

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, BOYNE HILL, MAIDENHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



To encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament

PARISH OFFICE

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Contents

Overview of the Year	3
The Vision of All Saints	3
Report of the PCC of All Saints	6
Churchwardens' Annual Fabric Report	7
Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery	10
Web Site and Social Media	13
Diocesan Courses and Bible Studies at All Saints	15
Tiny Saints	16
Choir	17
Bellringers	18
Pastoral Care & Care Home Ministry	18
Men of Boyne Hill.....	19
The Larchfield Mission.....	19
Open the Book at Larchfield & All Saints Schools.....	20
OAK Project	20
Maidenhead Care	20
Street Angels	21
Senior Saints (formerly Mothers' Union).....	21
AllSorts.....	23
Servers.....	23
Rainbows	24
Spiritual Direction Course.....	25
Altwood Church of England School.....	25
Boyne Hill Infant & Nursery School	26
Sides People Report.....	27
Parish Centre.....	28
Flower Arrangers	28
Tuesday Club.....	29

Overview of the Year

The Vision of All Saints

Our vision at All Saints has, at its heart, the Biblical model of encountering Christ in Word and Sacrament. In our communion model we are being drawn into relationship with God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and into relationship with one another. We are drawn into the story of faith to live the story of faith. To use the Vatican 2 idea of Henri De Lubac 'We partake of the Body of Christ to become the Body of Christ to the world'.

The biblical story found in Luke of the Road to Emmaus makes clear this vision. This is the story of the early disciples seeing Christ following the crucifixion and then encountering him in the word (Bible) and the sacrament (The breaking of the bread). They were drawn into a communion relationship with the Risen Lord. It was clear to them that he was truly alive and now as he disappeared from their eyes they were to return to Jerusalem to be HIS body to the world. As we read in Acts the early church was about to be born. As De Lubac says, 'We partake to become'. All that we experience in Eucharistic worship should enable us to encounter our risen Lord and try to share his life (Light) with others. This sense of Our Lord's grace, love and joy should be found in our worship, our ministry to schools, our welcome and in all our contacts and connections.

Our Activities and Achievements

As a church family, and as individuals, the parishioners of All Saints Parish Church aim to meet the Vision and Mission aims which have been 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.'

Alongside this vision, we have completed a pilot scheme for the Oxford Diocese to share with other parishes the Partnership in Missional Church (PMC). This is 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 finding partners within the community to work alongside. Some of the key spiritual processes have been:

1. Dwelling in the Word as we try to discern God's will for the parish
2. Dwelling in the World as we attempt to meet the needs of people within the parish
3. Offer hospitality and welcome in all that we do

During 2018 two important meetings took place. The first in January 2018, met at one of our local church schools of All Saints to discuss the issues raised by the 3 years of PMC. Present at the meeting were members of All Saints and the three heads of the local Church of England Schools. This meeting identified three areas that were thought crucial to our parish, namely Worship, Schools Ministry and Welcome.

In September 2018 the church community gathered to formulate plans to meet the Mission Action Plan that was beginning to formulate. This included areas of sustainability needed to underpin the mission including stewardship, administration, buildings and the need for 'Branding' of the church and our story.

Worship

The worship group met regularly to update our eucharistic liturgy and service booklets. At the heart of this was the need to offer a more welcoming and accessible service with a commentary running through the booklet to explain the service to newcomers. Several booklets have been introduced and with feedback we are planning to update all of our service booklets over the coming year. We have been blessed too by benefactors who have enabled the purchase of new hymn books offering a greater variety of music. We will continue to look at other areas including how we present the ministry of the word to different age groups.

Schools Ministry

In our three church schools and three other community schools we offer a variety of assemblies, classes in church, services in schools and services which take place in church. These have taken the form of 1st WW commemorations, Easter and Christmas services, community services and Leavers' services.

We also have 12 people working ecumenically in our schools providing Open the Book which shares the bible stories with up to 500 children each week of the academic year. We have 7 members of our congregation acting as school governors supporting the running of our schools within the community.

Welcome

We are in the process of developing the way we welcome. Our new Parish Development officer will be at this year's APCM to talk about the area of welcome. One example of this ministry was the 12 members of our congregation who welcomed school children, staff and parents to the church at Christmas offering hospitality and support so that everyone could enjoy the Nativity services.

Branding

Branding will encourage us to look at how we can be more welcoming to people of all ages so that they might share the community life with us.

Year of Mission

During 2018 we worked in partnership with our neighbours at the Church of the Good Shepherd and St Luke's to deliver a shared Mission Year. All of the events planned were aimed at drawing our church communities into living the Christian faith as active members. Rough Shod Riding Lights, a group of young actors shared bible stories in a contemporary setting in our schools, churches and wider communities. They challenged us through story telling not to be mere viewers but actors on stage. Living the Christian faith.

This was followed in June by the London Institute of Christianity workshop which helped people think about how Christian living impacts upon daily life. The banker who stands up for someone facing trouble at work, the helpful conversation with the person on the bus. In December 2018 we hosted John Bell from the Iona community who reflected on the psalms in preparation for Advent. This well-attended event looked at the social meaning of the psalms along with the musical context. We were encouraged to sing the psalms through the assessible music that Bell has written.

Pastoral Care

All Saints is blessed in the ministry of Jeanette Lock and the pastoral care team that have visited nursing homes and care homes as well as hospitals. These are vibrant services that help people sometimes suffering with severe memory loss. 250 pastoral care visits took place at home, 24 nursing home visits offered communion to 250 residents and 40 nursing home services with 800 residents took place during 2018.

Mission and Evangelism

You will see in other reports that we support the training of clergy in Taita Taveta in Kenya, the Children's Society, Christian Aid and Food Bank. We have five members of Street Angels, a group that engages with young people out at night and makes sure they are safe. This work also involves the homeless. Other members work with Maidenhead Care to support vulnerable people at home.

We have a wonderful relationship with the Royal British Legion and have during the 2014-18 period supported them in sharing services to commemorate the lives of people who gave their lives for this country.

As you will see in other reports 5 members of our community work closely with other churches in providing a once a month meal, service and community activities on a local housing estate. 400 meals are served annually at these sessions. Other members support another project serving meals at Cox Green luncheon club where 3000 meals are served a year.

All Saints Church Community

Last year we supported 24 families with funeral services, 22 services of Holy Baptism and 8 weddings.

In addition to the special WW1 commemoration services All Saints received 1,895 people for civic and school organisations during Advent 2018. This does not include the figures of people who attended our own Christmas services.

During the year All Saints supported one member of our congregation in a gap year before university. That person passed the first year of a degree course based at Oxford Church Missionary Society for studies in theology and youth ministry. She also gained vastly by experiences gained in church mission at All Saints and in the wider community.

Regular courses were run throughout the year which you can read about in one of the reports. Courses included London Institute of Contemporary Christianity, Bible Studies and Diocesan courses.

Diocesan and Deanery Links

I am pleased to report that we have 3 people representing us at Deanery Standing Committee level and 2 people serving on the Diocesan Synod. This means we are represented at discussions on the mission objectives of the wider church.

Other Faiths

We are a presence and engagement parish which means that we have over 10% of people from other faiths within our community. We have good links with our local Sikh community, share multi-faith assemblies and multi-faith discussion groups and other activities.

Parish Centre

You can read elsewhere about our activities at the centre.

Buildings

We continue to meet the challenges of maintaining the fabric of our wonderful Grade One listed building and a collection of Grade Two buildings. Can I thank everyone involved in the wonderful work maintaining George Street's legacy.

Thank you to the community

May I as the parish priest of this wonderful parish take this opportunity to express gratitude to the nearly 100 volunteers that contribute to both the running and to the mission of All Saints church. Thank you too for the continued love and support that you all offer to both myself and my wife Monika.

With my love and prayers,

Fr Jeremy

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. 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 2018 the PCC met on nine occasions, one of these meetings was an extended PCC to shape our latest Mission Action Plan encouraging non-PCC members to participate. Our first meeting takes place following on after the APCM to elect key roles for the next year these were 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*), Derek Smith and Ann Rawlings (*Churchwardens*), supported by Stella Harding (*Deputy Churchwarden*). 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.

2018 was a busy year in matters of mission, we were able to come together to create a new Mission Action Plan this has been born out of another exercise that formally came to an end during the year which was our participation in **Partnership in Missional Church PMC**. This has been a challenging, thought provoking and self-examination process with

other churches to help advance our mission objectives and consider changing the way we carry out our mission looking toward the future. We have also embraced a new stewardship scheme and are encouraging as many church members as possible to join up and reflect on the cost of the churches mission at All Saints.

Our Sides Persons team provides a very important role and support our mission in welcoming people to our services as well as many other roles around the church and in helping with the smooth running of All Saints. Stella Harding (*Deputy Churchwarden*) has carried on the role during 2018 of supervising/training of existing and any new volunteers in understanding their roles and responsibilities as Sides People. Welcome is a key part of our new Mission Action Plan.

During 2018 we carried out a review on how many volunteers we have, and a new overall list was completed which established that we have around ninety people who carry out various responsibilities both supporting mission and day to day responsibilities. We are very fortunate to have this support. We also carried out an audit of levels of safeguarding training that is required by our volunteers and this is being actioned moving on. We also endeavour to comply with Health & Safety regulatory requirements. Both these areas of daily life are important to us in ensuring all are safe and protected as part of the church. Before finishing this report, we take this opportunity to say thank you to all the volunteers and others who help make our mission possible, too many to name but nonetheless very much valued.

Derek Smith and Ann Rawlings Churchwardens.

Churchwardens' Annual Fabric Report

Again, this year has presented its challenges in trying to maintain maintenance and repair of our church and associated buildings. It will always be a challenge to decide what must take priority with the limited financial resources we have. That said we have been able to complete some maintenance and the odd improvement here and there.

Church Buildings:

Floor

This past year we have moved a little way forward with trying to establish what needs to be done. I think most of us realise that it was never going to be a simple task and is going to prove costly. We have had a couple of visits from the Architect and a Flooring Tile Specialist. After the first visit it was decided to get a structural engineer to make recommendations on the way forward, two sample excavations were carried out in the nave east end to establish what is underneath and whether it would be just a question of retiling only. Alas, the floor below is very shallow in depth and is not suitable to retiling meaning a full excavation of the existing floor and lay a new sub base to tile over the top. Further consultations and considerations are to be carried out early in 2019.

Heating

Again, there have been a few minor issues with the heating system. After a couple of visits by our maintenance company all controls for programming are back in the church and the issue of the heating being switched off during a power cut and no automatic resumption

has now been resolved, eliminating the need to manually turn the gas back on. Heating the church from late September to April does prove costly trying to maintain a balance between being comfortable and extra costs to achieve this proves very challenging at times.

Stained Glass Windows

We have various windows around the church that need attention particularly some high-level windows in the nave area of the church. There have been no further moves forward with these repairs during 2018.

Internal Wall Painting

The walls below the stone Dado Rail were repainted during 2018 covering some long-standing former repair and radiator marks on the walls. It now has a more uniform appearance and looks much better.

Roof & Gutters

No separate examination of the gutters was carried out during 2018. We have been monitoring the down flow from the gutters which would help to indicate if there were any blockages. We did have a blocked soakaway drain in the Birinus garden this was cleared by a churchwarden. We are awaiting this coming year a complete check and clearance of all the gutters and roof tile replacements where required. The Calvary roof is in a sorry state and as part of the roof and gutters work during 2019 will be repaired. The work has been ordered.

Small Items

Before our Parish Inspection in September all the church silver was retreated with Smart water a deterrent to any possible loss from theft. The outside floodlights over the South, North and Vestry doors have been replaced with LED Lights. The old ones were defective. *(one was half full of water)*

Quinquennial Inspection

The last inspection was carried out during 2015. Some of the recommended repairs and recommendations have been carried out but some are still outstanding.

Tower & Bells

During 2018 we have had a few issues with the bells and with water coming in through the spire window openings as well as through the mortar joints at the top of the tower stairwell. We had a problem with the No 5 bell Clapper and Bearings during early summer and this meant the bell was unringable. An appeal was launched which was very successful and we were able to carry out the required repairs and the bell is now ringing again. However, this highlighted the fact that the amount of water coming into the spire through the window openings contributed to the problems with the No 5 bell affecting all the metalwork and accelerating the corrosion and shortening the life of the whole ring of bells. Again, further maintenance and refurbishment was also necessary to the No 7 bell clapper in the autumn a big contributory factor being the corrosion from the water.

It is something that needs some resolution as effectively in the fullness of time further repairs, or worse, will be needed.

Lightning conductor

There was more repair work and a new extra down point sunk in the ground on the west side of the tower and consequently the resistance test was passed with more of a margin than in previous years.

Churchyard

As the churchyard is closed the maintenance falls to the local authority; however the actual work carried out by contractors for the council is very limited. One working party was organised in the spring and more self-seeded trees and overgrowing shrubbery was removed. A good effort by all building on the work done during late 2017. There are still outstanding issues of fence repairs which have been brought to the attention of the local authority awaiting action. Another reminder, I fear, will be necessary.

Other Church Buildings

Birinus Room

This room needs redecorating and to consider improving the lighting as it is regularly used for meetings. Late in 2018 we had the carpet man in for a quote on other areas around the church and he had a look at the carpet and said even though the edges have suffered some beetle damage it is a good quality carpet with some years' use. So, a deep clean will be arranged during 2019.

Birinus Garden

The garden continues to be maintained and the shrubbery has filled out since its landscaping a few years ago. I feel we do not utilise this area as well as we could. We did hold the harvest festival BBQ in the garden as the weather was kind to us.

The stone chimney top on the original stack from the boiler house near the gateway to the garden continues to be monitored, it has been losing small particles of stone for a couple of years now and some of the roof tiles have been damaged. These are scheduled to be repaired /replaced in the coming year and will allow us a closer look at the stone chimney pot and what to do moving forward.

Parish Office

Not much to report here except, like the Birinus Room, it is in need of a redecorate/refurbish and the carpet tiles need replacing. As the office is effectively the Church's shop window this is something that should be given serious consideration in the medium term.

Parish Centre

The loft ladder has been replaced and a safety rail installed just inside the loft hatch making access safer. The rooms which were occupied by Courtyard Health are now empty as they terminated their tenancy at the end of March 2018. These rooms were used last year for storage of donated fete goods. The heater in these rooms is also faulty and needs replacing.

Apart from day to day minor repairs including a leak in the main supply pipe nothing major to report. There is some redecoration of the exterior scheduled for 2019. One of the

storage heaters is faulty in the hall and should be replaced with a blow heater which would be quite effective. As the centre runs at a loss, we are currently reviewing our charges to see if we can close the deficit gap. The carpet tiles in the entrance are in a very sad state and need replacing. The toilets also need redecorating and maybe some refurbishing.

Rented Properties

No 1

The Fridge Freezer has been replaced as the existing one was failing. There was a problem with the main door during the warm summer; this was repaired. The tenants left at the end of December. The property is currently unoccupied with new tenants due to move in during March 2019.

No 3

There was a problem with a frozen pipe early in the new year affecting the heating. We have had some plumbing problems with a couple of minor leaks and a faulty loft tank ballcock valve: these were resolved.

No 4

A new bath was installed early in the year as the old one had a crack although not leaking it was felt prudent to replace before becoming a more serious issue. A new hand rail was fitted over the bath. A kitchen drawer had its runners replaced and a window latch in an upstairs bedroom had to be replaced as it was broken. The front door of the property had to have the weatherboard which was broken and rotten replaced, and the opportunity was taken to fit a brush door strip, this was fitted to cut down on the draught under the door. The door was also repainted at the same time. During late summer there were more problems with the plumbing and a pipe and new internal stop cock had to be fitted. The tenants have been asked to remove some of the excessive ivy growth around the property some has been done but more needs to be carried out.

All properties now have EPC certificates required by a change in the law to be able to let property. Properties 3 & 4 are scheduled to have exterior painting work on window frames, gutters, pipes and doors to be carried out during 2019. The properties are managed by Watermans letting agents in consultation with one of the churchwardens.

Thanks

Thanks again must go to our small resources team including a churchwarden who still undertakes some of the minor property works himself, saving the parish significant amounts of money helping to maximise our rental income in support of the mission of the church.

Derek Smith & Ann Rawlings Churchwardens

Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery

The Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery comprises 14 parishes and benefices in a geographical area more or less corresponding to the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. There are 23 churches serving a population of 110,400 (2011 Census), mainly in the two urban areas of Maidenhead and Windsor respectively, but with a strong presence in the more rural areas and villages surrounding the towns. Four parishes, St

Mary's Maidenhead, Bray, All Saints Boyne Hill and St Luke's Maidenhead, are designated as P&E (Presence and Engagement), having a significant proportion (over 10%) of those practicing another faith. The combined Electoral Roll of the Deanery in 2018 was 2348 (2017:2279), however, this may not be accurate because two parishes did not complete their annual Statistics for Mission, and, therefore, the previous year's number has been used for those parishes.

The Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery Synod comprises all the clergy in the deanery and Lay Representatives elected by their respective parishes in the deanery for a period of three years. Elections were held in 2017. There are 24 Clergy Members, 47 Lay Members and 7 lay vacancies.

The Deanery Synod elects a Standing Committee to oversee and steer the activities of the Deanery. This consists of five clergy members and six lay members. The Synod also elects a Lay Co-chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Area Dean and Associate Area Dean are appointed by the Bishop.

The Deanery Synod also elects representatives (who need not necessarily be members of the Deanery Synod itself) to Diocesan Synod. There are three Clergy Representatives and four Lay Representatives. These elections took place in 2018, see below.

The Deanery Synod members also elect representatives to the General Synod.

The Area Dean, Associate Area Dean and Lay Chair are members of the Archdeacon's Standing and Pastoral Committee, which also includes the Bishop of Reading.

The Deanery has a Mission Action Plan which outlines its objectives and activities approved by the Archdeacon's Pastoral Committee in June 2015. It is used by the Deanery Standing Committee as an operational framework for the Deanery. It is reviewed, developed and updated at each Standing Committee meeting.

Under the plan, the Standing Committee is, amongst other things, responsible for organizing and facilitating synod meetings. A pattern to Synod Meetings has emerged that puts a mission topic at the head of the agenda, for which there is a presentation either from within the deanery or by an external speaker. The formal "business" is then dealt with after the main topic.

The Deanery Synod met three times in 2018. The main topics at the meetings were as follows: -

Thursday 15 March at St Agnes, Windsor

Presentations on Dementia. Tina English, who set up the charity Embracing Age, talked about supporting the frail elderly and those with dementia, both within the church and the local care home community; and Revd David Joynes talked about the Rendezvous Project in Cookham. Presentation and approval of the 2017 accounts

Wednesday 13 June at All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead

Jonathan Farnhill, the then Diocesan Generous Giving Advisor gave a presentation on the new Parish Giving Scheme. There was an update on progress of the pastoral scheme for St Mary's and The Walthams.

Wednesday 10 October at St James the Less, Stubbings, Maidenhead

A number of the Clergy members of Synod presented their views and impressions from the Diocesan Clergy Conference that had been held over the summer.

Parish Share

Another excellent response from parishes enabled us to pay the 2018 share of £976,036 in full and on time, maintaining our excellent record in this area. The majority of parishes accepted our offer of adopting an increase of 2.5% and are paying the balance of 1.15% in 2019. Credit is due to Clewer, Dedworth and Waltham St Lawrence for electing to pay the full increase straightaway. For 2019, the base increase for the Diocese is 1.75%, but a robust level of fee income has restricted our underlying increase to 1.04%. This year, therefore, we are asked to pay £986,103, and are confident that we will. Whatever the precise amount of increase, the Deanery Standing Committee does not underestimate the commitment it takes to achieve this amount and extends its thanks to all our parishes.

Pastoral Developments

In 2018, the Deanery considered and participated in: -

The appointment of Revd Ainsley Swift as Vicar of St Michael's, Bray, following the retirement of Revd Richard Cowles.

The proposed amalgamation of St Mary's and St Andrew's, Maidenhead with St Mary's, White Waltham, and the proposed separation of Shottesbrooke from White Waltham and its amalgamation with Waltham St Lawrence. In connection with this, the Revd Dave Atallah was appointed as Priest-in-Charge of St. Mary's White Waltham, following the resignation of Revd Dr David Andrew.

The appointment of Revd Nigel Richards as Vicar of All Saints, Dedworth, following the retirement of Revd Louise Brown.

The consequential interregnums in New Windsor and All Saints' Dedworth.

Supporting parishes where there is little or no clergy resource over and above a single stipendiary post.

Parish Inspections

Six Parish Inspections were carried out on behalf of the Archdeacon in the year in order to maintain its 3-yearly cycle of inspections.

Deanery Officers and Standing Committee Members (with their respective parishes)

Area Dean	Revd Ainsley Swift (St. Michael's, Bray)
Associate Area Dean	Revd Sally Lynch (St Luke's, Maidenhead)
Lay Chair	John Sykes (The Cookhams)
Secretary	Thomas Walton (St Andrew and St Mary Magdalene, Maidenhead)
Treasurer	Jim Tucker (St. Michael's, Bray)
Members	Revd Jeremy Harris (All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead)
	Rod Broad (All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead)
	Jane Burr (Clewer St Stephen and St Agnes)
	Martin Chandler (St. Andrew's, Clewer)

Diocesan Synod Members

Revd Ainsley Swift (St Michael's, Bray)

Revd Sally Lynch (St Luke's, Maidenhead)

Revd Jeremy Harris (All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead)

Revd Sam Allberry (St Andrew and St Mary Magdalene, Maidenhead) (ex-officio as General Synod member)
John Sykes (The Cookhams)
Thomas Walton (St Andrew and St Mary Magdalene, Maidenhead)
Rod Broad (All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead)
Ralph Hinchcliffe (St Luke's Maidenhead)

General Synod Member

Rev'd Sam Allberry (St Andrew and St Mary Magdalene, Maidenhead)
David Morgan Deanery Synod Lay Representative for All Saints Boyne Hill

Web Site and Social Media

The All Saints Church website has been active for over five years now and is increasingly proving to be a good vehicle for communications and information for both our congregation and potential new members and visitors to All Saints Church.

Several visitors and new members have commented that the website was a useful source of information before they came to / visited All Saints.

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 "PresenceChurch", which is designed for Church Use. As such it's 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 as maintenance of the existing site will become increasingly problematic.

There is an explanatory video on YouTube for new and potential users of the website. This is very interesting and informative and it is worth viewing at:-

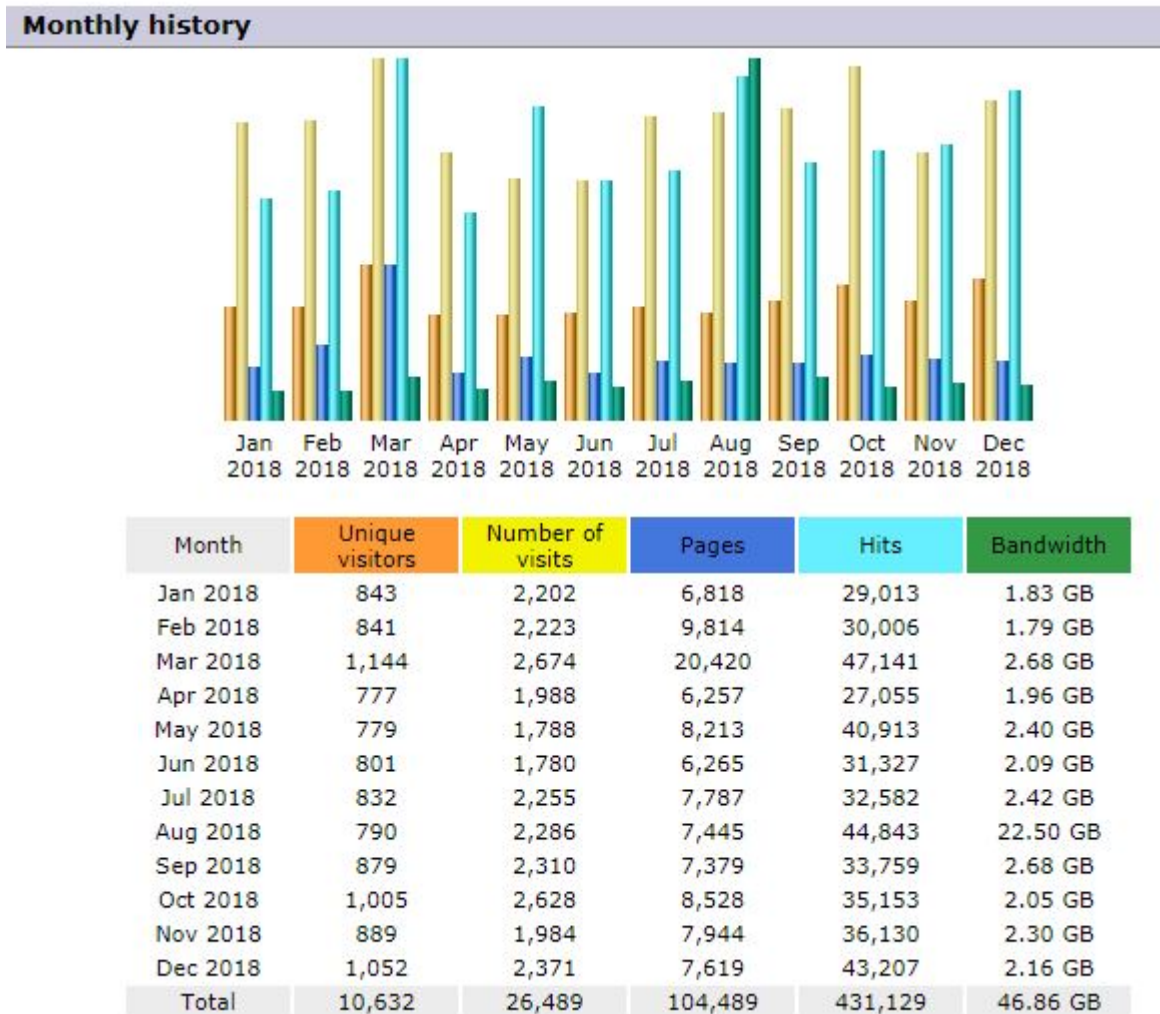
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-5dG3MvOxoncjs3SuOmggg>

(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.)

Following Martin's move away Simon Fullarton kindly took over the technical and infrastructure aspects of the website, including organising and managing hosting and back-ups. Maintenance of the content and calendars is the responsibility of the relevant "page-owners"/"event owners", although there is some difficulty with this being operated as originally planned and agreed.

The website continues to regularly attracting between 25 and 40 unique visitors per day; these visitors now average over 275 page views per day, a 10% increase year on year – a page view includes, for example, looking at a calendar event, a pew sheet, an image and/or a news item. The high number of "hits" includes viewing every component on a page (images, text, content blocks, calendar entries etc.) and as such mainly impact upon the use of bandwidth (the amount of web traffic between the sites host and the user/viewer). We also continued to use some "facebook (paid) promotions" in 2018 the number of direct visits from facebook increased by around 40% and was effectively used to promote key events such as the fete and heritage days, Easter and Christmas services and the Year of Mission events.

The table below gives an indication of the use being made of the site:-



As the site develops and matures it is holding significant amounts of information that is being used for reference. As well as details on the Church, Church groups and organisations, calendar events etc., there is also a store of past pewsheets, annual reports, accounts and documents such as the excellent research into the fallen of All Saints (which continues to head the downloaded files list).

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 the content delegation is still largely unconstructed, with few people stepping forward to take responsibility for their areas of ownership, which means that some of the pages are not as current and/or useful as they could be.

For the site to continue to be current and useful requires the page owners to both take ownership, be trained and to maintain their pages/areas/calendars. This remains pending completion and a further review of ownership with the PCC/page owners is due to be undertaken. Pending this ownership review in the interim the site content is being maintained at a relatively low level, although this is not sustainable.

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 and 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. This is being used intermittently and one of our congregation, Jayne Chapman, has kindly taken on an admin role to help keep the site interesting by with relevant posts. If anyone wishes to be registered as an “admin” to enable posting and updating please do let the office know. The more vibrant this page can be maintained will mean that the All Saints Church will be more informative and attractive to users.

As noted above several paid for post “boosts” have been used during the year which has led to more visits to the website and assisted with attendance at the Fete, the Heritage Open Days along with key services and the Year of Mission events.

Twitter

We also have a very active Twitter feed at:- <https://twitter.com/AllSaintsBHill>

This is kindly being maintained by Julia Wakeling and has attracted 112 “followers” . Please do visit if you have not already done so.

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.

Rod Broad

Diocesan Courses and Bible Studies at All Saints

During the last twelve months we have shared four courses. Three of the courses have been biblically based.

1. *Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes by Kenneth Bailey*

We met over breakfast in the Birinus Room to discuss some of the great parables that Jesus shares with us. We looked at The Good Samaritan, The Rich Fool and the Great Banquet. Following the study, we shared a simple Mass. Kenneth Bailey has for 40 years taught the New Testament in Egypt, Lebanon, Jerusalem and Cyprus. Bailey attempts to take people back to 1st century understanding of how these wonderful texts would be understood then and looks at how they might be understood now in the Middle East. The Western reader is challenged to discuss the meaning of the parables in the 21st century. This study has brought new insights for our discussion group and in Lent 2019 we are sharing sermons on some of the texts with the help of Bailey’s work.

2. *The Acts of the Apostles*

Following Easter 2018 we decided that it would be helpful to study the apostles’ missionary journeys after the Resurrection. Using Tom Wright’s ‘Acts for Everyone’ and James Harpur’s ‘The Journeys of St Paul’ we looked at some of the incredible missionary

stories found in the Acts of the Apostles. We discovered the powerful message of Resurrection and transformed life had swept through the early followers and spread throughout the world. Equally exciting was the discovery that we are part of that adventure as followers of Jesus today.

3. *Diocesan course written by the Bishop of Oxford, Steven Croft, on 'Exploring the Beatitudes'*

Bishop Steven challenged us to think about living 'Christlike' lives. Using three key descriptions of the church, A Contemplative Church, A Compassionate Church and A Courageous Church we discovered how the Beatitudes share us in our Christian mission. We shared how a contemplative church community needs to spend time with God listening and discerning his will for us. We discussed the need to be a compassionate church community that shows sympathy and concern for others. I am thrilled to say that people from All Saints through, for example, ALLsorts, Larchfield Open Table, Street Angels, Maidenhead Care and the Cox Green Social Lunch do this practically.

Finally, we were challenged to think what being a courageous church might look like. Courageous people are states, Bishop Steven 'people that are whole-hearted. To be a courageous church means to put our heart and soul into everything we are and do'. Over the last twelve months The Church of the Good Shepherd, St Luke's and All saints have been offered the opportunities to experience Rough Shod Riding Lights acting company. Young people presented the bible stories in a contemporary way to encourage us to be actors on stage not passive viewers. This was followed by the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity that challenged us to think about how we live our lives 24/7. For some this made them think about how they lead their lives at work and make brave and courageous decisions to stand up for others.

We enjoyed the wonderful John ell from the Iona community who uses his gift for music to encourage and nurture others to sing the psalms that speak out for justice in God's world. All these component parts of mission help us to be that Courageous Church.

4. *London Institute of Contemporary Christianity*

This course called 'Fruitfulness on the Frontline' is an 8-session course for disciples who want to make a difference where they are. How can we share God's love and wisdom with the people we meet in the places we usually find ourselves? We looked at just one of the studies but we look forward to returning to this course in the near future.

Thank you to everyone at All Saints for sharing the courses, but importantly too to those people who live the Christian life in a practical way.

Fr Jeremy

Tiny Saints

One of the areas of ministry that some of us have enjoyed being part of is Tiny Saints. Tanya, Carole, Silvia, Neila and Rene are regular organisers of this group. The group of volunteers enjoy making teas, coffees, providing healthy food for the young children and not so healthy snacks for the adults!

Each session has at the heart of it a biblical story and Tanya prepares activities that support the message of the story. Children also enjoy playing with the toys and games that

are provided. At the end of each morning session a short service is shared that includes children's nursery rhymes, Christian songs, a bible story and an interactive prayer for the Tiny Saints.

The group is made up of mothers, a few dads and on occasion grandparents. It seems that people form good friendships through the group and meet on other occasions. I know that communication takes place largely through Face Book and so advertising the activities seems to work well. Parents also use the networking to do other activities together. It is often fathers of the children who meet over a beer at the Men of Boyne Hill group. We frequently have 15-20 children and a similar number of adults and there is always a good atmosphere. Parents often comment on how valuable the group is to them and their children.

One way we have continued to develop the relationships between Tiny Saints and the church community is through Derek making invitations to Mothering Sunday, Harvest, Christingle and Candlemas services which we hand out to the families. Alongside our Christmas services this seems to work quite well with up to 5 families joining us on special occasions. Another important part of Tiny Saints is that it offers Sue and the baptism team an opportunity to invite families who have children baptised with us to a helpful and entertaining group for their young children and babies. Equally importantly Tiny Saints families come to us to enquire about their children being baptised at All Saints. Finally up until September Rachel Juden in her gap year with us offered marvellous support at Tiny Saints and to the families.

Fr Jeremy

Choir

I am pleased to report again that the choir continues to grow in skill and confidence. Which is a result of their perseverance and commitment to their task. I am very grateful, as we all should be, to the time and effort that the choir put into practice once a week and regular attendance at not only the Sunday services but also the various festival services.

Nine Lessons and Carols was again a musical highlight and Ronnie Fullarton provided the opening treble solo.

As always, I am also very grateful for the contribution of our other organists, Dr Relf Clark and Simon Fullarton. Relf is the regular evening service organist but since his retirement from full-time work he has started to accompany the Wednesday morning Eucharist and other occasional services. Simon has accompanied the anthems at morning services on a regular basis. This additional help enhances the singing of the choir and provides a variety of playing style. We are very fortunate to have the services of such talented and generous musicians.

January 1st was my 20th anniversary as Director of Music and I was very touched by the kind words from Fr Jeremy and others as well as the presentation of a gift which marked the occasion.

After the Psalm workshop led by John Bell in December 2018, I was inspired to provide a Lent course on the theme of the psalms. We explored the text of three Psalms in detail

and I illustrated the variety of musical treatment they had received from different composers and styles over the centuries. These examples ranged from Plainsong to gospel pop which prompted lively and interesting discussion.

Brian Graves, Director of Music

Bellringers

2018 did not start well as Don Young hurt his back and has not been able to ring since. Leaving us with 5 ringers + Marcia from Cookham, who is such a help. We rang for 5 weddings with help from our friends from other local towers. In June we had some visiting ringers who unfortunately broke the stay on the No 7 bell. Whites of Appleton, Bellhangers were called in and were excellent help. While they were with us they had a look at No 5 bell which had been giving us cause for concern. They discovered that the clapper was in a bad state with the bush completely gone and the bells bearings in need of remedial repair or replacement. It was not in a fit state to ring! A quote for the restoration work was asked for and received then an appeal launched in church. The money was raised including the support of ODG restoration fund.

There was also a request during this time while the bells were not ringing by the family of a local parishioner, a long-standing member of the church who had just died. Could they have the full ring of bells ringing for the funeral which was to take place on 17th August. The repair being completed the day before the funeral. This was only possible with the help of the Archdeacon pushing through the List B application and the sterling work of the Bellhangers, Whites of Appleton.

On Sunday 21st October we welcomed the Prime Minister, The Rt Hon Mrs Theresa May, to our special centenary commemoration service ringing the full peal of bells, again with other local tower support to mark this parish's commemoration of the end of the First World War. As with many towers nationwide we rang the bells on 11th November remembering the centenary of the WW1 armistice.

Doreen Young, Tower Secretary

Pastoral Care & Care 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'. Throughout 2018 this has been led by Father Jeremy with support from myself as Lay Pastoral Worker plus many others from within the congregation at All Saints Church. Examples include home and hospital visiting, taking extended communion to those unable to come to church, telephone calls to check people are ok and have everything they need, and giving lifts to and from church for those unable to drive or without transport.

Throughout 2018, some of the older members of our congregation have become increasingly frail and this meant there has been a considerable rise in the numbers needing to be visited at home, in hospital or in Care Homes. For many of these people, being able to continue to receive communion is important to their spiritual wellbeing and it is a privilege to be able to share this sacred time with them.

We continue to offer monthly services to Boyn Grove Day Centre, Normanhurst Residential Care Home and Larchfield Nursing Home. These monthly services are a way of sharing God's love in a practical way and allowing those whose memories are fading, to recall and enjoy hymns, readings and prayers from their past. To see someone with severe dementia "come alive" as they sing with gusto words from hymns often sung as a child in Sunday School, is a really fulfilling and rewarding Ministry.

Jeanette Lock, Lay Pastoral Worker

Men of Boyne Hill

This group which has been meeting over the last two years started following a conversation during our Partnership in Missional Church process. One member of our congregation said, 'My husband lives a busy life running his business and helping to bring up our young family but occasionally he has a free evening when he would love to join others for a drink and a chat at the pub.' Following this conversation, we started meeting on Wednesday evenings from 8pm until 10pm at the Windsor Castle pub. The group included a good number of established church members but quickly grew to be a group of men looking for someone to share company and a pint with. Over the last year we continued to meet and on one occasion we went into Maidenhead to share a steak meal. Evenings such as this enable people to make friends and find out about peoples' lives within the community. We learn about some of the challenges that people face and on a lighter note discuss various sporting events and results.

I have not made the group recently, but I know that they still gather on a midweek evening. I was walking my dog one morning and one of the men who was taking his daughter to school called out and we had a conversation. This is what PMC is largely concerned with listening to the needs of a community. I will be making time to join the group again and advertise on the pew sheet so that more people can benefit from a relaxing evening at the Windsor Castle in good company.

Fr Jeremy

The Larchfield Mission

This is a group of people with a heart for Ecumenical mission and a compassion to help, support and share hospitality with people within the Larchfield community. The group are involved with the Summer Holiday Club, the Christmas Club, Open the Book at Larchfield School and Larchfield Open Table.

The summer club attracts young people from several different schools. Alice, who has been leading youth work and social outreach in the town for nearly a decade, uses excellent materials to offer teaching, activities and music to the young people. We also have much fun playing games and sharing hospitality. The Christmas Club is similar and although not generally so well attended still offers activities and teaching around the Christmas story.

Jeanette and the Pastoral Care team from All Saints offer wonderful care at Larchfield Care home. Using music and hymns and occasional dance wonderful pastoral services are offered monthly. We see real engagement from people within the care home. Open the Book (see section below).

River Church members of the Larchfield Mission have been leading powerful ministry in the area of CAP (Christians Against Poverty). I hear that a good number of people are being helped to cope with their finances by people who care about them.

The planning group involves David Downing and Alice Gilbert from URC, Ceri Davies from River and Jeanette Lock and myself from All Saints. Linda Crew, a person who gave a huge amount of time to running LOT, has moved on to pastures new. There is an extended team of which a good number come from All Saints who help with many of these activities.

David Downing, the URC minister, has recently invited churches to support the Cinnamon Trust which does work in communities to discover potential areas of need and the social groups who might work in partnership to help.

Fr Jeremy

Open the Book at Larchfield & All Saints Schools

Open the Book is now part of the Bible Society and they are celebrating their 20th anniversary. We have been taking stories into Larchfield and All Saints schools for last 10 years or so. In 2018 a new series of themes were introduced that link to those used in our schools. At All Saints school we have used this material and then look to find established stories that have a similar message. This has been well received by the school and children. At Larchfield School the new head teacher makes us very welcome and we have the good fortune of rehearsing children 10 minutes before the start of the story. Most weeks there are more children wanting to take the part of characters than the story requires. Members of the All Saints team have also presented stories to children from Boyne Hill School when they have visited the church.

In total we reach around 500 children each week during term time with the classic Bible stories. They may not be in church on Sunday, but by taking Open the Book to them they do not miss out.

Jan & Mike Moss

OAK Project

The Oak Project started in 2003 and at present we are fully funded to cover the education costs of 2 ordinands in training through to 2020. These funds accumulate over a period of years; we now need to start collecting for 2021/22. It is amazing how the number of clergy in Kenya has grown, in part due to our funding of some of the training. Do please speak to us if you would like further information. *Jan & Mike Moss*

Maidenhead Care

Maidenhead Care was established in 1985. Originally all the volunteers came from churches. The scheme provides a service to match the needs of people in the community in areas such as travel to NHS services, shopping, visiting the lonely and sometimes providing relief for a Carer. Volunteers offer a fixed time, generally weekly, when they are available to be approached to meet a Client need. The matching of Client request to available Volunteers is undertaken by the Duty Officer. This pivotal role is undertaken by specially trained Volunteers who are on duty, ideally, one day a month.

This report is very similar to 2017 and as the years pass our volunteers get older and many, quite reasonably, look about to retire. The need for volunteers across the voluntary sector exceeds the demand within the local community. All Saints has a core of long standing Volunteers whose contribution is invaluable. Maidenhead Care needs more London Drivers. It is revealing how many people need transport to London for hospital appointments. Maidenhead Care needs more drivers generally. Volunteers can select the local areas that they are prepared to drive to. Travel expenses, when claimed, are fully reimbursed.

Maidenhead Care needs more Duty Officers. Most months some people undertake additional shifts to help keep the scheme viable. Excellent training is provided and a computer and mobile phone moves from home to home. Do you have a day, or morning, or afternoon that you can offer, ideally each week, to help someone in our community? Do speak to Jan Moss for an insight into the role of the Duty Officer.

Mike Moss, Maidenhead Care Trustee

Street Angels

I have been a member of Street Angels for about 18 months. I was mostly surprised by the diversity of people and situations which can occur over a 3 or 4 hour shift. I expected the young people who have had too much to drink and not in full control but I was amazed at the way we are received. One young girl said she "always felt safe when she saw the Street Angels". People can become separated from their friends and need to be taken to a taxi (sometimes in flip flops!) and one helpless young boy was driven home to Holyport and tucked up on the sofa! His mother was most appreciative on the phone the following day.

We also look out for the homeless people in the town. Sometimes we take soup and check their blankets etc and people on a night out have been known to follow our lead in helping

There is a whole different world out there in the early hours of which most of us are totally unaware. As John Bell says "Listen Lord Jesus, I have pity too. Let my care be active, healing just like you."

Ursula Hutchinson, Street Angel

Senior Saints (formerly Mothers' Union)

A year ago we sadly said 'Goodbye' to the world-wide Mothers' Union organisation, as it was no longer a viable proposition to join in the many opportunities offered by this world-wide body. Despite our history of being members for many years, and occasionally partaking in some of the projects being offered, the instinctive desire to continue to share our prayers and worship was still strong, and we therefore re-named ourselves 'Senior Saints', and this is to report on our first year in action under this heading.

At our AGM in April 2018 we officially appointed a new Treasurer, having sadly lost the services of the late Arthur Channon, who had officiated willingly and efficiently for us since 2015. Our new Treasurer was to be Irene Wilson, and we offered her our support and a warm welcome to this responsible position. We also adjusted our membership fees, as it was necessary to begin with a reasonable financial basis.

In May, once more we had a speaker Chris Hillier, from 'WORKAID'. These people repair and re-cycle old tools of any description, for use in training people looking for career guidance both here and abroad. They last visited All Saints a few years ago, which visit was most successful and encouraged members to donate some ancient garden equipment. Many repaired tools are accumulated and ultimately sent abroad, in an effort to contribute to enable self-help to the poorer areas in other countries. Also, All Saints Church bells had unfortunately developed a crack, which needed urgent attention before being heard and enjoyed again. Inevitably, a specific appeal was created to deal with this unexpected situation, so Senior Saints were able to contribute £50 to the Bell Fund. Eventually, the remedial work was put in hand, and our Bell ringers can now continue to share their pleasure in calling us all to prayer following a wonderful support from all who worship at All Saints.

In June, our thoughts were centred more on our own way of life, particularly regarding health and safety. Duncan, from the Reading Fire Service Department, was able to advise members on the various safeguards available to the general public, which resulted in a lively question and answer session. It certainly laid some doubts to rest with some members, particularly those who live alone.

As the Senior Saints will no longer be holding a meeting in the holiday month of August, the Committee decided to hold our annual Quiet Day in July. The unanimous decision was to ask the Revd John Ainslie to lead this important afternoon, particularly as most members had not been able to attend his recent ordination. In fact, although we were reliably informed that the Revd John had not led such an afternoon before, we all felt uplifted and refreshed by his presence, which gave depth to our prayers.

Sadly, on 18th July, the Senior Saints and all the congregation learnt of the passing of John Banks Elliott. He had been an official member of the group when it was the Mothers' Union, and was very loved and respected by everyone. This was very evident from the packed congregation for his very moving funeral service. July, of course, was the month of the Church Fete. Senior Saints continued to oversee the Toiletries Stall, which as a Group they had done for many years. We raised a considerable sum for the Church and were blessed with fantastic weather – almost too good, as hot sun was not good for many cosmetics and toiletries!

Back in harness in the month of September, we again welcomed Mike Ansell, with more of his holiday trips and experiences. He is an excellent speaker, and willingly shares his personal reactions to sights and sounds from abroad, whether good or bad! His health permitting, he has promised to continue his tales on a further visit if possible. In October we welcomed the Rev. David Downing. He came with a strong recommendation from both Fr Jeremy and Jeanette Lock. He has been – and is – involved in connection with the Calais Refugee Camp, a topical subject with the media at the time, and which continues to this day. We were shown on his screen some daunting scenes, giving weight to the need for endless support.

In November, once again Fr Jeremy opened his vicarage doors for our group to join him in enjoying an afternoon cream tea, ably assisted by Jeanette Lock. It is a popular occasion with all the members, and we happily share our prayers, friendship and gossip together.

For Christmas, the Group made a conscious decision to present something different. We invited our friends from the Edmund Campion group to join us as we were welcoming 'Keith Russell Music' to start the seasonal festivities. Keith Russell is a lively accordionist, with a cheerful line of chat, and he presented many tunes from an assortment of countries, with tales to accompany each item. A very successful afternoon enjoyed by everyone.

We are indeed very fortunate to have such an erudite and caring Vicar at All Saints, and the Group express this in their prayers with the hope he will stay with us for the coming years. In such an unsettled world, and with so many alternatives available, we offer both Fr Jeremy and Jeanette Lock our warm love and wishes for a long healthy and fruitful life, and we continue to include them in our daily prayers.

Wendy Channon & Margaret Hill

AllSorts

We continue to meet at St Mary's, but Fr. Jeremy Harris from All Saints Church who is now one of our leaders kindly hosted our summer BBQ. We are delighted that we now have helpers and leaders from that church and also St. Edmund Campion and St Mary's, White Waltham. This year we tried to help to start a similar group in Windsor but as the churches there could not take on the work we were extremely grateful to receive a grant from Windsor and Maidenhead Christian Trust which enables us to pay for transport from Windsor for adults with learning disabilities wishing to come to ALLsorts. Please pray that we will be able to continue to do this and to welcome all who want to worship with us.

Sue Nordberg

Servers

During the past year we have had some difficult times trying to cover all the servers positions. Fortunately during the latter part of the year we did have a couple of new servers who have helped out extremely well after training. It is still difficult at times to cover some of the positions due to people not giving information on holidays or days when they will not be available. Sally and myself normally like to produce the rotas at least 3 weeks in advance.

Over the past year we have had some trying times filling positions on the Eucharistic rota, again due to a shortage of people, especially after the loss of John Ainslie to his position as Deacon at Holy Trinity Cookham. Jo Sheppard took time out due to pressures of work but has now returned after changing jobs giving her more time for her family as well as for us. Luckily Jeanette stepped in and now is a regular as Sub-Deacon, Ken Smith also returned to the role of Sub-Deacon after some time away. Towards the end of this year Jo Hawkes has started training as Sub-Deacon so we will then be fully staffed. There is always a need for servers so if anybody would like to join our team that would be great.

As Sally and myself also roster people for Intercessions, Communion Assistants, Readers, Gifts and Refreshments it sometimes takes quite some time to give people gaps between

doing a duty and the next duty, especially the Refreshments rota, it would be really good to see if a couple of new people would form a team to do at the most 1 Sunday a month. We would like to say Thank You to all the people who have volunteered for any of these offices, without you the Church would be a very different place.

Nick Kirk & Sally Deal

Rainbows



Rainbows are the youngest section of Girlguiding UK, from 5 – 7 yrs old. Our unit has typically 20-24 girls and meets 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. The unit is thriving with a good leadership team, lots of Rainbows and supportive parents. Nina has over 13 years of experience as a leader and commissioner in guiding and she also runs a guide unit in Taplow.

In August 2018, Girlguiding launched an exciting new programme for all age girls, Rainbow to Rangers. The hugely varied programme each term, encourages the girls to try new activities, work as a team and learn about themselves and the world around them whilst having in fun. For the first time, Rainbows have a range of interest badges they can work towards at home.

Over the last year we have played games, made crafts, learn to use basic tools, practised road safety skills and cooked fajitas. Celebrated St George's Day, the Queen's birthday and Eid. We have discussed our wider community and created a lovely Thank You mural to go on the front of a card to be sent to local emergency services. We have also been out and about. We thoroughly enjoyed the Maidenhead Drama Guild pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' at the Town Hall just before Christmas and our teddy bear picnic at Punt Hill. As well as activities during our unit meetings, we have had the opportunity to join up with other Rainbows in the rest of Maidenhead Division at Rainbow Riots.

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. Most Rainbow Units in the area have very long waiting lists so if the child is already 5, it is advisable to register them on a Brownie waiting list.

Nina Heaviside, Rainbow Leader

Spiritual Direction Course

Last September I began a one-year course held every Tuesday during term time at Douai Abbey to train to become a Spiritual Director. The course is run by the SpiDir Network with links to the Diocese of Oxford and the Church of England. Spiritual Direction is an ancient ministry, sometimes called Spiritual Counsel, Prayer Guidance or Soul Friendship. It is about taking time to meet with another person to talk together about their spiritual journey, prayer life, or their search for a deepening relationship with God. In the sacred space of Spiritual Direction there are no expectations, no judgments but an opportunity for reflective companionship.

The role of the Spiritual Director is simply to provide a listening and accepting space in which they can accompany and perhaps guide or support another person to discern God's activity in their life, paying attention to the transformative power of God. Meetings with a Spiritual Director are confidential and usually take place every two to three months with each session lasting approximately one hour.

I am grateful to both the Deanery and All Saints PCC for their financial support which have covered the cost of this course and I look forward to being able to offer Spiritual Direction once I have completed my course in June 2019.

Spiritual Direction Network www.soulfriend.org.uk

Jeanette Lock, Lay Pastoral Worker

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. 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 students lead the school's Christmas Carol Service at All Saints Parish Church. 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. Altwood continues to build on the outcome of its "Outstanding" Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS).

The school was subject to an Ofsted inspection in October 2017. The inspection team confirmed the school's own judgement that Altwood is now a "Good" school in all areas. The outcome recognized all the significant developments which have taken place over recent years as well as the improvements in provision for students. In Summer 2018 our sixth form students achieved some very impressive results at A level. 32% of all grades were at A* - B and 66% were at A8-C. All of the students wishing to go to University have gained a place, and the vast majority of students were successful in gaining a place at their University of choice. There were also a good number of students who successfully secured an apprenticeship.

The year 11 cohort registered another record year for the school. Their GCSE performance where 61% of students achieved a pass in both English and Maths, consolidated the school's previous achievements. There were many individuals who made considerable progress and many subjects delivered fantastic outcomes for our young people. 80% of students achieved a grade 4 in maths, with 78% achieving the same measure in English. The full Ofsted and SIAMS reports can be found on the Altwood Church of England School website at www.altwoodschool.co.uk

Parental involvement is encouraged through the school bulletin updates on student achievement, Parent Power evenings and regular meetings of Parents' Forum. Strong working links have also been developed and strengthened in the last year with numerous local businesses to support and enhance the learning of Altwood Students.

Janice McLucas

Boyne Hill Infant & Nursery School

Boyne Hill is a two-form entry school with around 260 pupils aged 3-7 years a short walk from All Saints Church. The Headteacher is Mrs Jane Davies and the school is rated Outstanding by OFSTED and also Outstanding in the last SIAMS inspection by the National Society on behalf of Oxford Diocesan Board of Education. 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. Just as Jesus looked out at the crowds with Father God's heart, the school aims to serve and nourish the local community through being a welcoming sanctuary where adults and children alike are shown love, care and respect, irrespective of their background, ability, culture, religion or beliefs. 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.

It does this by encouraging parents and carers to be actively involved in school life through the Governing Body, social events and academic support workshops as well as through close links to All Saints Church via the Foundation Governor, assemblies and visits by the priest, Father Jeremy. The children also regularly visit the Church. The school nurtures the talents of the children through a broad and balanced curriculum, offering additional support to those who may need it for financial, educational or other reasons; enables the children to do well academically through dedicated, high quality staff; and teaches respect for people of all faiths and none through multi-faith assemblies, cultural and religious celebrations and quiet places where pupils may sit and pray or reflect.

As Foundation Governor, I have witnessed this for myself and heard reports from the other governors which together confirm that the school does indeed live up to its vision of providing a welcoming sanctuary, firmly rooted in the biblical basis of the actions and teachings of Jesus. Our thanks go to Mrs Davies and her team for providing such an excellent grounding for the children of the parish.

Anne Sweeney, Foundation Governor

Sides People Report

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."

At All Saints a Sides Person's practical responsibilities include helping prepare the Church for the service by putting out hymn books and service sheets, then 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.

Their most important contribution is the warm welcome that the Sides People provide to the congregation as they arrive for a Church service; they attend particularly to newcomers, children, people with mobility or frailty issues, or sight or hearing difficulty; they introduce new people to someone who may be able to assist them if needed; if newcomers have children they explain about the Creche and Young Saints, and when and where to go to find these various groups; they show people – especially visitors or newcomers - to their seats if necessary.

All Saints is blessed with a small team of dedicated people who fulfill these duties at all of

our regular acts of worship each Sunday, and who volunteer readily for the additional, special services at Christmas and Easter. They are a welcoming face and an encouraging voice for anyone new to our Church as well as for the regular members of the congregation.

We meet as a group to review, and update if necessary, the "Sides Person's Guidelines" and health and safety arrangements. This is a lovely opportunity for the whole team to get together – the 8 o'clockers and the 10 o'clockers - to share each other's company.

We are very grateful and thank all those who carry out this valuable and important role. As with most teams we are always keen to welcome new members and to share the opportunity to provide this wonderful service for All Saints Church.

Stella Harding

Parish Centre

The Parish Centre is a much-valued resource for All Saints Church; it is "home" to several key Church and community groups which, together offer local people the opportunity to enjoy a range of activities and events. Church groups meeting regularly in the Parish Centre include: "Tiny Saints", "Senior Saints" and the Tuesday Club. It also provides a valuable meeting place for a number of local community groups including: The Mother & Toddler Group, Brownies, Rainbows, Violin Group, Friday Club and Boyne Hill Close Management Committee. In 2018 it continued to provide a temporary home for the "Allsorts Group" while their regular accommodation was being refurbished. The Church also holds celebratory events in the Parish Centre and has provided a warm welcome and hospitality for many visitors including clergy and key speakers. It is also used on occasions for larger Church meetings including the PCC, PMC / MIT and Extended PCC Meetings. The Parish Centre is used regularly by the local community as the venue for events such as children's parties, baptism parties, "celebration of life" gatherings, pre-wedding receptions, drama group rehearsals, Social Services for "Family Conferences" and as a polling station.

The Parish Centre Hire Agreement is reviewed regularly and updated as necessary; the PCC also review and update the hiring fees in light of the running costs of the building and information gathered from time to time from other local Church halls. Janet Emerson, the Booking Clerk, provides a valuable point of contact for both our regular user groups as well as those wishing to make a single booking of the hall. The Parish Centre's financial arrangements are managed extremely ably by the Church's Finance Administrator, Sue Stannett, assisted by Derek Smith, Church Warden. Sylvia Denison and her husband Reg, who is also Artist-in-Residence, continue to provide a valuable service, keeping an eye on the Parish Centre and helping keep the facility clean and tidy.

Any queries or problems experienced by users, regular or otherwise, are brought to the attention of the Parish Office and dealt with as quickly as possible. The Parish Centre Users' Committee has provided a useful forum for discussing the use of the Parish Centre and ways for improving and enhancing this valuable facility in the past. The Committee has not met in 2018, but we look forward to meeting again and re-establishing links with all regular users in 2019.

Stella Harding

Flower Arrangers

2018 saw another year when our beautiful church was enhanced with a lovely display of flowers each week, however, as mentioned on numerous occasions, this could not be

achieved without the members of the congregation who kindly sponsor the flowers each week. Our grateful thanks go out to them all, for their generous sponsorship, the special gift of lilies at Eastertide, and for their continued support, which means that thankfully no church funds are used to decorate the church.

Thanks are due to our fellow team mates, Marian Duncombe, Jean Balchin, Carole Deverill, Valerie Duncombe, Ann Rawlings, Linda Wallbank, Helen Boulter, Alison Leigh and our newest recruit, Helen Graves (not Brian's wife!); their hard work and dedication throughout the year is very much appreciated. Again thanks also go to Alan Ketley and Pauline Hole for setting up the Easter Garden last year, and for decorating our lovely Christmas tree, and setting up the Nativity each year. Special thanks also go to all those who have helped at festivals and other busy times, particularly Brenda Ilott, Pat Church and Wendy Channon, to name but a few. I would also like to extend our thanks to Nash & Sons who each year supply the beautiful Easter lilies which play such an important part in the Easter floral displays for this very important festival, their advice and support is very much appreciated.

The Flower Team together with other volunteers produced the small posies which were blessed and handed out to members of the congregation on Mothering Sunday, a tradition which I am sure all recipients appreciate.

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 you would work with one of these until you 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 which 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? If you are interested and would like more information, please speak to one of the team who will be happy to give you details.

Jo Towers & Barbara Bannister

Tuesday Club

We finished our 2018 programme with Rev Dr Judith Thomas talking in October about Korea and its neighbours. In November we learned about The Thankful Villages of WW1. Our last meeting, which is always enjoyable fun, was Christmas Flowers with our Flower Fairies.

It was decided at the AGM in September 2018 that we would go from two meetings a month to one. I am very pleased to report that our membership has continued to be strong and we have a good programme for 2019.

A big thank you, as always, to Father Jeremy for chairing our AGM.

Linda van den Berghen has been replaced as secretary by Janet Braithwaite. I intend to stand down as Leader this September. Please pray for someone to come forward as leader. I have had wonderful support from the committee. It really is not nearly as hard as being secretary!

Brenda Ilott