

REIGATE PARISH CHURCH

St Mary Magdalene with the Heath Church

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2021

Monday 26th April 2021, 8.00pm to 9.30pm

St Mary's Church and online via zoom

YEAR IN REVIEW 2020

We hope you will join us for our **APCM on Monday 26th April at 7.45pm for a prompt 8.00pm start**. This meeting will be an opportunity for us to look back over the year, celebrate what God has been doing in this place, and prepare ourselves for what God has in store for us in the year ahead. It's an important meeting in our Church family life.

We would love you to take time to read the following reports in the week ahead. This meeting will also be your opportunity to elect members of our Parochial Church Council (please note that you must be on the electoral roll to be able to stand or to vote).

We really hope you will join us for this very important event in our Church calendar.



Richard Wilson

REIGATE PARISH CHURCH WITH THE HEATH CHURCH Annual Parochial Church Meeting AGENDA

Monday 26th April 2021 in the Church & Online

VESTRY MEETING TO APPOINT CHURCHWARDENS

1. Welcome & Introduction
2. Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Introduction to those standing for PCC
3. Election of 10 members to the PCC
4. Minutes of last APCM: September 2020 (taken as read)
5. Matters Arising
6. Churchwardens' summary – Leslie Jackson
7. Treasurer's Report & presentation of audited accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020 – Alastair Ruby
8. Matters arising from Annual Report | A Year in Review
Churchwarden's / Finance Report / AV Upgrade Report / PCC / Deanery Synod /
Diocesan Synod Report / Electoral Roll Officer's Report
9. Vicar's Report - Seeing God changing lives, families, and churches, again and again
Richard Wilson

Annual Reports 2021

CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT

It was only September 2020 that we held our last APCM and wrote our Wardens report. Therefore, there is only a period of just months to review and reflect on; and it is fair to say that the last 6 months have not been easy for anyone particularly given the Winter season and the ongoing restrictions that we as a Church Community have had to live with. A message that was shared with the PCC which is so true and encouraging now and for always said this:

There is no lockdown on the Holy Spirit.

There is no lockdown on mission - We may be limited in how we can gather in our church buildings but we are still God's people with a mission in his world.

There is no lockdown on a 'thank you' note on top of the bins, on a nod to a stranger passing two metres away, on a text to a friend, on reading a psalm with before the start of a workday, on offering an understanding smile to a red-eyed parent at the school gate, on leaving a meal, a cake, a Kit-Kat on a doorstep, on inviting a friend/neighbour to a YouTube service, to a mince pie outside your front door, to Zoom charades...

There is no lockdown on prayer.

We may not be able to go to our friend, our family, our neighbour, but are not the Lord's ears open?

There is no lockdown on grace.

There is no lockdown on access to the Father.

No lockdown on Jesus.

And no lockdown on the Holy Spirit. He goes where He wills.

Hallelujah!

So, whilst there is so much that we weren't able to do, it is so important to recognise and celebrate what we, as a Church body, have done in the last 6 months and want to give thanks to God for:

- The virtual **Alpha course**, on-line, for over 300 people in which friendships with strangers have been formed and people have journeyed deeper into their relationship with God.
- The **Foodbank drop-off** which has supported the central foodbank at St Matthews.
- The amazing work, services and resources that our **Children, Youth and Next Generation Ministers** have worked so hard to put in place - our youth and children's work simply hasn't stopped!
- **The team of cooks** within the Church family who have provided literally 100's of meals for those in need – young and old alike.

- The **Cherish Team** who have continued to send out encouragement through newsletters, cards, life-stories, gifts and words of encouragement through these difficult times.
- The **Prayer chain** who have prayed so faithfully
- The **Prayer Course** that has run on-line over the past 2 months
- Our **Tech Team** (thanks to our wonderful team of young technical heroes) who have enabled us to livestream our services
- The **Girl's brigade**, who under the leadership of Rachel Pearce have continued to keep in touch and are really excited about meeting up again in the summer.
- The technology to allow our 4.00 pm services every week for the **Heath Church** and others
- The technology to allow the various **Life Groups** and **Bible Study groups** to continue to meet
- The continuity and support of our **St Mary's Global team** with our Mission Partners

During this period we have also said farewell to some key staff members from their roles (not from Church!) – **Kate Emeny, Viv Hawes** and **Nikki Roessler**. Over the last 10 years they have served us so faithfully through significant change and development in our Church. We are very grateful for their amazing contribution and hard work, often unseen, and thankful for them.

We are also delighted to welcome **Simon Kruger** as our new Head of Operations and two new part-time Administrators, **Louise** and **Bex**. Please continue to pray for all our Clergy, Ministry Leaders and the new Administration Team as they support us, particularly as we now move to re-open and return to our buildings and what will inevitably be, a new normality.

We would also like to say a huge thankyou to the **PCC members** and those co-opted to the PCC, and all the amazing team of **Finance volunteers** who, on your behalf, serve us all so faithfully to ensure our church finances, buildings and statutory requirements are met – as well as so much else!

As always, it has been a privilege for us to serve you as Church Wardens and we thank you for your love, encouragement, support and prayers which are so deeply appreciated and sustaining.

Finally, Lynwen, who has been our Church Warden for over six years, will be stepping down at this APCM.

“It has been a true privilege and blessing for me to be able to serve God through this role over the 6 or more years and I am very excited about what God has planned for our Church going forward. Thanks to so many of you for your encouragement, support and prayers.”

Love and blessings

Lynwen and Leslie.

Richard adds

It's difficult to know where to start in thanking Lynwen for all that she has been for us as a church over these past 14 years – being part of the PCC, the building project and serving as Church Warden. It's not just the amount of time that Lynwen has given (literally thousands of hours), nor the level of expertise she brings (she is so incredibly gifted), but it's also the way that she has done all that she has done over the years – her energy, commitment, generosity, humility, humour, joyfulness, encouragement, belief, sensitivity, and so much more.

When I arrived, Tim and Lynwen together, were my rocks. They have been my go-to people in all things, and I am so grateful to them both. We all owe them both such a debt of gratitude and personally I can't thank them enough for what they have brought and welcomed me into.

Along with David, who has been so brilliant in support through it all, Lynwen has offered her leadership gifts to us with incredible generosity and love, and I am so thankful. I am only glad that she is not going anywhere and will always be at the end of the phone. We pray for her as she takes a breath and seeks God for where to put her energies and gifts next.

FINANCE REPORT

The finance function comprises a team of wonderful volunteers who do so much for us behind the scenes.

However, we are undergoing major changes this year as we are saying goodbye and thank-you so much to **Fiona Gent**, our deputy treasurer who for the last 15 years or so has prepared our annual budgets, monthly and annual accounts and carried out a mass of finance related admin jobs. She has given us countless days of volunteer work over this time. We are so grateful. **Mark Randall** has very kindly agreed to undertake the accounting and budgeting functions and **David Ilott** now deals with many day-to-day matters and with all the basic bookkeeping. **Su Rodgers** continues to manage our Gift Aid claims, **Piers Vaughan** is also coming to the end of his time as our payroll manager. He will be replaced in house by **Simon Kruger**. **Michael Heneker** looks after the Heath Church collections and finances. We are fortunate to have such a strong Finance Team and our sincere thanks go to each of them.

Monthly accounts, the annual budget and updated forecasts are prepared and presented to the PCC.

The annual accounts for 2020 have been audited and will be presented at the APCM. A copy is posted on the Church website under 'Giving' and then 'Annual Accounts 2020'. May I refer you particularly to the '**Financial Review of the year**' on pages 6-8, which is summarised below.

- Our Finances for 2020 were of course substantially affected by the Covid 19 measures, which resulted in both income and expenditure reducing significantly, income by 12% from £771K to £679K and revenue expenditure by 12% from £727K to

£643K. So income exceeded expenditure by £36K or 5.3% of income. This sum, together with depreciation of £19K is added to our General Reserve, but from this figure we have to deduct Fixed Asset purchases, mainly on the AV System, of £15K so the General Reserve increased to £173K, a very healthy level to provide a base for our intended activities in 2021 and for the day to day running of the Church. We have much to thank God for.

- Income from giving remained constant at £506K, thanks in particular to a small number of very generous donors who increased their regular giving or gave lump sums to compensate for falls in Offertories and Church Centre rentals. We also received income of £108K from Gift Aid tax recoveries, and £18K from Church and Church Centre bookings, the latter being a substantial drop from the £61K received in 2019.
- By far the largest expense continues to be the Diocesan Share to which we contributed £238K or 37% of our total expenditure. Staff costs took up £202K, £5K more than in 2019. Payments to Mission partners and other donations amounted to £68K. Although many costs reduced as a result of Covid 19, we did spend more on technical support for live-streamed services and on training younger staff members.
- The funds received from the Peggy Caffyn-Tees legacy for St Mary's continue to be invested with CCLA, which specialises in investment of funds for Charities, particularly for Church of England funds. Their market value at 31st December was £331K. Accumulated income of £33K is available for use in 2021 and future years on maintenance of Church Fabric. The Heath Church also has available funds from this legacy of £10K at the end of 2020.

Looking ahead, our finances in 2021 continue to be impacted by the Covid 19 lockdown. Income from several sources, including Planned Giving continues at a lower level than previously. However, many expenses are also reduced and we have again benefitted from the Government's furlough scheme. We are currently expecting to end the year a small but manageable deficit.

As usual, I would like to conclude with a huge thank-you to everyone who has given so generously in 2020.

Alastair Rubie-Treasurer

ST MARY'S AV UPGRADE PROJECT

An upgrade to the church AV(audio/visual) system has been progressed in phases during 2020 / 2021, and will be completed this year (2021). This was necessary to meet the immediate needs to provide online services due to lockdown. However, it is also as part of the longer-term plan for the church:

- Enables a more accessible church offering (eg: live streaming of services and events)
- Flexibility of usage of space (multiple plug-in points)
- Quality of output (stable / high quality visuals and sound)
- Future proofing in terms of technology advancements

The project will cost ~£40k in total, and is overseen by a small working group including representatives from the PCC.

Much of the upgrade will be 'unseen' as we have used existing cabling routes or have replaced existing equipment. An obvious change will be the presence of cameras in church, and a planned new extended Tech Desk at the back of church.

The scope of the project has included:

- New Software (Pro-Presenter) for the management & display of words / visuals / streaming to YouTube
- New cameras
- New PC's to enable visuals and live streaming
- New vision mixer to enable live streaming
- New side projectors
- New technical desk (still to implement)
- HD cabling / connections in the building

The project has progressed to plan and overall budget, and the bulk of the work should be completed by mid-year.

Training of tech team has started.

Specific thanks to **Alex Coveney, Olly Brown and Sam Johnson** for their significant contribution in supporting the ongoing live-streaming of services, and inputs into this project

Mark Johnson

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

Last year there were 506 names on the Electoral Roll, 37% of people on the roll live within the parish & 63% outside it. If you are considering standing for election onto next year's PCC please make sure your name is on the electoral roll by the end of March 2022.

Simon Kruger

PCC REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020/21

The PCC met four times from October 2020 to March 2021. (all virtually, using Zoom)
There are several sub-groups which have mostly continued to meet as appropriate and possible. These are:

- Finance/stewardship
- Heath Church
- Fabric and facilities
- St Mary's Global
- Centre management team
- Deanery/Diocesan synod
- Standing committee
- Eco Church
- Safeguarding

As well as regular finance and PCC sub-group updates, there has been discussion on the possible appointment of a Head of Family Discipleship, currently on hold. More recently the upgrading of the AV system has been approved, stage by stage, and a church 'road map' of how the re-opening of church and centre will be managed.

The approved minutes of PCC meetings are usually available for all to read in folders at the back of church (both St Mary's & The Heath) but are, at present, available on request to the office.

Joy Perrett (PCC Secretary)

PCC Members 2020/2021

Clergy	Richard Wilson Kate Capper Nigel Griffiths Erin Gilmour Helen Fraser
Churchwardens	Lynwen Plowman Leslie Jackson
Deanery Synod members	Peter Chesterton Peter Darwent Gareth Evans Liz Gunn Mark Johnson Ian Nott Philippa Parry
Diocesan Synod	Leslie Jackson

Elected	Tom Andrew Becky Beggs Ali Brown Katie Cornish Andy Course (Now moved away) Andrew Morgan Gogo Moore Nick Rayner Alastair Rubie Margaret Wood
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DEANERY SYNOD REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020/21

Your elected members are: Peter Chesterton, Peter Darwent, Gareth Evans, Liz Gunn, Mark Johnston, Ian Nott, Philippa Parry. Leslie Jackson is also on the Synod as the Lay Chair. (Jeremy Good, Wendy Gregory and Nick Pettitt stepped down in September 2020). Much of our work is centred on the Deanery Mission Action Plan: **'CONNECTING LOCAL CHURCHES, CHRIST CENTRED DISCIPLES, CREATIVE IN MISSION'**

Our focus in the deanery is to support our local churches in delivering the **"five marks of mission"**

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Here are some of the ideas we are planning/already doing:

- **Mental Health Forum** –providing training for those working with youth/young people and possibly also pastoral support for adults.
- **ECO Church** – part of the "Creative in Mission" commitment. Would like to connect ECO Church Champions from each church to move this forward. (more on what we are doing at St. Mary's later)
- Children & Youth - **Youth Champions** continue to meet across the deanery. We would like to create develop a wider forum to share ideas on youth across the deanery.
- **Thy Kingdom Come** – This is on hold; however, we would like to host some bigger and better attended events across the deanery next year.
- Continue to encourage churches to support **food banks** such as the one at St. Matthew's and 'Loveworks'.

- Reigate Archdeaconry **Social Justice Focus** (RASJF). There is a Modern Slavery webinar on 24th April 9.30 to 11.45am. Click here for tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rasjf-modern-slavery-webinar-tickets-139172339213?aff=erelexpmlt> They have some excellent speakers.

St Mary's is one of the biggest churches in the deanery and have the potential to be a huge influence in the life and witness of the church in Reigate and Redhill. We hope that as we work together and as we work with other denominations, we will spread God's love and compassion with more zeal and effectiveness.

DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT

Your elected members are: Nigel Griffiths and Leslie Jackson

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH (LLF)

One of the main challenges in the coming year will be to engage with the LLF initiative: **LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH (LLF)** - Christian teaching and learning about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

Bishop Jonathan is leading on this initiative in Southwark. The call is for us as congregations to engage with these issues:

- Our mission is in the context of society's changing perspectives and practices, especially in relation to lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and intersex people.
- Gender and sexuality are intrinsic to everyone's experience. This is about us all as human beings created and loved by God.
- The mission and life of our church are affected by the deep, and sometimes painful, disagreements among us, which challenge our calling to be one body.

ANTI-RACISM CHARTER (ARC)

'There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus'. Galatians 3:28.

As a church, we were challenged to think about the racial makeup of our congregations.

- Does the Church have a blind spot when it comes to race?
- Have you discussed racial injustice issues in your church?
- How do you promote racial equality and inclusion in your church?

ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS UPDATE

The diocese is aiming for all churches to be at least at the bronze stage of Eco-Church by 2025. St. Mary's Reigate are well on the way to the silver accreditation, if you would like to join our Eco-Church group, please contact Leslie Jackson.

Leslie Jackson