

A L L S A I N T S C H U R C H

Boyne Hill, Maidenhead

To encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Welcome to the Annual Report of All Saints Church, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead

We are an Anglican Church, part of the Church of England Diocese of Oxford in the UK. We welcome all to our church whether you would like to come to a service, a course or event, or are interested in our history.

Our Vision:

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

Fr Jeremy's Report

During the year the ministry team and the PCC tried to discern the vision for All Saints, Boyne Hill.

The mission statement the ministry team have put forward is as follows;

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

Pope Francis in his series of talks shared in 2013 on the subject of 'What is the Church?' shared some challenging thought's. In one of his addresses Francis asked 'What is God's plan? It is to make us all a single family of his children, in which each person feels that God is close and feels loved by him,' as in the Gospel parable of the Prodigal Son. Pope Francis goes on to say 'The Church is born from God's wish to call all people to communion with him, to friendship with him, indeed, to share in his own divine life as his sons and daughters. He continues by saying, 'God impels us come out of our individualism, from our tendency to close ourselves into ourselves, and he calls us to belong to his family.'

Pope Francis challenges Christian communities to 'Fall in love with the Church'. 'Let us ask ourselves today, how much do I love the Church? Do I pray for her? Do I feel part of the family of the Church? What do I do to ensure that she is the community in which each one feels welcome and understood, feels the mercy and love of God who renews life?'

The communion model that we have attempted to live at All Saints asks us to partake of the Body of Christ to become the Body of Christ in the world. At the Eucharist we are joined one with God and with each other and are charged to be a light to the world following our Baptismal promises. Can we continue our pilgrim journey at All Saints encouraging and supporting people of all ages to faith and relationship with Jesus.

In this annual report you will find many ways that we are attempting to meet our former Bishop of Oxford's vision of the 5 themes of Living Faith from the understanding of Pope Francis' vision and the communion model. I am not going to go through these examples in detail as they will be found in the individual reports that follow but here is a flavour.

The Sacred Centre

- We have in the last year continued to discern ways in which we can reach out to people through our worship;
- The newly formed worship group that looks at how we might better plan our services over a 12 month period. Please read the report on this new group.
- Alpha course which led to the wonderful confirmation service with Bishop Andrew late last year.

Making Disciples

- Alpha and the Pilgrim courses.
- Open the Book teams in schools
- Baptism preparation
- Tiny Saints, Young Saints and Café Church

Making a difference in the world

- Schools ministry including Open the Book and our school governors
- The Larchfield ministry including the summer club, Larchfield Open table, Larchfield Care Home , listening to children read at the school and OTB.
- Support of OAK in Kenya.
- Other charitable work including Christian Aid.
- Food share
- Individuals who support the Homeless group, the Christmas dinner at Bray, prison chaplaincy and Street Angels.
- Creating Vibrant Christian Communities
- The summer fete that draws many people from the wider community.
- The Christmas and Easter services including the Salvation Army Band in Advent.
- The pilgrimage to Walsingham
- The Mothers' Union
- Tuesday Club

- The Men of Boyne Hill

Shaping confident, collaborative ministry

- The ministry team and wardens
- The office staff
- Baptism and Marriage preparation teams.
- Choir and serving teams
- Hospitality, and cleaning teams Those who help with rotas, service booklets, preparing flowers, bell ringers, sacristans, director of music and musicians.
- Sidespeople, school governors.
- I am sure I have left ministerial tasks out of those lists but can I take the opportunity to express my thanks to all of you that play your part as members of the family of God at All Saints.
- With my love and prayers,

Fr Jeremy

PCC Report

Roderick Broad and Stella Harding

The PCC has met on 7 occasions in the year following last year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting, one of which was a short meeting to elect the PCC Officers and Standing Committee. The Standing Committee has met several times to prepare for PCC meetings and transact occasional business between PCC meetings.

The PCC appointed Peter May, with Lynn May assisting, as Treasurer and Christine Watts as PCC Secretary, along with Joanne Shephard as PCC Minutes Secretary. The Standing Committee comprised Fr. Jeremy, the Treasurer and assistant, the Secretary, and both Churchwardens.

Our team of Sides Persons performs a valuable role in welcoming people to the Church and helping the services run smoothly. We are fortunate to have had new members join us in 2014 and we ran training/refresher/discussion groups for all our Sides People which has proved beneficial.

During the year we continued the practice of holding planning meetings with our extended PCC (our PCC and the people who also carry out a major role in the operation of the Church). Three meetings were held on Saturday mornings and focused upon the All Saints Mission/Action plan, the beneficial role of Small Groups within All Saints and development/replacement of the All Saints website. We also held planning meetings looking at our Sunday Worship which followed on from a feedback questionnaire completed by our congregation. One of these planning discussion meetings was opened out to the wider congregation and was attended by approx. 60 people.

The review of Sunday Worship has helped develop a diverse range of services which have been complemented by the "Rock Shop" group and the introduction of Café Church, in conjunction with our Young Saints and Crèche Facility. The PCC also authorised the purchase of a range of instruments for use by our Rock Shop and other musicians at a cost of approx. £2,500. These are now installed in the Church and will be used to help develop our variety of music during services.

Matters relating to the fabric of the Church and associated buildings are covered in the Fabric Report, and financial matters are covered by the PCC Accounts. The PCC has sought to both inform the congregation of our financial position and to raise the profile of the Planned Giving Scheme during the year.

Following Revd Debbie Davison's move to another parish to continue her ministry and training, the PCC, having taken the decision to sell the property purchased for her ministry in Larchfield, completed this sale. The sale price achieved allowed the Parish to repay all loans and grants received for this purchase and left a financial surplus for the Parish. Full financial details of this sale is reported on in the PCC Accounts.

The parish continues with our extensive outreach work, including "Open the Book", assisting with reading at Larchfield School, services and pastoral activity at Larchfield Nursing Home, extended communion at other local nursing homes, baptism preparation, Tiny Saints and Young Saints along with many Home Communion. These have all continued thanks to many willing and enthusiastic helpers and colleagues.

All Saints is blessed with a very large number of people who voluntarily work to keep our wonderful and spiritual Church operating and to support Fr. Jeremy in our mission. There are too many people to list and the PCC records its thanks to all those who help with these activities, and those who continue to develop the vision of how All Saints can embody the love and grace of Christ to those in our local community.

Churchwardens Annual Fabric Report : April 2015

This has been another busy year, mainly due to heating issues within the Church, preparation and investigative work for the pending repairs to the SW Corner and repairs, updates, replacements and improvements to the rented properties. Much thanks must go to our small Resources team who have been excellent in carrying out minor works and maintenance and have saved the Parish significant sums of money. Thanks also go to the members of our congregation who undertake gardening to keep our grounds in order and regularly cut the Quadrangle grass.

CHURCH

Church Heating

We have again suffered failures to the heating system boiler. The first one was from a failed Heat Exchanger and the second from a failed PCB controller.

Our current Heating Contractor (Austin Heat, who must be congratulated on their support and fast response) undertook the repairs needed to keep the heating operational. Each repair, with parts, cost around £1,000 (incl. VAT). We did manage to negotiate another contribution of £453 from Ideal Standard towards the poor quality Heat Exchanger (supplied from Ideal Standard, although not accepted faulty as such by them). This contribution will not be repeated due to the age of the boiler.

It should be noted that the boiler we use (Keston C110, effectively two boilers in one case) is no longer manufactured (since Keston have been taken over by Ideal Standard) and there are numerous reports of failure. Whilst the boiler should remain operational for a few more years, with good maintenance, there is no guarantee, either of no failure, or, in event of failure, of parts availability (the boiler has now been installed for eight years).

As we have had three total failures within two years the PCC have lost confidence in the boiler continuing to operate as needed and have approved its replacement during 2015. A rough budget for a replacement is £10,000 (ex VAT). The process of obtaining quotations is in place and the PCC, along with our Stewardship Group, will be investigating the best method of raising/providing funds for this planned replacement.

SW Corner Repairs

As commented last year, preparing for this repair has been a protracted process. Investigations of the drains, via radar and by digging, was undertaken and an inspection cover was fitted to facilitate rodding and inspection by TV. The cover is in the Calvary Garden. The damp proof course around the West end of the church had been exposed to enable the masonry to dry out and the drains have been repaired.

The scope of repair to the SW Corner has now been established with our Architect and the Structural Engineer and quotations received, compared, and a preferred contractor identified.

A public notice has been posted for the faculty needed which will be completed during April 2015, along with the finalisation of the claim to the insurance company.

As the damage was not due to subsidence, rather by earth movement due to water, this has now stabilised and the repairs required are less than was originally anticipated. The cost of the repairs is currently estimated at £12,500 and, assuming the insurance claim is successful, the exposure for All Saints is the policy excess of £1,000 (plus any minor associated costs incurred).

Stained Glass

In March 2013 it was noticed that several fragments of glass were missing from the cinquefoil windows on the South side of the Nave. Our Architect, Roderick McLellan has been twice to see the problem. We have found the largest pieces- two halves of the St Cecilia angel's head and surrounding glory. These can be repaired, and are stored in the Parish Office. The two pieces from the angel's head show that one is in clean condition but the other covered with algae. This may suggest that the piece cracked and separated some time ago.

It would be sensible to arrange these repairs at the same time as the SW Corner repairs for ease of access; Chapel Studios will be asked to assess the situation and offer a quotation when they have the go ahead for replacing the Window in the SW Corner. Should the repairs needed be extensive then sources of grants to support the cost will be investigated.

Church Floor

The Church Floor is in a poor condition with some cracked and missing tiles. Some of the broken tiles were re-affixed by our resources team; however this work proved too extensive to continue. Investigations are underway to source replacement tiles and, should this prove successful, we will investigate the best method of repair at that stage.

Leak from Tower Water Tank

The "old" Water Tank feed to the "old" heating was from a tank in the Bell Tower, which was not removed (due to cost and access) when the old heating was replaced several years ago.

The feed pipe to this tank was found to be leaking where it entered through the North Porch wall. Unfortunately the isolating valve in the Churchyard was not operational and a new chamber and new isolating valves were installed. Whilst these were being installed the vibration moved the leaking pipe, exposing the leak from the brickwork and the North Porch was flooded - this was from water stored in the old tank. The feed to this old tank has now been disconnected and the remains of the water in the tank emptied, which should prevent further risk of leakage. Unfortunately the empty tank and the old, unused, pipes still remain in situ.

An additional isolating valve has also been installed to enable the boiler house to be isolated from outside in the event of damage/leak occurring. The outside water tap was also replaced at the same time as this was stiff and dripping.

Gutters and Trees

Gutters were cleaned and inspected as agreed with English Heritage.

Birinus Garden and Fences

The garden was generally in a poor condition and members of our congregation weeded and cleared the area to allow the necessary work required to re-establish and improve it, along with regular gardening work needed to maintain it. Hopefully the restoration of the garden will be completed during 2015

Notice Board

The Church Notice Board (by the entry to the Quadrangle) was in a poor condition and has been replaced by a new, weatherproofed, board.

Insurance Inspection

An inspection was carried out by our Insurance Company during the year. This covered the condition of the property along with policies and practices in place for Health and Safety and Fire Risk. It is pleasing to note that these met the insurance company's standards with a change being implemented for when we have lone working in the Church.

The Church was also revalued (on a re-building basis) and the insurance cover has been increased from approx. £9 million to £12million for the Church building.

Quinquennial Inspection

Our Quinquennial Inspection is due this year and initial discussions are underway with Roderick, our Architect. This is on hold at the moment pending moving to repair of the SW corner. The PCC have approved progressing with this when the claim for the SW Corner has been submitted.

Interment Plots

A note for 2015 in respect of the Churchyard. Whilst the All Saints Church cemetery is closed to new burials there is an area, approved by faculty, which allocates an agreed space for cremation interments. The faculty was based upon a plan drawn up by the Borough in 1989. We are reaching a situation where the agreed space is becoming exhausted and we may run out of space for future interments.

The Borough's Cemeteries Officer and the Diocese have advised that there is no objection to applying for a new faculty to extend the space allocated to interment of Ashes. Discussions are underway to decide whether the Borough, or All Saints, applies for this faculty and to ensure that we have marked up plans for the agreed extension along with other required documents.

PARISH CENTRE

Floor repairs. – The floor in the Parish Centre was replaced during the year.

Roof Leaks and Glass – Various repairs have been carried out to Roof Leaks and to replace cracked glass.

PROPERTIES

During the year there were numerous repairs needed for the rented properties, covering leaks, replacement equipment, repairs to windows and guttering, replacement of damp plaster and roof tile replacements. These were all carried out, or organised, by our resources team.

Some roof work has also been identified as needed above Flat No1, in conjunction with the chimney; this is being carried out in March 2015.

Investigation of the potential for additional insulation of the properties has shown this to not be viable. Investigation of the requirements and cost of installing central heating into flat No.1 has also shown this to not be viable at this time.

No 3

No.3 was scheduled for a long overdue replacement of the kitchen along with replacement carpets. With our tenant moving out, as they could not afford a rent review, the PCC took the opportunity to also update the bathroom, add a new toilet, and update the doors along with various needed minor works. Our resources team has also carried out extensive minor repairs and decorations.

The property has now been marketed at a market rate and a new tenant is in the process of completing the required documents. This will also mean that the only void period of the property will be that needed to have completed the updates. This work is almost completed and carpets are due to be laid in the last week of March 2015.

93 Brunel Road. - The sale of this property for £295,000 generated the surplus that has enabled repairs to be carried out and also to invest in updating No.3, leading to an increase in rental income.

This was a one-off opportunity and we should not assume such monies will be available in the future without appropriate fund raising or increases in planned giving.

Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod represents all the Church of England parishes in the Deanery of Maidenhead and Windsor. Representatives are elected from each parish, and meet regularly to discuss matters of common concern across the parishes. The Deanery also manages the collection of the Parish Share from each parish – the Parish Share is the contribution made towards central funds, mainly to cover clergy stipends (pay), training and pensions, but also the management of the Diocese and the General Synod. The Synod met on four occasions in 2014.

The Synod used the year to reflect on the theme of “Shaping Confident Collaborative Leadership” from the Diocesan Living Faith initiative. At its March meeting, Jim Barker of the Church Mission Society gave a presentation and led discussion on “Pioneer Leadership” for mission in the UK, exploring issues such as what style of leadership is appropriate for different mission contexts, and how can leadership build upon existing skills and resources and be relevant to the local context.

At the June meeting, Revd Dr Amanda Bloor spoke of her work as Director of Ordinands within the Diocese, exploring themes of Christian vocation (all Christians have a vocation by virtue of their baptism, and this will change and develop through life).

In September, the Synod was given a talk by Revd Capt Nigel Kinsella, Padre to the Household Cavalry Regiment. He looked at the issue of leadership through the eyes of an experienced military chaplain, including his work as one of ten chaplains posted with troops in Afghanistan in 2013, but also explained the vital role of military chaplains in other contexts.

The final meeting of 2014 had a slightly different – but extremely topical – feel, as three Muslims spoke about “What it is like to be a Muslim in the UK today”.

On other matters during the year, an Updated Deanery Mission Action Plan – with updates provided by all parishes, including All Saints – is nearing completion; and the Synod said goodbye to Martin Chandler as Lay Chair (Martin will be well known to many at All Saints, and has been an extremely effective and supportive Lay Chair over many years). I suspect Martin will still be seen giving of his time around Deanery and Diocese in other roles in the months to come. He has been replaced as Lay Chair by John Sykes from The Cookhams. Finally, the plans for forming a United Benefice between St Mary’s Maidenhead and White Waltham have been moving forward through the inevitable legal processes involved.

The Deanery Synod meetings are open to all, so if anyone is interested in knowing what topics are coming up or wishes to attend on a regular basis, just ask myself or Fr Jeremy. Each church, including All Saints, has representatives on the Synod.

John Ainslie
8 March 2015

The Larchfield Mission

The ministry at Larchfield has developed through building links with neighbouring parishes and ecumenically alongside River Church. Every 6 weeks a group of people meet at All Saints vicarage to discuss the hopes for ministry in the community.

At the school a team of people from churches across the town are now in the 7th year of sharing Open the Book. This is a wonderful opportunity to share the stories from the Bible through acting, reading and mime. It also offers the chance to involve children and they particularly enjoy the opportunity to play a role in front of their friends.

For the last 4-5 years a group of people (again from churches across the town) have planned a summer club at the school. This has involved creative activities, singing, sports, with a biblical theme running through it. Alice Gilbert the URC youth worker has been outstanding in the role of planning the material and we hope that this ministry will continue to flourish.

River Church has been superb in their mission activities in Larchfield. Larchfield Open Table which has been running for over 2 years through the support of an ecumenical team and has been sharing activities, hot meals, a Biblical story and offers a chance for people to share concerns and prayer needs. Linda from the River Church has developed this project with the support of Alice and folk from food share providing the meals. It is good to be able to report that a good number from All Saints do offer support at LOT.

Another area of ministry is the Larchfield Care Home where Elizabeth Bryson has developed a wonderful pastoral ministry to the people there. Elizabeth offers a service every fortnight but also visits between 15-20 residents in their rooms to pray with them individually. The home now consider Elizabeth to be their chaplain and this has developed further with Elizabeth and Fr Neil offering support to people at the end of their lives.

During the last couple of years the ministry team have offered a Christmas club in early December. Alice again offers the material and helps support the activities for the children.

River Church apart from running a very successful weekend of activities in August are now running a Mothers' and Toddlers group, an Easter event and are looking to run a Messy Church in the future.

It is exciting to be a part of this shared ministry.

With my prayers,

Fr Jeremy

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, popular 11–18 age range (roll of 780), 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 converted to an Academy in 2012 and ever since has looked to develop opportunities for its students to reach new heights. Its 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

Gospel Values

Altwood School is built on Gospel values and as such will strive to bring the teaching and vision of Jesus to bear on every aspect of the school community and society with which it comes into contact.

Jesus' main teaching is to Love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

The love shown is called Agape Love - the conscious decision to be actively concerned with the wellbeing of another - whoever they are and whatever their need.

'In everything you do, do to others as you would have them do to you'

Bearing this in mind, the term 'Gospel values' refers to qualities such as

- Justice
- Truth
- A commitment to community
- Faith
- Service
- Servant leadership
- Forgiveness
- Peace
- Hope
- Charity
- Reverence
- A sense of wonder
- Dignity
- Endurance
- Compassion
- Joy

As a community represented by many faiths and cultures, we all share, and work to put into practice, these common Gospel values.

At the start of this academic year, a new House system was introduced and reflecting 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's newly refurbished (and dedicated in 2013) School Chapel. Throughout the year the Christian festivals are observed with visits to All Saints parish Church as well as through educational based visits such as the visit by Technology Students to take in the superb architectural features of the Church building. Altwood students lead the school's Christmas Carol Service at the Church and this Easter they will be joined by the children of Boyne Hill Infants' and All Saints Junior School to celebrate the most Christian of all festivals.

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.

Since the last Annual Report of All Saints Parish Church, Altwood has been pleased to welcome an Inspector for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS), and even more pleased with the outcome of this inspection which rated it "Outstanding" in aspects of its work. This was noted briefly as an update in the last annual report of All Saints Church but the full report can be found on the Altwood Church of England School website at www.altwoodschool.co.uk

The Governing Body through its Finance and Sites Committee and hardworking staff has enabled upgraded buildings and facilities including refurbished science laboratories, new catering facilities (the Hub), a new sports hall roof, total refurbishment of all washrooms and completed the replacement of windows. In addition there has been a change in the pattern of the school day in order to provide a more balanced day for both students and staff. Improved safety and security through the introduction of a new CCTV system and fencing is planned for this year. Improved safe access to school has been achieved as a result of the lines painted on the road outside which also benefits the wellbeing of the local community.

Parental involvement is encouraged through weekly updates by the Headteacher on student achievement and forthcoming events, and there are regular meetings of Parents' Forum.

Report from the Foundation Governors of All Saints C of E Junior School

Oliver Wilson, George Hutchinson, Mike Broad & Alwyn Kimber
March 2015

All Saints C of E Junior School welcomes children from all backgrounds and traditions. The head teacher, Bridget McGregor, and her staff strive to provide a caring Christian environment where learning is enjoyable for all and everyone is able to develop to their full potential. The school promotes mutual respect and responsibility working to ensure each child is nurtured intellectually, emotionally, physically and spiritually

As Foundation Governors it is part of our role to see that Christian principles are adhered to as closely as possible and to ensure that the school is effective as a distinctive and inclusive Church of England school. A review of the Christian values demonstrated in the school has been carried out. The values that came out the strongest were: Respect, Generosity & Service, Thoughtfulness & Compassion, and Forgiveness. This is an ongoing review with feedback from staff and governors. All the Governors are asking the pupils to participate in a questionnaire exploring the impact that Collective Worship and the Christian ethos have on their daily lives.

There is a daily Act of Collective Worship, on set weekly themes, which all the children attend. This is an inspirational time led by the head teacher, the senior staff or a member of the clergy. The 'Open the Book' team lead the Worship every Thursday and on Wednesdays, each class has their own Act of Worship in their classroom.

We would like to forge more links between the Church and School, making All Saints Church more familiar and accessible to the pupils. To this end, all three Church schools have been invited to participate in a service to celebrate Holy Week on Wednesday, 11th March at 7pm and a whole day, Thursday, 21st May, has been set aside for each class to visit the Church for various activities. The Christmas and Leavers services, which involve the parents coming into Church, are always well attended with 'standing-room only'. Year 4 visit the Church to learn about various features e.g. altar, pulpit & font and Year 6 hold a pretend Baptism in the Church. This is important as they learn about the promises made by Parents and Godparents.

This year, we were delighted that we could hold our Prayer Spaces at the Church. Many of you may have seen the transformation of the Vestry, Birinus Room and Gardens into small areas devoted to reflection, forgiveness and peace. The Prayer Space was set-up and run by members of local churches to enable the children to explore faith and spirituality from a broadly Christian perspective in a safe, creative and interactive way. Activities based around the theme of 'peace' encouraged participants to reflect on the meaning of peace, to pray for the people they love and care for, and understand what makes them unique in the eyes of God. People of all ages commented on how special it was to be able to have a moment of stillness and reflection within the busy school day.



Many of the congregation sing with the Community Choir established by Bridget. All are welcome, regardless of ability, at All Saints School on alternate Wednesdays, during term time, at 7.30pm (see School Newsletter for dates). Bridget has also been instrumental in setting up 'Rock Shop' at the Church. Children who play in a band or have instrumental lessons are invited to attend Rock Shop at All Saints Church on some Sundays between 4.00-6.00pm. The Rock Shop band and singers is made up of children and adults of all ages who come to have fun making music together. In the first year the band practised for the first ½

hour, then accompanied a short service with the music they have learnt. Food and refreshments are provided during the 2nd part of the afternoon. This has now moved on to the band practising for an hour and then using, what they have learnt, to accompany music during some of the family services.

We would like to thank the head teacher and all her staff for all their hard work and co-operation. So that when we visit the school we feel welcome and part of the community.

The school office would be delighted to email their weekly newsletter to any members of the congregation who would like to know more.

Report for Open the Book at All Saints School 2015

This Open the Book team started as a shared project with the Baptist church from Westborough Road. Nick the minister of the Baptist church has taken the lead in organising this ministry and over the 7 years people from All Saints and the Baptist church have offered the bible stories to the children through acting, mime and storytelling always trying to use young people from the school in the process. The team has been augmented by people from River Church and one of two people from the Roman Catholic tradition.

An exciting development in the last 12 months came through an assembly at Altwood School. I had been asked to speak on Ecumenism, which is not exactly the most appealing of themes for young students. However, a teacher who is responsible for leading the students in acting and drama felt that the Open the Book project had potential for her drama students. The Open the Book team was invited to spend a morning at Altwood School explaining the process of sharing the stories. Young students in small groups read the stories and thought how best to present them to the young people of All Saints School. It was fascinating watching the Altwood students start to ask questions about the bible stories and discover the meaning behind them so that they could be prepared to share the stories meaningfully with the younger children of All Saints.

During the summer term of 2014 on Thursday mornings students from Altwood shared the biblical stories with All Saints pupils and this was a great success for both schools. We hope that this same project can again take place in 2015.

If you have an interest in sharing the biblical stories with the young people of All Saints School please let me know. I have said on a number of occasions during my time at All Saints Church that there is a gap in the knowledge of children of the bible stories. Open the Book offers a wonderful opportunity to bridge the gap and allow young people to experience the meaning of the scriptures.

With my prayers,

Fr Jeremy

All Saints Parish Centre Users Committee

Representatives of All Saints Church continue to enjoy meetings with the key users of the Parish Centre; the groups regularly represented at these meetings are: Brownies, Rainbows and AA.

Other Parish Centre users in the past year have included: The Mother & Toddler Group, Boyne Hill Close Management Committee, Helen Styles - violin teacher, Roz McKee for "JoJingles", Social Services for "Family Conferences" and our own "Tiny Saints". The Parish Centre has been the venue for many other events such as children's parties, baptism parties, "celebration of life" gatherings, pre-wedding receptions and drama group rehearsals. This coming year it will be used, once again, as a Polling Station for the General Election.

The Parish Centre Hire Agreement is reviewed regularly at our meetings and updated as necessary to help ensure that those wishing to make a booking have as much information as possible about what is available and the associated hire arrangements. Janet Emerson, the Bookings Clerk, continues to provide useful information and suggested changes, based on her experience with taking bookings.

We said "good-bye" this year to Dorothy Strack-Hankey, who had acted as the Committee's Health & Safety Adviser for several years, covering matters such as food hygiene, first aid arrangements and accident reporting; we look forward to welcoming a new H&S Advisor to next year's meetings. Peter May, the PCC's Financial Officer provides guidance on financial matters and input and advice to discussions about fixtures and fittings.

Sylvia Denison continues to manage the day to day care of the Parish Centre with great care and diligence, ably assisted by husband Reg, Artist-in-Residence, who is on hand to keep a watchful eye and to help with small DIY projects and offers of assistance for the user groups. This year Reg organised for some of the walls in the hall to be re-painted and he and Becky, the Brownie Pack Leader, together with members of Becky's family did an excellent job; we are very grateful for Becky's support....and for that of her family.

In all the Parish Centre Committee meetings continue to provide a very useful forum for discussing the use of the Parish Centre and ways of continuing to improve and enhance this valuable facility. It also provides the opportunity to resolve any issues or concerns – and enjoy a good laugh! - over a cup of tea and home-made cake provided by Sylvia.

March 2015

Report from the Foundation Governors of Boyne Hill Infant and Nursery School

Dorothy Strack-Hankey and Anne Sweeney

As Foundation Governors, it is our role to see that Christian principles are adhered to as closely as possible through encouragement, understanding and sometimes as 'critical friends' to the Head Teacher and other staff members as well as celebrating the different faiths and their festivals.

As of January 2015, Boyne Hill CofE Infant and Nursery School had 120 students in total in Years 1 & 2, 60 in Reception and 77 in Nursery, split between morning and afternoon sessions.

The Head Teacher, Jane Hunsley, leads a very dedicated team of staff comprised of 10 teachers, many teaching assistants whose roles vary from full classroom support to one-to-one support for children with special educational needs and other support staff. They take their roles very seriously in providing a caring Christian environment in which the children make excellent progress.

Acts of collective worship (assemblies) take place four times a week in the school hall and are attended by all pupils in years 1 and 2. The children in Reception join them more frequently as the school year progresses. Themes for these assemblies are planned very carefully each term and are based around the social and emotional aspects of learning, linked with 2 of 12 Christian values. This is an inspirational time led by the Head Teacher, the senior leadership team or a member of the clergy. Once each term a whole class will also lead an assembly. On Mondays, the focus is on the religious aspect of the theme and values led by the head teacher; on Tuesdays, there is a period of Collective Worship in the individual classrooms including the Reception classes; on Wednesdays, the focus is on personal, social and health education (PSHE) linked with one of the 2 values and led by one of the Assistant Head Teachers; Thursday is singing assembly where songs with a Christian focus are regularly practised and enjoyed and on Fridays they hold a celebration assembly when certificates are given out, individual achievements are celebrated, birthdays are acknowledged and often special visitors come and talk to the children.

During the current academic year, the pupils in years 1, 2 and Reception held their Harvest Service at the school; years 1 and 2 attended a Christmas Christingle service at All Saints church while the Reception children held their own special Christingle service in the school hall led by the Foundation teacher, Debbie Firth. The Year 2 pupils will visit All Saints church as part of the RE curriculum when they study places of worship and the Year 1 pupils will visit the Sikh Gurdwara next to the school.

Key activities this year include a cinema visit courtesy of the British Film Institute, a performance from a visiting theatre company, a trip to Norden Farm for the Christmas pantomime and the opportunity to take part in the Carnival of the Animals themed lantern parade in the town centre. To teach the concept of helping others, the school takes part in many fund-raising activities including Macmillian cancer support coffee afternoon, Sports for All, Jeans for Genes Day, Autism Awareness Day, Children in Need and Red Nose Day. They also support FoodShare and Gutjwa school in South Africa. They hold second-hand book sales and termly cake sales to raise funds for playground improvement and collect the vouchers from supermarkets and the Maidenhead Advertiser.

Currently, some members of the congregation assist at the school by listening to children read or helping them to learn basic cooking skills. Fr Jeremy is a regular visitor taking collective worship assemblies and recently sharing Baptism with Foundation Stage 2.

In November 2014, the school had its SIAMS inspection and the Head Teacher, governors and staff were proud to report that the school received an OUTSTANDING rating. The significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils was attributed to the very strong Christian character of the school. The full report is available on the school website.

At present we are working on holding a 'Pray and Play day' involving members of our different communities when we will have the opportunity to be in a 'space of prayer' and to be involved in different activities. We would welcome any support from the congregation and to place this event in your prayers.

We would like to thank Jane Hunsley and all of the staff for their hard work. The school has extended an invitation to members of the congregation to attend any of the acts of Collective Worship. The school is also very happy to e-mail their weekly newsletter to any members of the congregation who would like to receive it.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting March 2015

Choir

At the beginning of 2014 our relatively small number of singers in the choir were further reduced by the retirement of Sue Stannett and the departure of Tim and Katie Easthill to Farnborough. The reduction in church choirs and fewer singers in those that survive has become a sad fact of life in many places. However, one of the consequences is that there are now available arrangements of anthems designed for these more limited resources. So we invested in one such set of anthem books which has enabled us to continue to provide that extra choral element to our services.

Later in the year we have been pleased to welcome Derek Smith to the choir and in the autumn I launched an appeal for singers who could provide a more ad hoc commitment rather than the regular week by week attendance. This has proved to be very successful and five people joined us for practices during November and December leading up to the service of Nine Lessons and Carols when with a few more extra singers we had one of the largest choirs for that service for many years. Even more pleasing is that most of those ad hoc singers have continued with us and one or two making a more regular commitment. Thus the choir is growing rather than declining and is able to give a strong lead at Sunday services.

Before the start of the normal Thursday evening practices, I have initiated a sight singing class to help some of the less experienced singers become more proficient. I hope that this extra help may encourage other reluctant singers to join us. Rebuilding the choir has been the main focus of activity this year but I must make a very big vote of thanks to the core singers in the choir for their commitment, loyalty, hard work and the welcome they have provided to the new arrivals. Without their help and leadership of the singing we could easily have become a church of silent praise.

Brian Graves
Director of Music

Report from 8th Maidenhead Rainbow Guides 2015

Rainbows are the youngest section of Girlguiding UK, from 5 - 7 yrs old. Our unit has 13-15 girls and meets for an hour each Friday during term time at the Parish Centre. The leaders are Marie Taylor (Hamster) and Heather Noyce (Hedgehog), supported by a Leader in Training, Charlotte Dennis (Squirrel) and a Young Leader, Abigail Dennis (Butterfly). Additional support is provided by Brigitte Ranger (Swan) and Alwyn Kimber (Duck).

Over the past year we have supported the National Autistic Society by taking part in their Looming Marvellous campaign and worked on our Gambia challenge badge. We had lots of fun learning about the Gambia and painting our hands as colourful birds. The badge was put together by a local guider from Maidenhead to raise money to fund a GOLD project whereby a group of young guiders from the UK went to the Gambia to support guiding there. This term we are working on a Princess challenge badge and an Easter challenge badge and next term we will be renewing the flowers in three pots in the Quadrangle

We have met with other Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from Maidenhead West District joining the Christmas Celebration in December and the Thinking Day celebrations in February. We enjoyed the activities and catching up with ex Rainbows who are now brownies and guides. Later this month we will be joining the division rainbows for Rainbow Riots at Holyport Village Hall which this year has a zoo theme with a visit from some animals.

We have been out and about completing a mini-beast hunt at Braywick Park, creating a photo collage with the team at the Three Discovery Zone and visiting the new library at Boyn Grove. We have also had a visit from Dorothy Stack-Hankey encouraging us all to eat the rainbow everyday.

In amongst all this we have found time to celebrate St George's Day, have an indoor campfire, make pizzas and still fit in the annual favourites of annual silly sports day, Teddy Bear's Picnic at Punt Hill and Christmas party which this year had a Frozen theme.

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 it is advisable to register your daughter early or put her on a Brownie waiting list.

Street Angels

Street Angels continues to provide an invaluable ministry on the streets of Maidenhead. A team is on duty every Saturday night and on the last Friday of each month (payday).

At present All Saints does not have any active Angels. Whatever impression you may have of the work involved, do please consider coming out for an hour and get a taste of this fascinating opportunity to help people in our community. Indeed, they are our neighbours. Perhaps the hardest thing is to suppress the feeling that when people get into difficulties, it is all self-inflicted and does not deserve our help. Consider what Jesus might have said.

When you come out for a taster session you would be with experienced Angels and that would provide an opportunity to ask them what it is really like. I will be delighted to arrange a taster session for you.

Mike Moss
Street Angel Trustee and Treasurer.

All Saints Web Site

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

+ Parallel Development site: www.allsaintsboynehill.co.uk

The current active website (.org.uk) is still in place, providing the congregation and new-comers with some information regarding the services and activities within the church. As has been mentioned in previous reports, this support is largely coming to an end, and the development of our own website, hosted and controlled by ourselves, is essential. Thus, the new website (.co.uk) was founded during the year '13-'14, and is being developed slowly to incorporate all of the things which are necessary for the congregation's needs.

The development of the new website has moved into it's mid-stages during this year, and now boasts a theme purchased from a template developer called "PresenceChurch" designed for church use, and the attached calendar add-on is providing a platform for events advertising and scheduling on the website. Rod Broad is currently taking the lead on Calendar management.

Fig 1.a - Screenshot of News, Twitter Feed and Upcoming Events calendar.

Content delegation is still largely un-constructed, ie. When you log in, the system still does not know what page you have ownership of. However, this is due for completion on further review of ownership with the PCC.

A series of Tutorial Videos is being recorded and hosted on Youtube for anyone who is designated as a content owner to be able to learn how to create or edit their content.

Fig 1.b - Screenshot of Youtube Video Part 1.

In conjunction with the church website hosted by ourselves, we have also begun using our Social Media links with Twitter and Facebook to promote our services and raise the awareness of All Saints Church. With regards Twitter, our activity is currently being followed by 63 individual users, including the likes of The Diocese of Oxford, The Maidenhead Advertiser, The Vatican, and 'Enjoy maidenhead' - As well as many of our own PCC Members. This is ably looked after by Julia Wakeling.

Our social Media links are:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsBoyneHill>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AllSaintsBHill>

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

As part of the website construction, an email system has been commissioned within the church website itself, on which most people have their own email addresses.

The address for this system is <http://www.allsaintsboynehill.co.uk/email>

The email address is generally ***initial.surname@allsaintsboynehill.co.uk***, so in the case of Rod Broad, would be

R.Broad@allsaintsboynehill.co.uk

Passwords have been defined, but in the interests of security, anyone who wants to access their church email address and begin using it should email me on admin@allsaintsboynehill.co.uk with your name and I will send a password out to them.

Future Development will consist of completion of the content delegation to Group Leaders, giving them overall responsibility for their own section of the site, and for their own calendars.

It will also consist of developing newsletters and shared addresses, by means of which we may be able to contact our respective groups more easily.

Thanks to Rod, Julia, Father Jeremy, and the PCC for supporting the website in the last 12 months.

Alpha in 2014

Alpha in 2014 has been a great joy and a blessing to those who attended, because they grew in faith, knowledge, understanding and experience of the Lord. It was wonderful to have people on the Course wanting to find out what Christians believe. It has been good to have people who have recently started coming to Church as well as people who have been going to Church for many years, using Alpha as a 'refresher course'.

Alpha 2014 was in the Summer, with 7 evening sessions in the Birinus Room and the Holy Spirit Day on a Saturday attended by more people from the Church congregation, who found the day very helpful.

It was a great joy that one adult attending the Alpha Course was confirmed by Bishop Andrew on 4th November 2014 at a very special Service at All Saints Church.

We are grateful to the members of the Congregation who support the ministry of Alpha by praying and by providing suppers for the evening Alpha. The supper enables us to give a friendly welcome, which is an important start to each session. The DVD Talks followed by discussion enable those on the Courses to find out about Christianity, with an emphasis on knowing God and coming into a relationship with the Lord through faith in Jesus.

It is encouraging to read comments written by people who have come to Alpha in 2014 about how the Alpha Course has helped them to grow in faith:

- I feel a lot closer to Christ and more knowledgeable.
- I've improved my relationship with God.
- It was time for me to find my way back to Jesus and accept things that had happened.
- I now feel more confident. I've learned to ask for forgiveness and help.
- I feel more positive and have a better outlook on life.
- I enjoyed the Jamie Haith Talks and listening to people's views.
- I have more understanding of some things I learnt when I was younger.
- Alpha has made me question more but also dedicate more time to my faith.
- Alpha has benefitted me because I now have a much deeper understanding.
- I now feel more knowledgeable to talk to others about my faith.
- My faith has become stronger and I'm more willing to share it with others.
- I feel more fulfilled in my Christian faith since the Holy Spirit Day.

There are many people who wonder: 'Is there more to life than this?' They would welcome the opportunity of finding out about Christianity and experiencing the love of God in their lives. The Alpha Course is such a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a friendly welcome, find out what Christians believe, ask questions and discuss your ideas.

Please will you recommend Alpha to people you know and invite them to our next Alpha Course in the Autumn of 2015.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Bryson (LLM, Alpha Course Leader)

Larchfield Care Home

In 2014 I went to Larchfield Care Home twice a month, taking Communion and leading a Service with hymns and Holy Communion. The Residents with a Church background who are able to attend are brought to the Service. They love the Service as it is special for them to hear and sing the hymns, hear the Bible reading and receive Communion. Often one of the Residents reads the Bible reading for us, which is lovely. It is good that Matt, the Activities' Co-Ordinator, encourages the Staff on the three Units to bring Residents along to the Service. We have had up to 14 at the Service with 12 Communicants. I always take my large fabric 'Last Supper' picture to give a visual clue to us receiving Communion because Jesus told his followers to do this at the Last Supper.

Some of the Residents are too unwell to be able to come to the Service. I visit the three Units, Thames, Test and Cherwell to pray individually with those who are sick with a Church background, who would like to receive prayer. I often sing verses from hymns and see a response in those people. I have also prayed with members of Staff and families of the Residents. I have been asked to pray with the dying and prayed with them. When requested, Fr Neil has visited with me to give the Last Rites. I have contacted the Roman Catholic Priest when a member of his Church would like a visit from their Priest.

The Christmas Carol Service with Carols and Bible readings was enjoyed by 28 people: Residents, Staff, members of the families of two of the Residents with three of us from Church. Fr Jeremy has occasionally come to Larchfield Care Home with me and sometimes people from the Larchfield Churches Team.

I am glad to be developing the role of 'Lay Chaplain' at this Care Home. The Staff welcome me onto the Units and they are glad that I pray with people individually. They know they can contact me if people would like prayer at other times. The Staff at Larchfield Care Home appreciate the spiritual help given by All Saints Church.

Elizabeth Bryson LLM

Boyn Grove Day Centre

In 2014 I met with the Manager of Boyn Grove Day Centre as she wanted to have a monthly Service at the Day Centre, because she was concerned to meet the spiritual needs of the people attending the Day Centre, who may not be able to go to Church on Sundays.

I plan and lead a Service there on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, starting in October 2014, when we had a lovely Harvest Service. I was pleased to lead a Service for them on Remembrance Day with our 2 minutes Silence at 11am. In December we had a Christmas Carol Service. These Services have been greatly appreciated and it is a joy to lead and share these times of Worship with them all at Boyn Grove. There are usually 24 of us at the Services.

Elizabeth Bryson LLM

Mission and Evangelism Report for 2014

'If you are asked about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it. But you must do this in a gentle and respectful way.' (1 Peter 3: 15-16)

We should always be ready to tell others how Jesus has helped us and how being a follower of Jesus is great. Bishop Stephen Cottrell wrote: ¹'The most effective evangelism of all is the Christ-like witness of ordinary Christians in their everyday lives'. He explains the process of contact, nurture, commitment, growth and then reaching out to make more contacts. He writes: ²'all of us are called to be witnesses.'

In all our Church Services we encourage people 'to encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament', which is our new 'strap-line' at All Saints Church. Every Church Service is an opportunity to make contact with new people and provide nurture, opportunity for commitment and growth.

I will list here some of the other ways that as a Church Community we have reached out to provide 'contact and nurture' for those seeking to know more about the love of Jesus. We then encourage them towards 'commitment and growth' so they feel confident to reach out and welcome more people to faith and the Church community. There are separate Reports about some of these 'Mission and Evangelism' activities, which give more details and information.

The Alpha Course in the Summer provided opportunities for people to explore what Christians believe and have a 'refresher course' to enable them to talk more confidently about their Christian faith. An adult from this Course was confirmed at the Service with Bishop Andrew on 4th November and so came to 'commitment and growth'. Please invite people to come to our next Alpha Course in the Autumn of 2015.

Open the Book at All Saints' Junior School and Larchfield Primary School have continued to be wonderful opportunities of sharing Bible stories with children and Staff, giving them time to reflect on the stories and pray. **Assemblies** in Schools and Schools having **Visits** to the Church have been further opportunities of telling the pupils and the Staff more about the Christian faith and the love of Jesus.

The Good Friday Walk of Witness is a wonderful opportunity to witness to our faith in Jesus, with people from other Churches in Maidenhead. A huge crowd followed a large cross through the town while we sang hymns about what happened to Jesus on Good Friday. We stopped in three places for Bible readings and prayers. Some of us gave out leaflets to the people shopping in the town, to wish them 'Happy Easter' and explain who we are and why we are all walking through the town on Good Friday. It is great to witness to our faith in Jesus on this Walk of Witness in Maidenhead walking and singing together from Sainsbury's and up the High Street to the Methodist Church. This is 'presence evangelism' when people doing their shopping can be curious and want to then find out more about the Christian faith. It is excellent to do this walk with Christians from other Churches in the town. Jesus prayed for his followers who came to believe 'that they may all be one..... so that the world may believe'. (John 17: 21)

Tiny Saints is a way that we provide 'contact and nurture' for the Baptism families, new families in the Church with young children and any from the local community who would like to join us for this Babies and Toddlers' Group on Friday mornings.

The Summer Holiday Club at Larchfield was in the last week of July, when the children learned more about the love of Jesus through singing, craft activities and games. It was good to have people from All Saints' Church helping. This was a 4 day club running from Tuesday 31st July to Friday 1st August from 9.30 am to 12. 30 pm. The helpers came from churches which make up the Larchfield Churches' Team: All Saints', URC, Church of the Good Shepherd Cox Green and River with and some volunteers from St. Mary's. It was good to be working together in this way to share the good news of the love of Jesus with these children.

Christmas Holiday Club at Larchfield School was on Saturday 6th December, when the children enjoyed making Christmas crafts and a Drama of the Christmas story. There were helpers from All Saints' and the other Churches on the Larchfield Churches' Team.

LOT (Larchfield Open Table) is a great opportunity to reach out to the people of Larchfield and others in the town, with the love of Jesus. A supper is provided, activities for the children and some Christian teaching through a short Talk. People can ask for help and prayer. They enjoy the friendship and care shown through LOT, which started in May 2013. Thank you to those from All Saints' who help at LOT.

9th Maidenhead Brownies visited All Saints Church on Tuesday 17th June. They enjoyed making a stained glass window with coloured paper. They looked at the stained glass windows and heard some Bible stories that we can see illustrated in our wonderful windows. Their visit ended with a Service.

Welcoming people from the new homes – Fr Neil has designed a ‘Welcome leaflet’ for new people. These were delivered with details of our pre- Christmas and Christmas Services to all the new homes which have been built near All Saints

Elizabeth Bryson (LLM)

MOTHERS' UNION Annual Report to APCM 2015

The Mothers' Union was founded in the 1870's, and our Branch at All Saints was started in 1879. The branch has met in the Parish Centre on the second Wednesday of every month at 2.30 pm ever since then.

The Mothers' Union was founded by Mary Sumner, wife of the Bishop of Winchester, to offer fellowship and help to all kinds of women - hence the name "Union". The aim is to promote family life in all its forms. The MU has kept up with the times, and now also boasts a male membership. We did have six male members, but sadly through death and illness, we now have only two.

Our meetings mainly consist of a brief prayer service, and then a Speaker, with socialising afterwards over a cup of tea. We have a party at Christmas, a social meeting in July, and hold the occasional Raffle. We regularly have a "Bring and Buy" table at meetings to help our income, for paying rent for the Parish Centre, and also helping towards our annual membership subscriptions of £23 per head, payable to the Diocese of Oxford.

The Mothers' Union members have a lot of fun, especially at Christmas, and we regularly go out for a meal. We visit "The Toby" restaurant for lunch in February, and have an Afternoon Tea in a Garden Centre in November.

Please look at our programme (on our Notice Board), and come and try us! I am sure you will enjoy our fellowship.

Ena Jones

P.S. Due to illness (and old age!), I am giving up the Leadership in March 2015, after holding this post for 17 years. Margaret Hill will be taking over from me: she is an experienced member (her own mother was once a Leader), and should be a very good choice. Every leader has their own gifts to bring to the Branch - please support her!

OAK is the Ordinands Appeal in Kenya

The **OAK** project is an exciting way that we can contribute to the building of God's kingdom in Africa. We give money to pay for the training of Ordinands in Kenya and to pay for further training. When new priests are ordained, Bishop Samson is able to set up new parishes in his diocese. This means better provision of services, pastoral care, teaching and evangelism in the villages and towns of Kenya. We started supporting this project in 2004, after our curate Fr Robert went to Kenya with Rev Roy Taylor.

We first supported Margaret and Eunice, who trained in 2004–2007. You can see photographs of them on the **OAK** board in the North Porch. Then we funded Patrick through his training for Ordination, in Bishop Samson's Diocese of Taita Taveta in Kenya. Patrick graduated in November 2010 and was Ordained Deacon on December 5th 2010. Next we supported Jemima Mkiwa Mgalu, who has completed her training. Jemima had her graduation Ceremony for her diploma Studies on Saturday 23rd November 2013. It was wonderful that Fr Jeremy was at Jemimah's Graduation and the Ordination Service, as All Saints Church has funded her training and we have been praying for her. Richard Mwagha Wughoma is our new OAK Ordinand on the Diploma Course. We have also been raising money to support Stephen Satale Norman on his Course for Graduate Studies, starting in 2014.

Bishop Samson sent this news and appreciation in October 2014:

‘ ‘Greetings from the Anglican Diocese of Taita Taveta Kenya: We indeed appreciate the work of All Saints Maidenhead in supporting in the training of clergy through OAK. Margaret is married to a clergyman in Mombasa Diocese, serves in a parish, she graduated with BD St Paul's University two weeks ago. Patrick is serving with us in one of our parishes and doing very well. He is married. Eunice has been doing further theological training in St Paul's University. She developed ill health during her last semester so she is on recovering break before going back to try and finish her BD studies. Our next ordination will be early next year. It is very likely that we shall ordain Jemima then. Richard is doing well at Bishop Hannington College Mombasa. We were very grateful with the fees you sent to us for him which we received in our Diocesan Account. Stephen has settled in St. Paul's University for his first year. Thanks so much for your support for him. Our greetings to Fr. Jeremy and all members of All Saints.’ ’

It has been good to hear more about Kenya and how **OAK** is appreciated there, from Fr Jeremy, following his visit there as part of his Sabbatical in 2013.

Margaret, Eunice, Patrick, Jemima, Richard and Stephen are very grateful for the financial and prayer support from All Saints' Church. Please will you continue to give financial and prayer support to our **OAK** project?

Thank you, Elizabeth Bryson (**OAK** Co-ordinator)

Additional report for OAK 2014

The support of the training of clergy in Kenya is of vital importance as each clergy person is central to the community in which they serve. I was able to see this when I travelled in 2013 to the Diocese of Taita Taveta in Kenya and shared with Bishop Samson Mwaluda and his clergy a number of ministerial opportunities.

Bishop Samson has written a book entitled 'Re-Orientating A Church For Accelerated Growth' which focussed on a number of important ways in which the church could grow in Kenya.

Following research based on his diocese the Bishop set this vision for growth.

- Liturgical renewal - A more varied use of styles of worship and music.
- Renewal of the Episcopate - greater emphasis on the teaching ministry of the Bishop and servant leadership. Evidence of the Bishop visiting every parish and having regular contact with the clergy and people.
- Renewed ministry for and by the young people of Voi.
- Renewed parish ministry - There are young and enthusiastic ministers who are being encouraged to continue to study to improve their teaching and leadership skills in the communities to which they serve. We are playing our part at All Saints by supporting Revd Stephen Norman in reading for a Bachelor of Divinity degree at St Paul's University, Limuru. Bishop Samson has during 20 years ministry grown the diocese from 20 parishes to over 90. Clergy are often faced with building churches and indeed their own home to live in when they arrive in a parish.
- Female leadership - Women's ministry has been accepted and many parishes are flourishing as a result. I witnessed growth in parishes with a number of the women we have funded through OAK growing congregations in a wonderful way.
- Greater value given to the healing ministry. I again was given the moving and challenging opportunity to pray alongside people in their homes.

Alongside this work the Taylor family who worship at St Mary's, Maidenhead have over a number of years developed fantastic educational opportunities for young people. The Kazi Mingi Foundation which is trying to further develop education in Africa is supporting places like St Bartholomew's, in Voi. I witnessed the wonderful ministry of Revd Liverson and his teaching colleagues as they give opportunities for young people to develop.

Over the weekend of 18th – 21st September 2015 churches in Maidenhead will welcome Bishop Samson and his family and the Bishop Elect the Revd Liverson Mng'onda. We will have the opportunity to welcome the Bishops to our 10am Eucharist on the 20th September.

Finally I have been receiving opportunities throughout 2014 to share blogs and pictures from Spain, Kenya and Portugal and this has raised some funds to go with the commitment we make at All Saints to support ministry in Kenya. There will be more opportunities in 2015 to support events and talks to continue supporting the people in the Diocese of Taita Taveta.

With my prayers,

Fr Jeremy

Pastoral Care Report for 2014

Pastoral Care is given at All Saints by many people through **conversations, visiting, giving lifts** to and from Church, **telephone calls** and **helping** people in many ways to show the love of the Lord. There are teams of people involved with leading and helping at Baptism Preparation, Tiny Saints, Young Saints, Marriage Preparation, Confirmation Preparation and the Alpha Course. The Sidespeople and others **welcome** new people to our Church Services.

Here is a list of some of the ways that we have offered Pastoral Care in 2014. There is more detail about some of this Pastoral Care in separate Reports.

- Baptism home visits and Baptism Preparation
- Tiny Saints Babies and Toddlers Group
- Young Saints
- Open the Book - taking dramatised Bible stories to Larchfield Primary and All Saints Junior Schools
- School Assemblies at Boyne Hill Infants, All Saints Junior, Larchfield Primary and Altwood Schools
- Schools and Brownies Visits to Church
- Christian Union at Altwood School
- Some School R.E. lessons
- Larchfield Holiday Club in the Summer and a Christmas Club
- Confirmation Preparation for 2 adults and 9 children
- The Alpha Course
- Bible Study groups: The Pilgrim Course – The Lord’s Prayer in Lent and The Eucharist in the Autumn.
- Marriage Preparation
- Wedding Anniversary cards given to people married at All Saints
- Home Communion for people at home, in Nursing Homes and hospitals
- Extended Communion taken to Normanhurst and Clara Court every month
- Funeral visits and post-Funeral visits
- Requiem Eucharist at All Souls - invitations given after recent Funerals
- Prison Ministry - writing letters
- Larchfield Nursing Home Communion Services and individual prayers twice a month
- Boyn Grove Day Centre Service once a month
- Street Angels
- Food Share Project - giving food to needy people in Maidenhead
- Caring for members of the Church groups: in the Mothers’ Union, Tuesday Club, the Choir, the Servers and the Men of Boyne Hill group.
- Almshouses - care for people living in these homes
- Royal British Legion - Chaplaincy, support and attending meetings
- Visiting people at home and in Nursing Homes
- Healing Services
- Praying for the sick and those in other need
- Guild of St Raphael - praying for the sick
- Pilgrimage to Walsingham
- Quiet Mornings at Burnham Abbey
- Praying with the dying

Elizabeth Bryson LLM (Licensed Lay Minister)

Open The Book At Larchfield School

A Report For All Saints Apcm 2015

Open The Book is in its seventh year at Larchfield School. There are currently nine members of the team and they are drawn from four different Anglican churches, and the United Reformed Church.

Larchfield is a combined Infant & Junior School so our weekly audience consists of children who are rising 5 in their Reception Year up to 11 year-old Year 6s. The Open the Book programme is on a 3 year cycle so at Larchfield it's possible for a child who's currently in Year 6 to be hearing the Year 1 OTB stories for the **third** time. But because they'll be being performed by different people, the children don't seem to remember or complain.

It's a delight to share the Bible stories with the children, some very familiar tales and also some (sometimes slightly obscure bits of the Old Testament, or some of St Paul's adventures) that are new to the Open the Bookers. And it's nice to be hailed across a major supermarket in town with a yell of "Hello, Open the Book!" as we are from time to time. A couple of weeks ago we weren't able to perform because there was sickness in the school, and as we were leaving, a child arriving a little late for school spotted us, "Oh no! Have I missed Open the Book?" Great relief when he found he hadn't missed anything and scant sympathy for possibly poorly classmates.

If anyone reading this is a frustrated thespian (ability to over-act essential) and would like to join us between 09.30 and 10.30 on a Wednesday morning then do mention it to Fr Jeremy or me in the first instance. You'll need to be CRB'd (or whatever the current name is) for Larchfield, and then you could be an "Open The Book Friend" as the children call us.

Jan Moss
02.03.15

Young Saints Report 2014

Members of Young Saints Teaching Team: Christine Dunford, Michelle Symonds, Hannah Wilson, Pearl Boayke, Sally Dahlbohm, Isabelle Fatoux, Jenny Wilks

Attendance

There are about 30 children on the register who have attended Young Saints at some stage during the year. The number of children attending each week has varied a lot with a high of 17 at the beginning of November. The usual attendance is between 4 and 8 but there have been 5 occasions when there have been less than this. There are a variety of reasons for this, including the children who are old enough for Cafe Church (age 10 and over) now rarely come to Young Saints and other activities taking place on Sunday mornings. The issue we have is not many younger children starting in Young Saints which in the past have replaced the older ones who leave.

Structure

There is now a monthly structure for the Young Saints sessions. Week 1 is a Messy Church style session in the Parish Centre focused on activities for the younger children to coincide with Cafe Church. Week 2 involves preparation for All Age Worship e.g. making a poster, preparing an activity. Week 3 is All Age Worship when children stay in church during the service. The other weeks are usually based around a Bible story with a variety of activities. (The structure can vary slightly due to All Age Worship topics). The preparation for All Age Worship is working well.

Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

The Young Saints organised collecting items and making up shoeboxes for OCC in October and November 2014. They talked to the congregation about OCC, including acting out a story, and they generated enthusiasm for the project. It culminated in a morning of wrapping the boxes and filling them with gifts, which the children enjoyed. In total 48 boxes were given to OCC. The children learnt about children elsewhere in the world who are not as fortunate as they are and helped them in a practical way.

Confirmation

Eight of our Young Saints were prepared for confirmation in the autumn and then confirmed by Bishop Andrew at a wonder furl service on 4th November.

Crib Service

During the Crib Service on Christmas Eve, the Young Saints acted out the Nativity. Twelve children took part and acted confidently in front of a packed church.

Events

A family picnic was held in July in Riverside Gardens.
The Young Saints team ran a stall selling toys and books at the Summer Fair.

The future

There has been much discussion about the low numbers attending Young Saints. There do not seem to be many young families attending church on Sundays. We are re-examining ways to link Young Saints with Tiny Saints, baptism and other connections with very young children to see how we can encourage families into church and therefore children into Sunday School when they are of age.

Report for the Worship Group 2014

This year a worship planning group was formed to help improve the range of services that we offer at All Saints. A group of people, including the clergy, LLM, the churchwardens, the musical director and members of Tiny Saints, Young Saints, Rock shop and the newly formed Café Church met in June 2014 to plan the services and events for the 2014-15 year.

The group planned the following pattern of services;

- 1st Sunday in the month - Café Church including the use of film for young people aged 10+
- 1st Sunday in the month - Young Saints in Messy church Style
- 3rd Sunday in the month- All Age worship using the Roots resources including the 4 spiritual styles of Word, Emotion, Symbol and action.
- Rock Shop once every half-term encouraging people to learn musical instruments to augment our music on Sunday mornings.

Other areas of responsibility were discussed and agreed;

- Sub-groups to plan the above.
 1. Rock Shop - Team members Lynn May, Debbie Firth, Christine Dunford, and Fr Jeremy. Bridget the Head Teacher at All Saints offers wonderful support by teaching the young people with learning to play the instruments.
 2. Café Church - Fr Jeremy, Matt Firth, Martin Whitehurst and Vanessa Seymour were given responsibility to plan the once a month group.
 3. All Age worship - Fr Jeremy, Brian Graves and the Rock Shop team, Fr Neil, and Elizabeth working together to develop the variety of worship offer at the Sunday 10am Eucharist.
- Marketing of services- The group agreed to provide a yearly list of dates, a termly flyer and a newsletter. All information should be listed on the website when we were in a position to do so.
- Creche Area - a group would look to improve the facility that we offer to young parents and infants. With the growing number of parents and children visiting Tiny Saints on a Friday it is clearly important to provide a good crèche area for them should they visit on a Sunday.
- Brian, The Rock Shop team and the ministry team will look at the 10am service on Sundays. Brian graves and Christine Dunford will work closely to attempt to get Rock Shop and the choir to work more closely together. We will look to have anthems, responsorial psalms, chorus' taize chants and hopefully a new setting of the Eucharist. The use of a variety of instruments to support both traditional hymns and modern music would also be the aim of this group.
- The purchase of new musical instruments. This has been accomplished through Rod Broad and the support of Martin Whitehurst. We are still looking to find a person to manage the instruments.
- There is a desire to get a group of more experienced musicians to help the young people.

With my prayers

Fr Jeremy

Report for All Saints Church on Rock Shop

We started Rock Shop about 18 months ago following 6 years of the very successful Messy Church. Messy Church had for the first 4 years been held at All Saints School on a Saturday evening and followed a pattern of activities for children with their parents, a communion service and ending with a cooked meal. This led to families building good links and friendships with many of these people sharing in the successful parish holidays.

Rock Shop started with a similar format to Messy Church with musical activities to begin with followed by a communion service and ending with an afternoon tea. We have been helped by the support of Bridget the headteacher at All Saints School and the talent that we have at the church. The young people are slowly building up their confidence to play alongside adults at morning services. Two highlights have been the Christ the King Eucharist in early November 2014 and at the Advent service a few weeks later when we welcomed Bishop Andrew. At both services we heard a mix of traditional, chorus and Taizé style music and this I believe greatly enhanced the worship. Bishop Andrew commented that he had enjoyed the service in Advent and that he would be happy worshipping at All Saints.

To continue to build the work of Rock Shop, Rod Broad with the support of Martin Whitehurst purchased and set up the new instruments at All Saints. At a recent Rock Shop planning meeting we discussed the hope that Brian Graves our director of music and Christine Dunford who co-ordinates the Rock Shop will meet in the future to see how the traditional choir and Rock Shop can complement each other.

Another hope is that we can encourage a few adult musicians to help us play the new instruments more frequently.

Rock Shop in the future will now have 1 hour of practicing with the instruments and singing and then finish with tea. This will enable, we hope, the musicians to grow in confidence and play a larger part in our morning Eucharist at All Saints.

Please come along in 2015 to share the Rock Shop experience on Sunday afternoons.

With my prayers,

Fr Jeremy

Tuesday Club Report for 2014/15

We have had a very good year to date: healthy membership - 17/24 ladies at each meeting, with paying guests.

We have had some very good speakers - to name but a few and including Father Jeremy on 'Kenya' and various speakers on 'Understanding Dyslexia and Aspergers', 'Poetry and Prose', 'Christmas Flowers' and last but not least 'Tax Codes and Toy Boys'.

Our funds are healthy!!

We have six more meetings to look forward to before our end of year Ramble in June.

I have a very supportive Committee and I do sincerely appreciate all they do.

Brenda Ilott

Leader

Café Church Report

The Café Church Team consists of: Father Jeremy Harris, Martin Whitehurst, Vanessa Seymour, Matt Firth and Mike Ansell. We meet on the first Sunday of the month in the Birinus room at 10am.

Attendance

We currently have between 7 and 12 regular attenders, including at least 3 leaders per session. The ages range between 10 - 15 usually, although, we do occasionally attract younger children of around 8 - 10 years old. This was the case for the Harry Potter themed Café Church in December 2014.

What we do

Café Church is a fairly informal and relaxed approach to Sunday Morning worship. It is a fusion between a youth group and Sunday school where the young people are encouraged to share their opinions by joining in discussions. There is a flexible structure to the morning, as follows:

- start with greetings and time for everyone to share news
- food and drinks are handed round
- often an icebreaker or game occurs here
- leader introduces today's topic and leads a talk or makes use of a film clip
- discussion on the theme
- Prayer/reflective time

Review

Café Church has met 4 times now and as such, it is hard to examine growth and progress. However, we have been greatly encouraged by the young people's enthusiasm and comments from parents. One parent commented that their children specifically ask when Café Church is next on and make an especial effort to come to Church services because of this. Moving forward, new themes will be discussed and the young people will have a say in how they would like Café Church to progress.

Already, there are ties with the Film Club that Father Jeremy runs at the Vicarage and what has been named 'Rev's Cafe', where the young people served Sunday lunch to 15 adults from the community at the Vicarage. These additional events all draw from the same group of young people and we are hopeful that they will bring friends and other family members along to one or all of these activities.

All Saints' Boyne Hill Servers' Report 2014-15

During the last year we have seen an increase in the number of servers, which certainly makes planning easier! The new servers have taken to their work enthusiastically, and are finding that it is a great joy and privilege to serve the Lord and His people at the altar. They also rapidly discovered it's not as easy as it looks: one can't just rock up and have a go: training is needed and one has plenty to learn from those more experienced. As I have reported before, when the servers are carrying out their tasks well, few people consciously notice them - which is an indication that they are successful. Servers provide, amongst other things, a backdrop to worship that should be unobtrusive, dignified, not fussy, reverent, and carefully coordinated in full awareness of what is happening around them.

Our servers receive a rota each month; if they discover they cannot serve on a particular occasion, they don't contact me, but arrange a swap amongst themselves. This works well, although, of course, very occasionally something does go wrong: the congregation are unaware because it all looks so smoothly done. I feel they are a good example to other All Saints' groups in taking their commitments seriously, sometimes rearranging their own lives around a need to carry out their duties. This means that services can go ahead as planned, with a full team on each occasion, and nobody outside the servers themselves is inconvenienced. I hope that other groups will take note of this for themselves.

Last October we had a servers' get-together with a meal. This gave us time to socialise as well as to chat things through. Sadly, no date could be found for all of us to meet at the same time, so we'll be repeating this with priority given to those who were unable to attend last time.

I am highly privileged to work with such a dedicated group of people. All Saints' is greatly blessed to have these people, and I do so hope that, rather than taking them for granted, members of the congregation will instead express their appreciation from time to time.

Fr Neil Bryson
Curate.

Tiny Saints in 2014

Tiny Saints Toddlers' Group started in December 2010, to provide a Church Toddlers' Group with a Biblical theme each week. We invite those planning their baby's Baptism to come to Tiny Saints, as this makes an excellent 'next step' after Baptism. We have a Christian theme each week to introduce small children to the teachings of Jesus. There are craft activities linking to the Bible story, toys and activities suitable for babies up to children aged 4 years, Bible story books to enjoy, fruit and healthy snacks for the Tiny Saints. Their Carers enjoy tea, coffee and cake. We have a 'Service' with children's songs, nursery rhymes and songs about Jesus - 'Jesus loves me this I know' and 'Jesus love is very wonderful'. We enjoy a Bible Story and end with our Tiny Saints prayer.

In 2014 Tiny Saints continued to be very popular, with up to 20 Tiny Saints in the Summer and the Autumn.

Here are some written and spoken comments about Tiny Saints:

- We enjoy coming to Tiny Saints each week because we have made new friends.
- The children enjoy the various crafts and toys.
- We all love the sing-song and Bible stories and the genuine welcome we all receive.
- It is great to come to a Group where babies are welcome.
- I like the calm and peaceful atmosphere of Tiny Saints.
- Very well organised and run. We love the group.
- .The crafts are really imaginative and my daughter loves the singing at the end.
- Fantastic group. We look forward to Friday mornings.
- We like the 'healthy snacks' with the children sitting round the table.

Thank you to the great team of people from the Church who help by setting out the toys, organising the craft activities, preparing the food and drinks, playing the piano, talking to the Tiny Saints and their Carers to provide a friendly, caring welcome.

We are grateful for the contributions of Sirpa Arovaara and Catherine May in organising the wonderful craft activities, setting up the room and tidying up at the end in 2014. They have now moved away from Maidenhead and so we are grateful for new helpers in this important Ministry of Pastoral Care and Welcoming new people to Tiny Saints and the Church Community.

Elizabeth Bryson, Tiny Saints leader, LLM

Flower Arranger's Report

It is with great pleasure that I am able to report on another successful year in which the church has had a good display of flowers each week. Thank you to all members of the congregation for their generous sponsorship of the flowers week by week, and the special gift of lilies at Eastertide. This sponsorship means that there is no money taken from church funds for the decoration of the church.

Thanks are due to Marian Duncombe, Jean Balchin, Jo Towers, Carole Deverill, Valerie Duncombe, Ann Rawlings and June Crouch for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. We are also delighted to welcome Linda Wallbank to the team she is working with Ann at present and learning the ropes.

During the year we have been helped at festivals and other busy times by a number of people, particularly Brenda Ilott, Rosemary Tyson and Pat Church. Once again Alan Ketley and Pauline Hole set up the Easter garden for us. We are extremely blessed at All Saints, both in the number and ability of our team of flower arrangers, which enables us to keep the church looking good every week.

As always we would welcome more people to become involved with the flower arranging. Anyone who is interested is more than welcome to come along on a Friday morning, when we normally do the flowers, and see what is involved. You could work with one of the present arrangers for a while or start as an assistant. We may even run a beginners course if we have enough interest! Jo Towers is undertaking a City & Guilds course at the moment and becoming very knowledgeable. She was inspired to do this by joining us after she retired. Could this be you? Flower arranging is a lovely way to serve the church and give glory to the Lord.

Barbara Bannister

Report for the Men of Boyne Hill 2014

In the early part of 2014 I attended along with Fr Neil the Diocesan Conference in Swanwick. One of the key study groups that I attended was the one looking at men's ministry within the Anglican church. Statistics are not everything I am sure we would agree but it was concerning to hear of some of the figures concerning men and the church. Over the last 30 years 49% of men have left the church and 25% of married women go to church without their husbands. 95% of Fresh Expressions of the church have tended to focus on women and children and very few of our activities are attractive to men.

From a mission point of view if a husband comes to church in 93% of cases the family joins him. If a woman comes to church that figure drops to 27%.

Thanks to John Harrison and Mike Ansell we have tried to address these issues. At the time of writing we are still struggling to make an impact with men that we have had contact with. Here are some of the ideas that we have to encourage men and families with All Saints community.

- Invite men to speak about their jobs in church in the place of the sermon. Peter May and John Harrison have spoken about their roles and how we might pray for them.
- Following on from the above point John Ainslie, Mike Ansell and myself will in 2015 be addressing the challenges faced by people in their daily working lives. 'Fruitfulness on the Frontline' an 8 session course for disciples who want to make a difference where they are. This will look at how we can show and share Christ's wisdom and love with the people we meet out in the places we usually find ourselves - at the shops or the gym, at work or at the schoolgate. This course put together by the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity will offer opportunities for us to see ways in which we can be more active in the world.
- We will at times have talks and discussions at the vicarage. In 2014 we shared the ministry found in Kenya from my sabbatical.
- Social evenings based around sport or indeed talks that are not specifically religious.
- Regular spring and summer walks in the evenings.
- Once a month visit to the Pond House pub to share a bite to eat and have a chat.
- Host a Fathers' Day BBQ in the quadrangle and invite families
- Put on 'Brunch' mornings at the parish centre.
- There is an exciting plan to develop alongside another parish from St Martin's, Ruislip an annual pilgrimage to Walsingham.

As you can probably tell from this report we are talking about a vision rather than great things we have already done. Please pray for the ministry at All Saints for men and families.

With my prayers,

Fr Jeremy