



Annual Report 2016/17

All Saints' Church

Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex

www.allsaintsspringfield.org.uk

“A friendly, welcoming church for everyone in the heart of the community”

Introduction

All Saints' Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England and is now registered with the Charity Commissioners, (Charity Registration Number: 1131427). The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish of All Saints' Springfield, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the All Saints' Church Centre complex, part of the Burial Ground in Trinity Road, a Freehold property at 60 Chichester Drive and the internal decoration of the Rectory.

Objectives

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community at All Saints' and to worship at our church. The PCC maintains an overview of worship and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try 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. We make provision for pastoral care to people living in the parish, those on the Church Electoral roll outside the parish, and conduct outreach work in the local community. In support of this we make extensive use of our church and church centre and maintain the buildings.

Parochial Parish Council

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio (e.g. clergy, readers, churchwardens or Synod members), representatives of the laity elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or people co-opted by the PCC for special reasons. During the year 2016 the following served as members of the PCC:

RECTOR and CHAIRMAN:	Revd Susan Iskander
ASSOCIATE MINISTER	Revd Canon Carla Hampton
CHURCHWARDENS:	Mrs Barbara Garside Mr Roger Shilling (<i>Vice chairman</i>)
DIOCESAN SYNOD MEMBERS	Mr Roger Shilling Mr Robin Stevens (<i>PTO Reader</i>)
DEANERY SYNOD MEMBERS	Mrs Barbara Garside Mrs Iris Rudd Mr Dave Gauld (<i>Secretary</i>) Mr Roger McFarland (<i>Licensed Lay Minister</i>)
ELECTED MEMBERS: (until 2019)	Mrs Nicola Howard Mr Nick Milbank Mr Mark Parirenyatwa Mr William Warns
(until 2018)	Mrs Ros Webb Mrs Katrin Bome Ms Marie Copping Mr Colin Brown
(to 2017)	Mrs Paula Hiett Mrs Doreen Cox Mr Richard Brenchley Mrs Valerie Morris Mrs Karen Smith
CO-OPTED	Mr Steve Ashley Mr Roy Alexander (<i>treasurer</i>)

PCC Officers appointed from non-PCC members included the following:

- Planned Giving Recorders: Mr Tim and Mrs Angela Pearce
- Architect: Mr David Ferguson AADipl MPhil RIBA MRTPI
- Independent Examiner: Mr Roger Foreman
- Electoral Roll Officer: Mrs Janet Shilling

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees that meet between full meetings of the PCC so that members of the congregation with particular interest or expertise might have an opportunity to contribute to a broadened discussion.

Standing Committee :

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Finance Committee:

Oversees the general financial dimension of the work of All Saints' by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting, and co-ordinating the annual review of the Christian Stewardship of money through planned giving. It met three times during the year.

Worship Committee:

Keeps under review and develops all aspects of our church worship, including training as required. It met three times during the year.

Pastoral / Outreach Committee:

Overseeing the co-ordination and care of the adult congregation and outreach to, and development of links with, the local community and home and overseas mission agencies. These responsibilities were covered by the Worship Committee.

Fabric Committee:

Attends to matters relating to the stewardship of the church buildings and fabric, the churchyards, the Rectory and the house at 60 Chichester Drive, retained for the use of a Curate, but currently rented out. It met once during the year.

Social Committee:

Responsible for the co-ordination of our catering and social activities. It met informally to arrange catering for church events, such as the Easter breakfast and Harvest 'Bring and share' lunch.

Church Attendance

At the beginning of 2016, electoral roll membership was 246. Following the revision the numbers now stand at 266. The number of worshippers in attendance during the four Sundays in October, which are counted for a variety of statistical purposes, averaged out at 103 adults and 21 Children under years 16 per Sunday. 32 adults and 21 children attended Midweek services. It is also estimated that some 181 worshippers attended church on Easter Day, of whom 129 are known to have taken communion, and that some 954 worshippers attended church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, of whom 120 took communion. 31 individuals (29 children and 2 adults) were baptised in 2016. 10 couples were married. 14 funeral services were held in church. A further 33 funeral services were conducted at the crematorium on behalf of the parish of All Saints' Springfield during the year.

Proceedings of the PCC

The full PCC met six times during the year, it numbered 23 members throughout 2016. An average attendance of 18 members at meetings was achieved.

The PCC and its committees met regularly to debate and agree actions concerning the worship and pastoral activities of the church.

Specifically we agreed five key priorities for 2016.

1. **Young People and Families and Involvement with Schools** – to support and nurture children and young families especially primary school aged children.
2. **Befriending People** – to befriend the bereaved and others needing care; develop a clearer system for following up bereaved families and start a listening and pastoral care course with a view to following up Baptism families and Wedding couples.
3. **Using Our Skills and Gifts** – to develop our discipleship; SHAPE and Discovery courses are run occasionally and people continue to come forward to offer their talents.
4. **Funding Our Mission** – to develop our Christian giving; launched a Giving in Grace programme in September
5. **Work with Other Local Churches** – to work with other churches to develop our Mission & Ministry. All Saints' Springfield is part of the developing North Chelmsford Mission & Ministry Partnership. All Saints' is committed to playing a full part in helping to develop the collaborative working and mission focus of the Unit as it evolves in the coming years.

The Giving in Grace Stewardship program was initiated in September with a five week preaching and teaching series. This was followed by the distribution of information packs and personal letters from the Rector.

A total of 270 letters were delivered. Of the 126 responses received:

- 57 have either indicated an increase in giving or already increased their giving.
- 18 requested further information on Planned Giving.
- 15 requests were received for information on the Parish Giving Scheme.

The total increase expected in Planned Giving donations is £850 per month to which £188 per month can be added from Gift Aid, making a total anticipated annual increase of £12,450, i.e. just over our target of £230 per week. There may be a further increase from those expressing an interest in Planned Giving but have yet to indicate any amount.

Of the requests for Time and Talents, a total of 11 responses were positive, with some offering help in a number of areas, as follows: Children 5, Youth 2, Baptism/Marriage 5, Helping older people 5, Gardening 2.

Church Activities during the year

Worship and Prayer

We are keen to offer a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For example, morning and evening prayers provide a quiet, intimate and reflective environment for worship whilst opportunities are provided for people to engage in more outgoing worship such as that provided by the monthly "Family" service held on the first Sunday of the month. Baptisms are held monthly in the afternoon to accommodate family groups, and the families welcomed at corporate "Family" worship on the 1st Sunday of each month.

Every Wednesday morning during term time, Children in Church continues to provide a valuable opportunity to welcome pre-school children and their carers into the safe and friendly environment of the church, to play and to enjoy a range of other activities, and to join in a short child-friendly service if they wish. It is very popular, with over thirty children and thirty adults coming every week.

The Sunday Special worship service continued to develop with an increasing attendance of young families and children and is now a significant mission activity in the Parish with many regular attendees. The service is designed with children and adults in mind and takes place every Sunday, (except the first of each month), at the same time as the main service. The attendees are able to participate in the Eucharist during second and fourth Sundays and an appropriate Eucharist is now offered during the third Sunday worship. The links with the rest of the congregation are being developed.

The Uniformed youth organisations, BB, Brownies and Guides regularly hold church parades.

The Prayer Ministry team continues to offer personal prayer to those in need. The Mothers' Union send cards to the children on the anniversary of their baptism.

Pastoral Care

The church organisations provide support for anyone seeking help. These activities range from practical befriending and personal prayer support provided by the clergy, at the Priory Hospital (opposite the church), and our Prayer Ministry Team.

The Church Centre is used daily by the Pre-School, providing early years schooling to children from the local community.

The Lunch Club continues to provide our guests with a monthly opportunity for fellowship and friendship while sharing a meal. In addition 'Cuppa & Chat' and 'Chat & do' groups provide a regular opportunity for people of the Parish to meet for fellowship.

The church continues to support services at Lyons Court and The Lawns Nursing Home with worship.

Residents in the parish are encouraged to participate in our activities and 31 individuals, primarily children, were baptised in 2016. The families appreciate these services.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. The church actively supports the Chelmsford Food-Bank, with regular donations of food items, and participates in the Christian Aid collections in the parish. The annual Toy service provides an opportunity for gifts to be given, through the Angel Tree Project, to the children of fathers in the local prison.

350 parishioners take our parish magazine, distributed by a team of volunteers or available at the church centre. It provides news of our activities and articles that help develop our knowledge and trust in Jesus.

Three House Groups provide opportunities for members to meet, study and discuss the Bible and its application to everyday life.

Ros Webb is our schools contact point and arranges all the Christmas services.

- All four schools in the Parish used the Church for their Christmas Carol services again in 2016. The rector opened and closed each of these services .
- Classes from Tyrrells and Perryfields Junior schools visit the church as part of their RE lessons.
- During term time the Rector attends Perryfield Infants and Bishops (church school) for assemblies. Other church members are well connected with Tyrells
- School and Youth Ministry are active in Boswells
- Perryfields schools provided Country Dancing teams at the church summer fete.
- Young people from Priory the attended a service at the Priory led by Canon Carla Hampton (associate Priest).

It would be good to see improved links with clergy in Perryfields Juniors and Tyrells schools and this remains one of PCC priorities.

Work with Children

Work with Children at All Saints' continued during 2016 with:-

- Every Wednesday morning during term time, Children in Church continues to provide a valuable opportunity to welcome pre-school children and their carers into the safe and friendly environment of the church, to play and to enjoy a range of

other activities, and to join in a short child-friendly service if they wish. It is very popular, with over thirty children and thirty adults coming every week.

- Sunday Special, (see 5.2.1 above) an active and enthusiastic attendance on Sundays.
- Boys Brigade meeting weekly, comprising Anchor, Junior, Company and Senior sections. The Rector is now chaplain to the Company.
- Rainbows, Brownies and Guides meeting weekly in the Church Centre.

Church and Church Centre

The church is open on many days of the year for private worship.

The Church Centre is well maintained with accessible rooms and continues to be heavily used by all the Parish Organisations, as well as being used by some 'external' Community-based organisations and Charities. It is available for occasional use by private individuals.

The church is very popular for weddings with 10 couples being married during the year. The families appreciate the music provided by the organist and choir.

Church Relationships

Four members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church of England. This year the PCC has focused its attention on the establishment of North Chelmsford Mission and Ministry Partnership is committed to playing a full part in helping to develop the collaborative working and mission focus of the partnership, including the establishment of ministry in Beaulieu development, as it evolves in the coming years.

Roger Shilling and Robin Stevens kindly provided the PCC with briefings of the proceedings of the Diocesan Synod meetings that were attended throughout the year.

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a member of Churches Together in Chelmsford and regularly participates in ecumenical activities and services.

Parish Organisations

Apart from the activities in and beyond the parish that have received mention in the preceding section of this report, much of the church's activities and mission in the parish is carried out week by week by dedicated people and groups meeting in the Church Centre to pursue a variety of social, educational and recreational activities. Annual reports of the activities of these groups are presented in a separate report.

Role of Volunteers

Our Rector (stipendiary) prepares and conducts the services, supported by an Associate Priest, four Lay Ministers, two Churchwardens and the Church Council, who are all volunteers.

All the activities reported under 5.2.8 are led and supported by unpaid volunteers, including the organization of meetings, booking of speakers, provision of refreshments, etc.

Volunteer workers carry out all Church Center management and Parish administrative functions.

Financial Highlights of 2016:

Giving & income

- In the autumn we held a very successful Christian giving campaign, called Giving in Grace.
- There are 112 members in our Planned Giving Scheme. Planned Giving in 2016 contributed over £80,000, with associated Gift Aid providing an additional £19,000 of income tax reclaimed from the taxman.
- The cash in collection bags provided income of £6,000.
- The successful fete and bazaar raised over £5,000.
- The use of the church centre generated £10,000.
- As usual the church was popular for weddings, and wedding and funeral fees provided a net income of £5,000.
- Advertising in the church magazine provided income of £1,400 with the sales of the magazine more than covering the print costs.
- The house we own in Chichester Drive provided rental income of almost £10,000, which represents a good return on the capital tied up in the property.

What we spent

- We were again able to pay our parish share of over £106,000 in full.
- We were able to pay the usual bills to heat, light and insure the church buildings.
- We are very fortunate that generally the maintenance of the church buildings is covered by the remainder of a large legacy given some years ago which is restricted to that use, and by grants we can request from a trust set up for that purpose. In 2016 we spent £5,000 on repairs to the church centre from the General Fund.
- We gave £200 to the Bishop's School again this year.

Charitable giving

Many charities were supported by collections at services and events held in the year including Angel Tree Project, The Children's Society, Church Army, Mission to Seafarers, CMS, Embrace, Chelmsford YMCA, CHESS, Macmillan Cancer Support and the Royal British Legion. The amount donated was £4,996, and some of this was also Gift Aided.

Setting something aside

Mainly due to increased giving, we ended the year with a surplus on the General Fund of £6,800. From this we have made prudent provisions totaling £6,000 for future expenditure on repairs at the rectory and Chichester Drive; and towards the cost of new lighting in the church. These are additions to designated reserves. This leaves the balance of £800 to be added the general fund reserve.

Summary of the accounts for 2016

We will hold our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 23rd April at 6.30pm . Will you be there to hear how our Church has progressed in the past year (not just financially) and to learn of its future mission? Moneywise the required Statutory Report & Accounts will be presented as required. They do not include however the financial detail of that important GENERAL ACCOUNT which covers the day-to-day running of the Church to maintain its mission. To remedy that and to reach a wider readership it is summarised below.

	INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
	£	£	£	£
Planned giving	80,772	79,836	Diocesan overall cost of	
Income Tax recovered	19,113	18,799	an incumbent	45,510
General collections	<u>6,181</u>	<u>7,471</u>	Contribution to the diocese	<u>60,709</u>
Sub-total	<u>106,066</u>	<u>106,106</u>	Total parish share paid	<u>106,219</u>
Wedding/Funeral fees	5,127	5,392	Church services/Youth activities	6,359
Fete, Bazaar & other events	6,393	6,477	Admin, incl. printing/stationery	1,390
Magazine sales	3,195	3,231	Burial ground/gardens	813
Use of Church Centre	10,010	10,693	Clergy and rectory expenses	1,608
Rent	9,800	10,490	Magazine costs	1,545
Grants	470	470	Church heat, light, telephone, & insurance	8,004
In memoriam	–	218	Other building expenses	5,831
Other	931	546	Charity donations excluding special collections	200
			Costs re events	79
			Other	<u>3,144</u>
TOTAL	<u>141,992</u>	<u>143,623</u>	TOTAL	<u>135,192</u>
				<u>141,071</u>

At this stage our income exceeds our expenditure by £6,800. Consideration was then given to likely commitments in 2017. The Finance Committee recommended that the Church Council should appropriate this surplus as follows:

- £1,000 to the Rectory Dilapidations Fund.
- £1,000 to the Freehold Property Dilapidations Fund.
- £2,000 to the Church Fabric Fund
- £2,000 to the Church Furnishings etc Fund

The remaining £800 increases our Reserve to £12,782. This Reserve compares to our monthly expenditure which in 2017 can exceed £11,500.

Roy Alexander – Hon Treasurer