanks need to go to Mike and Jeanette for the hours of work they put in locating good service materials and music. Some of our Sundays@6 services have had a theme and this has been a lovely way to share with the congregations of The Good Shepherd and St Luke's.

We were able to return to the church following the first Lockdown and thanks to Brian Graves, Relf Clark and Simon Fullarton we were able to offer music. During Advent and Christmas, we were able to enjoy a four part choir singing for us. The service on Advent four was a highlight of the year with beautiful carols telling us the story of the Incarnation being offered by Brian, Simon and the choir. Christmas with Midnight Mass and the morning celebration had 40+ people attending both from within the church community and encouragingly from the wider community. We received some lovely feedback from those who joined us for the Christmas services. Thank you to Brian for his excellent input for the Parish News with the in-depth information on the meaning of the words and the composers of the music of our hymns.

Another area of mission and worship has been Jeanette's excellent recorded services to the Nursing Homes. The mixture of readings, prayers, music, visuals and Jeanette and the Pastoral care team offering input has been well received by the staff and residents.

Finally, we turn to welcome. This is an area that we will seek to grow in 2021 and 22. That said it was great to see so many people offering to act as sides people when we re-opened the church. We will be looking to introduce more people to the themes of the 'Everybody Welcome Course' by Bob Jackson and George Fisher in the future.

Subjects include:

Helping people to discover the church's existence and character. How can we make the church more visible within the community?

How can we give people a good experience of the church premises? Our church can be daunting to some so how can we make it a place where people can enjoy an anxiety free experience. Equally how much do we love our buildings? It has been good to witness people from our community give their time to decorate various parts of our church complex. When people are able to return in perhaps late summer 2021 they should notice a difference. Of course the start of the church floor restoration gives us great hope of returning to Street's magnificent grade one listed building to gather as the Body of Christ to reach out in mission in the coming years.

How can we give people a good experience of the Church community? How can we offer worship giving people a chance to worship God and also offer activities/events that enable people to feel part of the church community.

Finally, how can we help people to feel a sense of belonging to the community so that they feel able to contribute to the life of the church. To see more people contribute to the worship on-line and in church has been one of the benefits of 2020.

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OAK - nothing happened in 2020

However we supported:

The Shoe Box appeal - c70 boxes

Alexander Devine Children's Hospice

The Thames Hospice

The Children's Society at Christingle

Christian Aid

Blessings

Fr Jeremy

Belfry

Very little to report this year, I'm afraid! We really miss Derek Smith after he retired to Somerset, and we are now short of ringers. We only rang on a few Sundays in the first 3 months of 2020; the last time being on the Sunday before the first Lockdown. We have not rung since! The bells are now "down" which means they are in the safe position. Meanwhile we have no idea when we shall be able to ring again.

Doreen Young, Tower Secretary

Pastoral Care and Home Ministry

Pastoral Care offers ways of nurturing people in faith by sharing God's love and enabling people 'to encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament'.

It continues to be led by Father Jeremy with support from myself as Lay Pastoral Worker plus many others from within the congregation at All Saints Church.

With the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic there has been a huge change in the way we have been able to offer pastoral care and care home ministry, moving away from in-person interaction towards using other methods of communication and contact.

In March 2020 we entered our first national lockdown and many of our church family were advised to begin a long period of shielding at home. This presented lots of challenges but also opportunities for us to support each other as a church family. A pastoral care team of around twenty people was quickly set up, each person being given the names and contact details of between two to six people. Each member of the pastoral care team would make weekly contact, by phone, with those on their lists to make sure they were ok and check if they needed anything such as shopping or medical supplies. This important ministry has continued throughout the subsequent two national lockdowns and continues to the current day.

Our monthly worship services and visits to the care homes of Larchfield, Clara Court, Normanhurst and Boyn Grove Day Centre were suspended from March 2020 as were our regular visits to members of our church family now residing in care homes. However, there was still a real need to

To encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament

keep in touch with our care homes and the residents living in them, not least to offer spiritual support at an extremely difficult time. Video care home services were put together and then sent out each month to the homes. They contain familiar hymns and Bible readings together with prayers and a short message from Fr Jeremy. These services can then be viewed on hand-held smart devices such as tablets and phones, allowing the care home staff to sit with residents and share a service of worship with them.

We all look forward to the time when we can resume in-person pastoral care contact once again.

Jeanette Lock, Lay Pastoral Worker & the Pastoral Care Team

Choir

I wrote last year's annual report in February 2020 and I reported on the continuing development of the choir, this year, what a change!

The choir along with all other live music went into enforced hibernation. As we emerged from the first lockdown we gingerly re-started live music, initially led by Dr Relf Clark playing the organ on Wednesday and Sunday mornings and subsequently Andrew Stafford adding his support by singing various parts of the service music in addition to Fr Jeremy's contribution to intoning other parts. Then, in October we took the brave step of having a socially distanced quartet, drawing on the skills and talent of Anne Clark, Debbie Firth, Dianne Farmiloe, Jayne Chapman, Greg Hurst, Andrew Stafford and Paul Lyons. Simon Fullarton played the organ to accompany us on several Sunday mornings. We were just getting into our stride by All Saints Day on 1st November after which we went into hibernation again and still await the day when we can re-emerge.

I thank all the people above not only for being brave to venture forth but also for coping with very trying conditions in which to make music and succeeding magnificently.

During the course of the last year, I embarked on producing the weekly Sounds of Worship section of the Parish Newsletter. I have found this a fascinating activity firstly to have the opportunity to consider in depth the relevance of the words of the hymns to the Sunday-by-Sunday themes, to analyse the way in which the art of hymn writing has developed over the years, to assess what makes a good and enduring hymn and learn some of the life stories behind the hymn writers and composers.

I have deliberately focussed on hymns that we would normally sing at All Saints and to date my tally is over 100 hymns and still a lot more to do. It is remarkable how wide our repertoire of hymns really is and the range of expression that they cover.

As much as I have enjoyed preparing Sounds of Worship, I am looking forward to bringing music alive in the church once again.

Brian Graves, Director of Music

All Saints Servers

As most of you will know three lockdowns have really prevented us having a serving team, as we know it. For some considerable time during the lockdown Jo Sheppard acted as Thurifer for several services, but had to give it up as she was concerned about her parents. Chris Watts did stand in for a couple of services as Thurifer, but had to consider his family, and although he wanted to, he eventually decided to retire until things changed. For myself I have had to, self-isolate several times due to my health conditions, but as with all the other members of the serving

team as, soon as things change, we will be back. Christine Pocock has now retired as Sacristan, but has said she would like to serve on occasions, which is good news. Sally Deal is in the same position as most of us and has to isolate, but will return. I am sure that as soon as we are able to, we will all return as we do miss it all. I don't have much else to say as it has been a very sad year.

Nick Kirk

Open the Book at Larchfield & All Saints Schools

Lights!

Cameras!

Action!

It is difficult to find positive highlights from the Covid lockdown of the nation. However, as many of us became familiar with Zoom meetings and noted the fact that meetings could be recorded, the possibility of sending video open the book stories into school, became apparent.

For the regular storytellers this was a totally new experience! Our main source of stories is the Lion Storyteller Bible. Each story is beautifully illustrated, and this became the original source for pictures to accompany the story being told. As we became more ambitious, other sources of pictures were found. We now typically have around 10 pictures to match the dialogue.

Our storytellers are spared from being camera shy (as if!) but use of the voice becomes at least as important as working in front of children in school. The storytellers have been a blend of regulars at Larchfield, Manor Green and All Saints schools.

Unexpected challenges have included a cast member's telephone ringing in the background, tree surgeons noisily working outside, the suspected arrival of a courier driver announced by doorbell, the technical team forgetting to record, and some videos being just too long to distribute by email. We have retained in the videos the occasional 'mistakes' that can arise in a live setting. We work based on the idea that the children only see the story once – so 'mistakes' must have been intended!

To date 16 stories have been recorded. They are supplied to All Saints Junior School, Wessex School, Larchfield School and, starting in 2021, suitable stories for young people are chosen by Boyne Hill Infant School. The stories can be accessed through home schooling channels.

On Christmas Eve when the church was open, two of the Christmas stories were projected onto a large screen and were extremely popular with both young children visiting the church and their parents.

Jan & Mike Moss

All Saints Film Nights

Our Film Club which started in 2019 ground to a Covid-related standstill in January 2020. We showed Selma, the film about Dr Martin Luther King – and that was it. A lot of people packed into a darkened room seems very hard to imagine now. But who knows?

Jan & Mike Moss

Maidenhead Care

Care had to cease operation at the start of the first Lockdown. It will restart in 2021 when permitted. It is probable that the number of returning Volunteers will have diminished. Most Volunteers being of a similar age to the Clients! Do let me know if you might be able to help.

Mike Moss, Maidenhead Care Trustee

Street Angels

As you would expect Street Angels were unable to operate from the commencement of Lockdown. This important ministry will restart, when permitted in 2021. Of note, Jeanette Lock was appointed Chair following the outstanding work of Viv Lee, a founder Street Angel.

Mike Moss, Maidenhead Street Trustee

Senior Saints

What a year we have all had – and are still having. When asked to produce this Report for 2020-2021, I wondered whether there was much on which to comment, but then I dismissed that thought as being negative, which is not what our Group believe.

We have weathered the virus and continue to keep in touch within the scope of possibility laid down by the Government.

The first Lockdown began in March 2020, which meant that our AGM had to be cancelled. The group managed to enjoy their annual meal out at The Toby in February 2020 and had the pleasure of Father Jeremy's company. Little did we realise it would be the last for some time. Social life was soon to be just a memory, and many of us found it difficult to plan ahead. Once the first Lockdown was pronounced, we realised that any arrangements which had been made for the coming year would have to be cancelled. With that in mind, however, and bearing in mind that Summer would be bringing better weather, the Group began to arrange small afternoon meetings in the gardens of various members, to enjoy a cup of tea and some cake together. Father Jeremy was enthusiastic and took his turn to invite us to the Vicarage garden on one occasion. Numbers at that time were limited to six per meeting, and so our social gatherings continued for a while.

Sadly, the Churches across the country were instructed to close their doors, as were schools and other similar establishments. This resulted in the birth of ZOOM, for those who had the facility, so that maintained contact with our faith and belief. Father Jeremy has been issuing a weekly Newsletter, which has kept most of us informed of such activities as were available. One benefit of the successive Lockdowns, is that the proposed start of work on the Church floor has been brought forward, anticipating an end of the work by the Autumn.

The Group were very sad to hear of the death of Margaret Widdicombe last October. She had been ill for many years, but remained faithful to All Saints, and with the aid of her husband, she managed to attend many of our meetings. Some will remember that Margaret's husband received the gift of Maundy Money a few years ago, on the same day as our ex-Leader, Ena Jones, also received the Maundy Money. We all felt very proud of their efforts at the time. Another of our members, Gwen Burkitt, is still resident at Abbeyfield Care Home, and has settled down there very well, with excellent care. Hopefully, she will soon be able to receive family visits and friends.

Another incredibly sad item of news, was the sudden and unexpected loss of Margaret Hill's grandson, Daniel earlier this year. Our prayers continue to hold her and her family in our thoughts, with the hope that their faith will give them strength to bear this tragic loss.

Senior Saints continue in existence and enjoy keeping in contact. As has been mentioned in previous Reports, we welcome new members, and offer them a warm response. Here is a toast to a better 2021, and a strengthening of our friendship.

Wendy Channon & Margaret Hill

Tiny Saints

From January through to March 2020 the group continued to flourish with relationships between families growing and people from the wider community valuing the Tiny Saints group that All Saints Church offers. When we did the interviews for our Branding exercise, we discovered that Tiny Saints, alongside the Summer Fete and the Salvation Army carol singing were the three activities that people from the wider community really valued.

Sadly, with the beginning of the Pandemic in March 2020 we had to close the parish centre for this wonderful activity, and it was not able to re-open throughout the year. We did try to reach people through recordings which largely involved myself and Lilly the dog being filmed at home going through the Tiny Saints service. On one of these occasions thanks largely to Lilly attacking me as I tried to sing 'If you're happy and you know it clap your hands/stamp feet/nod head'. Lilly, clearly not happy with any of these actions decided attacking the vicar was far more fun! Judging by the viewing figures of 60+ so did the viewers. However once people tired of Lilly and Lilly tired of the attack on the person that walks her, we dropped in viewing figures to 'One man and his dog'!

That said we do still get the occasional enquiry asking us when we will be able to re-open the Tiny Saints. I am told that parents are looking forward to returning to the centre to enjoy children's activities, and hospitality of tea/coffee, cakes and biscuits and healthy food for the children. We look forward to being able to offer the children the chance to play with the games and to return to the simple worship in person.

I know from talking to our leaders that they too miss the involvement with the families. We give thanks for the ministry of Neila, Sylvia, Carole and Tanya. There is a backlog of potential Baptisms in the Autumn and we hope that this will offer opportunity to welcome new people to the group in the future.

Thank you to all those involved in this wonderful ministry and we look forward to re-opening as soon as we are able in 2021.

Blessings,

Fr Jeremy

AllSorts

This year we have tried to keep in touch with this Christian group for adults with learning disabilities, which for seventeen years has met monthly.

Privacy and technology difficulties are major and still being resolved, but we have spoken regularly to those of our members who are able to use the telephone and carers have passed on our love to the rest. We have made and sent out a couple of videos and gifts

and cards over the months. We know that our members are very keen to resume our meetings and we are planning a Zoom one for April and are looking forward to getting together in person.

We would welcome your prayers. Thank you.

Sue Nordberg

Rainbows & Brownie Guides

Rainbows are the youngest section of Girlguiding UK, from 5 – 7 yrs old. 8th Maidenhead Rainbows would normally have 20-24 girls, meeting for an hour each Friday during term time at the Parish Centre. The leaders are Nina Heavyside (Fox) and Heather Noyce (Hedgehog), Abigail Dennis (Butterfly), supported by guides in the role of Rainbow Helpers. Covid 19 brought our activities to a grinding halt in 2020 and over the year our Rainbows have all turned 7 and moved onto Brownies. The leadership team is desperate to get back to face to face meetings and are making plans to restart meeting in the summer term. We'll be refilling our unit from our long waiting list and hope before long the unit will again be thriving.

A new leader and a new way of meeting were some of the challenges that 8th Maidenhead Brownies overcame in 2020. Brownies is for girls aged 7- 10 years old. Our unit meets on a Monday usually for about an hour and a half during term time, however during lockdown we have continued to meet via Zoom for an hour each week. This has been an excellent way for the girls to stay in contact with each other whilst also working on a range of activities. Our new leaders are Lauren (Snowy Owl) and Allora (Sparkle Owl). We have enjoyed adapting our programme so that we are able to work on a range of themes throughout the terms, our main focus being on taking action, understanding ways we can promote care for the environment and support local charities whilst also developing our skills for the future. Some of our most recent virtual activities have included mindfulness, inviting mums to our mothers day tea where we made armpit fudge, crafts, games and some of the girls favourite virtual activities of scavenger hunts and acting!

Girlguiding is always looks for adult volunteers to support our Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units – if anyone is interested please get in touch. Not all roles involve weekly meeting and we have website coordination, commissioner, advisor and treasurer roles available. If you know of anyone who would like their daughter to join Rainbows, they will need to go to www.girlguiding.org.uk, click on the parent's tab and follow the route to register their daughter.

Nina Heavyside, Rainbow Leader

Boyne Hill Infant & Nursery School

Boyne Hill is a two-form entry school with around 260 pupils aged 3-7 years and is a short walk from All Saints Church. The Headteacher is Mrs Jane Davies and the school is rated Outstanding by OFSTED. In November 2019 the school had a SIAMS inspection under the new regime by the National Society on behalf of Oxford Diocesan Board of Education. As a result of this, Boyne Hill Infants is deemed to be a good Church school and the full report is on the school website.

To encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament

The school serves a diverse local community and its ethos of 'Feeding body, mind and soul' has the firm theological basis in the biblical story of the Feeding of the 5000. In this story, Matthew 14 v 13-21, Jesus performed a miracle to ensure that everyone's physical needs were met through rest and food; expanded their thinking and understanding through his teaching; and brought them closer to God through prayer and his loving compassion towards them. Jesus told us that he came 'not to be served, but to serve', so in a like manner, the school sees its purpose as serving the local community through providing a place where the children in its care can grow morally, socially, spiritually and academically.

This year has been a very different year for the school due to government Covid-19 restrictions on who may physically attend during the lockdowns. Throughout this time the Headteacher Mrs Davies has continually been in school and the school remained open for those permitted to attend. The children of appropriate age unable to attend were provided with both physical and electronic learning packs and the staff personally delivered these to families otherwise unable to collect them. I can attest to the 'extra mile' the staff and Headteacher went to on this front out of their love and commitment to the children. As a result, the children have been able to avoid falling behind in their learning, as far as reasonably possible, and have been given moral support through on-line face-to-face sessions with their teachers and classmates. The staff were very aware that pupils returning full time after lockdown would have an impact on those children of key workers who had never stopped going to school, and had thus made new strong friendships. Therefore they took great care in re-uniting and integrating both groups of pupils - further indication of the empathetic love with which the school is run.

The school continued to have active support from its parent body through on-line events organised by the Boyne Hill School Association. Pupils also engaged in various fund-raising activities for charities over the year, which maintained its outward focus of care for others.

Fr Jeremy has been able to maintain contact through virtual assemblies and the governors have held virtual governor meetings. As we have two parent governors we were kept very well informed of how all the additional Covid-restriction support was working out for the parents of non-key-worker children.

Our thanks go to Mrs Davies and her team for providing outstanding care and commitment to ensuring the children's learning has not unduly suffered during this very trying time. They have truly lived up to sharing Christian values in this most difficult year.

Anne Sweeney

Altwood Church of England School

Altwood Church of England School is one of the family of schools which fall within the Parish of All Saints Boyne Hill in Windsor and Maidenhead. It is a well-respected, multi-faith school, 11-18 age range, with a broad range of ability, where those of all faiths and of no religious backgrounds are welcome and nurtured in the safe surroundings of a Christian community with Gospel values at its foundation.

Altwood's church ethos is central to all that it does as it aspires for every student to achieve their best and go from strength to strength in all areas of their lives as they continue to develop into valued members of society.

To encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament

This ethos is reflected in both the Vision and Mission statements as well as the statement of Gospel Values:

Vision

To offer an outstanding education for our students and prepare them for successful, independent lives in the 21st century.

Mission

To be a high achieving academic community

To identify and develop the full potential of every member of our community and give them the skills and qualifications they need to achieve their ambition.

Do this within the context of the culture and values of the Christian faith emphasising the strong moral and spiritual values shared with other faiths

Our House system reflects the theme of Gospel values the students chose the names of the three Houses as Faith, Hope and Joy. Other Gospel values are revisited regularly through themed weeks at school and through the "Theme for the Week".

There are good links between the School and the Church. Fr. Jeremy regularly undertakes School Assemblies and leads the Christian Union in the School, which utilises the School Chapel. Altwood School maintains strong links with the Diocese of Oxford, a representative of which is a member of the Trust, and Foundation Governors ensure a sound representation on the Governing Body. Altwood has been proactive in developing strong links to share best practice with both Primary and Secondary Schools in the Diocese.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the Altwood community since March 2020 and a variety of measures have been implemented to combat the threat posed by COVID-19 (Coronavirus), whilst continuing to support the teaching and learning of our students, whether in the classroom or learning remotely. Online teaching and resources, social media and online parent/carers meetings have been an integral part of the support.

In spite of the Covid-19 pandemic, Altwood Church of England School has continued to perform well with students achieving some very impressive GCSE and A-Level results in the summer 2020. These results further reinforce the strong position the school has established in the local area and confirm its place as a high achieving learning community. These outcomes have allowed a significant number of our young people to successfully gain a place at the University or Apprenticeship of their choice.

Janice McLucas

Sides People

The role of the Sides Person is laid down by Church law - Canon E2:

"It shall be the duty of the Sides People to promote the cause of true religion in the Parish and to assist the Churchwardens in the discharge of their duties in maintaining order and decency in the Church and churchyard especially during the time of divine service."

The year started well with the established Sides' rotas for the 8.00am and 10.00am services in the

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Church continuing, and the Sides teams carrying out their practical responsibilities, including: helping prepare the Church for the service by putting out hymn books and service sheets, welcoming the congregation, guiding people to the altar to take Communion, taking and counting the collection, and tidying up at the end of the service.

Following the announcement of the lockdown at the end of March, in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, Church services were suspended with Sides' duties put on hold. A social meeting of the teams arranged for the end of March was also, sadly, postponed.

By July, with the Church and the conduct of services adapted to meet social distancing and the other requirements of the lockdown, services resumed and the Sides teams continued to meet their most important duty, providing a warm welcome to the congregation arriving for a service. They took responsibility for "signing in" and taking contact details for everyone, for ensuring masks were worn and the hand sanitizers provided were used, for directing people to the service sheets, and for helping ensure people sat in the assigned pew seats and followed directions when moving around the Church.

All Saints is blessed with a small team of dedicated people who provide this most important service for the Church and for its congregation, and together we were able to ensure additional cover for all the Christmas services that were held.

The teams have continued to provide a welcoming face and an encouraging voice for anyone attending any of the services during the many challenges faced in 2020. We are very grateful and thank all those who carry out this valuable and important role and provided this wonderful service for All Saints Church.

Stella Harding

Flower Arrangers

We usually start this report with "We are pleased to report" but sadly due the covid crisis, it isn't the case this time, so a very short report from the Flower Team! Unfortunately, the only floral displays we were able to produce in church were for All Saints Day and Christmas, and these were very much scaled down to adhere to the restrictions imposed by the Government. This was only achieved by members of the Team completing their arrangements at different times of the day and making sure that social distancing was always in place. Special thanks to the Members who were able to help on these occasions and to Alan Ketley and Pauline Hole for setting up the Nativity and to Ann and Chris Rawlings for setting up and decorating the Christmas Tree.

Our dedicated Team have been waiting patiently in the wings ready to pick up where they left off in February, so our thanks go to Marian Duncombe, Jean Balchin, Carole Deverill, Valerie Duncombe, Ann Rawlings, Linda Wallbank, Helen Boulter, Alison Leigh, and Helen Graves; their talents, hard work and dedication throughout a normal year is very much appreciated. Sadly however, we do have to report that Helen Boulter informed us that she would be stepping down from the Team at the end of 2019. We will miss her cheerful face and enthusiasm, but we would like to thank her very much for her help and support over the past few years and to wish her well, who knows, she may decide to return after a break!

Maybe, some of you have taken up Flower arranging to fill the void the pandemic has created, and you would like to utilise this new skill! The Team would welcome anyone who would be interested in joining them, no experience is necessary. Help will always be given to new members; the flowers are usually arranged by one or two members of the team and any new member would work

with one of these until they feel confident. Although the flowers are usually arranged on a Friday morning this is not set in stone! If Friday mornings are not convenient, they can be arranged at any time on Friday or Saturday providing the church is not being used, details of use can be found on the pew sheets or from the Parish Office. Flower arranging is a lovely way to serve the church and to give pleasure to all, as well as giving glory to God. It can be a very relaxing and uplifting pastime, so why not give it a go? For more information, please speak to one of the team who will be happy to give you details.

Jo Towers & Barbara Bannister

Boyne Hill Tuesday Club

The year got off to its usual jolly start with a quiz organised by Janet, our Secretary, and a social gathering. (Hands up who can remember what that must have been like!). In February we had a speaker from the Thames Valley Air Ambulance, and in March an interesting evening with a member of the local branch of the Embroiderers Guild. Then the pandemic struck, and everything was suddenly on hold.

Janet does a wonderful job keeping members entertained with monthly newsletters known as **Chirrup**s. They go out by email and we deliver a few by hand to members without email. In the autumn she also began contacting members by phone which has been much appreciated.

We explored the possibility of meeting on Zoom and about a third of our members are happy to do this. So we have had two meetings with speakers, one from Jeanette Lock, which she would have delivered in person last April, and a Musical Evening with Andrew Stafford. We had another of Janet's quizzes too.

During the slight cessation of hostilities in the summer we were able to have a socially distanced committee meeting in a garden but our AGM in September was on Zoom. Fr Jeremy chaired that. Our Zoom Christmas celebration had music and readings.

Certainly 2020 was a year like no other.

Jan Moss, Group Leader

Website and Social Media

<https://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/>

With the CoronaVirus/Covid-19 pandemic closing the Church the use of the website became an important source of information.

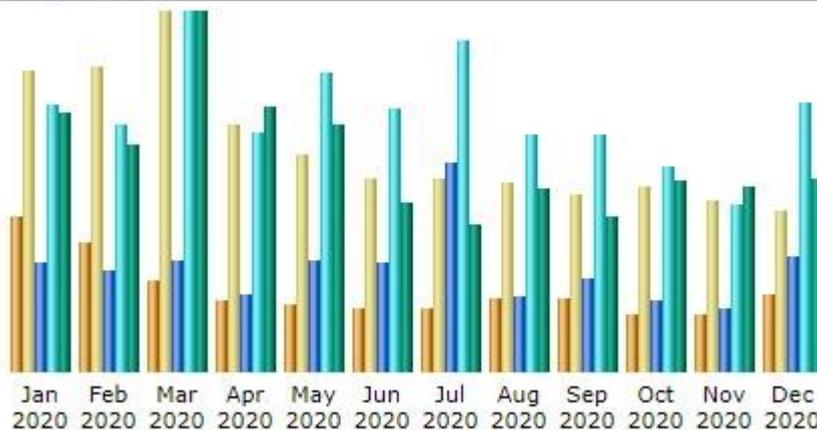
The front page was (inelegantly) modified to give, amongst others, access to Covid information, the Diocese and the Church of England on-line services page, updated Church information along with a new YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnPQFuQQ-Yb0ffFuT1Mjv8A/videos>) being established, together with new website pages and regular links to Church and Service recordings made by Fr. Jeremy (of which there are now some fifty recordings available on-line).

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This was supported by regular promotion and information posts on both of the Churches Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsBoyneHill>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/AllSaintsB Hill>) pages.

Later in the year the sites were used to promote the 3D Virtual Tour of All Saints (<https://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/welcome-about-all-saints/3d-virtual-tour-all-saints-church/>) for the Heritage Open Days.

Monthly history



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2020	2,229	4,304	11,683	28,916	1.32 GB
Feb 2020	1,858	4,372	10,996	26,646	1.16 GB
Mar 2020	1,292	5,160	12,063	38,922	1.84 GB
Apr 2020	1,021	3,530	8,405	25,936	1.36 GB
May 2020	957	3,119	11,926	32,242	1.26 GB
Jun 2020	891	2,768	11,880	28,501	883.09 MB
Jul 2020	902	2,770	22,498	35,844	771.55 MB
Aug 2020	1,058	2,699	8,018	25,529	955.93 MB
Sep 2020	1,032	2,549	10,152	25,698	811.78 MB
Oct 2020	830	2,664	7,677	22,084	1003.40 MB
Nov 2020	807	2,459	6,712	18,057	970.28 MB
Dec 2020	1,106	2,312	12,386	29,160	1012.12 MB
Total	13,983	38,706	134,396	337,535	13.20 GB

Interestingly the two most downloaded items (pdf's) remain "the stories of some of the fallen of WW1" talk and the "research into the fallen of WW1".

The excellent informative weekly Parish News is also hosted on the website, along with back issues of these (and prior pewsheets). The extended Parish News distribution reduced the need for the website to be used for Church information, although it has still been used extensively for general information and queries.

To encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament

From the usage graph above the peak usage early in the year can be seen, which has gradually reduced as the year progressed and the weekly Parish News became established.

March is especially interesting; although it did not have the highest number of unique visitors it did experience the highest number of visits per unique visitor (4), along with 30 pages visited per unique visitor and the high amount of bandwidth used (which would have been due to a high number of document downloads).

This leads to the question of where to and what next, and who will be able to do this?

As a reminder, the site was kindly constructed by Martin Whitehurst, who has now moved, and is based upon a Content Management System (CMS), and uses a purchased template from "Presence Church", which is designed for Church Use. As such its overall structure and look and feel is fixed. As web-site technology has moved on, as has the original site designer, it is prudent for the Parish to expect to consider a replacement site and to be prepared to allocate resource to build, migrate and maintain a new site. Maintenance of the existing site will become increasingly problematic. (The use of the website during the Corona Virus crisis exposed its limitations) and it is strongly advised that a sponsor is identified who will be able to introduce a more modern version of the website. As always this will depend upon the page and information owners taking responsibility for the areas they are involved in.

In order to ensure that the site remains current and informative with accurate calendars it has been designed for the leaders/page owners/calendar owners to directly maintain their own pages/calendars. However, this has not been happening, with few people initially taking responsibility for their areas of ownership, which means that some of the pages are not as current and/or useful as they could be. The writer agreed to maintain, on a limited basis for a short period, as much as possible until this was resolved. Sadly no-one in the Church currently maintains any of the pages or the calendars on the web-site and this is not a sustainable situation.

There is also an issue with training, which Martin offered, however few people took advantage of this, which means that people are not in a position to carry out content management for their areas.

Training people would now be difficult as no one has full control of all of the features of the site. It was planned (pre-Covid) to arrange for the calendars to be maintained (as originally planned) by the Office Administrator; hopefully this can be actioned when the Church Office opens again. The writer is prepared to continue, in the short term, to assist the PCC with content updates, as long as these are provided to the writer in a usable form and as long as the PCC identifies, within a maximum of a 12 month period (extended due to the pandemic), an appropriate resource, along with a timed plan and support from page owners, to introduce a new website.

For interested persons there is an explanatory video, provided by Martin, on YouTube for new and potential users of the website. This is very interesting and informative, and it is worth viewing at: -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-5dG3MvOxoncjs3SuOmggg>

(Please note that there are direct links to the YouTube video, along with the All Saints Facebook page and Twitter feed on the front page of the website.)

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Following Martin's move away Simon Fullarton kindly took over maintaining the technical and infrastructure aspects of the website. This includes organising and managing hosting (bandwidth availability) and back-ups.

The website has tremendous potential for development which depends upon people having both the time and motivation to do this. With development the site can, amongst other uses, be used to proactively send out information when uploaded to people who have requested this. Using these features, along with rota and other information, would help reduce Parish administration time whilst also improving communication for our congregation along with promoting All Saints to new visitors.

Facebook

In conjunction with the website we also have an All Saints Church Facebook page which can be seen at: - <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsBoyneHill>

Please do visit. Many thanks to Jayne Chapman who has kindly taken on an admin role and is helping to keep the site interesting with relevant posts. This has certainly improved the content of this page. We have also periodically used the Facebook page for (paid) promotions; typically for the Heritage Open Days and Major Festival programmes.

Twitter

There is also an active Twitter feed at: - <https://twitter.com/AllSaintsBHill>

Please do visit. This is kindly being maintained by Julia Wakeling and has attracted 105 "followers". (Slightly down from last year).

Future

Overall the website and social media activity, as well as acting as a vehicle for communication, give All Saints a great opportunity to both spread the Word of God and to help make the Church attractive to people of all ages.

It is hoped that we can generate enthusiasm and support to both maintain, and develop, this important channel of communication in today's society.

R. J Broad E&OE 11th April 2021