



All Saints' Church
Putney Common
London
SW15 1HN

ANNUAL
REPORT
2019

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Agenda for the Annual General Meeting

Sunday 15th March 2020

All Saints' Church, Putney Common

1. Introductory prayers
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the AGM 17th March 2019
4. Appointment of the Parish Warden
5. Appointment of Church wardens
6. Election of the DCC, PCC and Deanery Synod members
7. Election of the DCC Treasurer
8. The presentation of the Electoral Roll
9. The secretary's report of the District Church Council Proceedings
10. Presentation of the Church Finances
11. Church Reports
12. AOB

**Following the Annual General Meeting there will be a brief DCC meeting
and election of DCC secretary**

**Minutes from the Annual General Meeting
Sunday 17th March 2019
All Saints' Church, Putney Common**

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting

Sunday 17th March 2019

All Saints' Church, Putney Common

Present: Rev. Chris Eyden; All Saints' Church Wardens, Iain Cox & Kate Innes; Parish Warden, Clemency Gordon-Martin; All Saints' Church Treasurer, John Andrew; DCC Secretary, David Thomson, and 32 members of the church attended the AGM.

Chris Eyden gave his address and report as the sermon during the service, a transcript of which is attached at the bottom of these minutes. It is also available on-line at the All Saints' website.

03.18.1 Welcome: Chris Eyden opened with a prayer and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

03.18.2 Apologies: No apologies were received.

03.18.3 Minutes of the AGM 18th March 2018: Rosie Taylor-Davies proposed and Jane Turner seconded that we accept and pass the minutes from 18th March 2018 as a true representation of the last AGM.

03.18.4 Matters Arising: None were raised from the floor.

03.18.5 Appointment of the Parish Warden: Clemency Gordon-Martin was duly appointed as Parish Warden for the coming year (2019/20). She was proposed by Adam Daniels and seconded by Graham Shaw. This appointment was supported unanimously by the congregation, by a show of hands.

03.18.6 Appointment of District Church Wardens: Iain Cox and Kate Innes were duly appointed as District Church Wardens for All Saints' for the coming year (2019/20). These appointments were supported unanimously by the congregation by a show of hands.

Chris Eyden thanked both Parish and Church Wardens for all their help and support.

03.18.7 Election of the DCC, PCC and Deanery Synod members: Chris Eyden advised the meeting that with his departure in July 2019, and the ensuing interregnum, maintaining continuity and stability during this period is essential to the continued good running of the church and will help provide a stable platform for the incoming priest. To support this those members of the DCC, PCC and Deanery Synod who were due to end their term of office have agreed to remain in post during the interregnum. Chris thanked Nick Pleydell-Bouverie and Rosie Taylor-Davies who had agreed to do this. He also thanked all members of the DCC for their support. No questions or objections were raised from the floor.

One new member was elected onto All Saints' DCC to replace Matthew Salisbury who resigned from the DCC in December 2018 as he moved out of the area. Kim Williams who was proposed by John Andrew and seconded by Clemency Gordon-Martin was duly appointed for a 3 year term. His appointment was supported unanimously by the congregation. With this one exception the officers remain as follows:

- a. Members who sit on the All Saints' DCC alone: Louise Herring, Ollie Todd, Sarah Thomas and Nick Pleydell-Bouverie continue as DCC members for the coming year.
- b. Members who sit on All Saints' DCC who are also elected to the PCC: Rosie Taylor-Davies, Marianne Coates and Matthew Watts continue as DCC members who also sit on the PCC, for the coming year.
- c. PCC members from the All Saints' congregation: Chantry Westwell, Simon Upton and Simon Killick continue as PCC members for the coming year.
- d. Deanery Synod members: Jane Turner, Matthew Watts, Rosie Taylor-Davies, Gemma Duncan and Faith Sutherland continue as Deanery Synod members for the coming year.

e. Co-opted members: David Thomson was co-opted to the DCC as DCC Secretary. This is an unelected position and has no voting rights.

03.18.8 Election of the Treasurer: John Andrew was duly re-appointed as Church Treasurer for the next year. Chris formally expressed his thanks to John for the excellent job he continues to do. The appointment was proposed by Adam Daniels and seconded by Alec Boulton. This appointment was supported unanimously by the congregation by a show of hands.

03.18.9 The presentation of the Electoral Roll: Clemency Gordon-Martin advised that we are required periodically to renew the Electoral Roll and anyone who is eligible to be on it needs to re-enlist. Clemency encouraged all to re-enlist and advised that the Electoral Roll is open until 6th April 2019.

03.18.10 The secretary's report of the District Church Council (DCC) proceedings: The Hon Secretary advised that the report of the previous year's DCC proceedings was included in the AGM report document. The secretary invited questions or comments; none were forthcoming.

03.18.11 Presentation of the Church Finances: The Treasurer, John Andrew, presented the report on the church finances. He highlighted the following key points:

- We have successfully increased our giving by 4%. He thanked everyone for their work and contributions.
- The following areas of expenditure were highlighted:
 - o continued our spend on the garden and trees. He thanked Parkgate for renewing their sponsorship;
 - o renovation of the church floors;
 - o engaged a children's worker;
 - o increased spend on music.

Although giving was up 4%, our investments in the stock market did not perform as well as expected, particularly in December 2018 when the stock market performed badly in general. Due to this our overall income was unchanged on the previous year. We are planning for a deficit, which will be covered by previous years surplus. John advised that, overall, we are projecting to break even in 2019/20.

Alec Boulton asked about the performance of our investments. John Andrew advised that our non-property investments are in a Newton absolute return fund, plus some small individual shares. He advised that these will be retained as investments so the losses from December 2018 are anticipated to be unrealised losses, assuming their performance improves in the future.

Chris Eyden thanked John for all the hard work he continues to do.

Louise Watts proposed and Kate Edwards seconded that we accept the report on the church finances. This was supported unanimously by the congregation by a show of hands.

03.18.12 Church Reports: Chris Eyden ran through each section of the Annual Report and invited questions and comments from the floor; they are captured below. He thanked everyone involved in contributing to the contents of and compiling the Annual Report. Chris Eyden advised that the Annual Report will be available on-line and hard copies can be provided on request for those not able to access the internet.

- Music - Chris Eyden highlighted the success of Choral Evensong and thanked Chris Woodward for driving this.
- Stewards – Chris Eyden advised that there are currently only 8 stewards and 6 chalice assistants on rota at 08:30 service and encouraged people to consider putting themselves forward to become stewards and/or chalice assistants.
- Toddler group - Jane Turner thanked Chris Eyden for making the Toddler Group communion work. Chris Eyden thanked Elisabeth Morse for her part in organising this.

- Eucharist - Marianne Coates stated how much she enjoys the Contemplative Eucharists that are held on Wednesdays during Lent.
- Worship - Graham Shaw thanked Chris Eyden for having developed a wonderful depth of worship at All Saints'.
- All Saints @ 4 – Chris Eyden noted that attendance at this children's worship has dipped but hoping it will be revived.
- Sunday School – Chris Eyden thanked Jackie Davis, our children's and Sunday school worker for all her hard work and stated that she is a very valuable asset.
- Children's worship and Treble Makers – Chris Eyden thanked Chris Woodward for all his hard work, dedication and inspiration.
- Readers – Chris Eyden thanked Faith Sutherland for running the readers.
- Pastoral Assistant – Chris Eyden advised that Yin-An (Ian) will come to the end of his year with us later this year and that we are aiming to appoint another Pastoral Assistant to join from September.
- Music report – Chris Eyden praised the extraordinarily high standard of music at All Saints' and thanked the loyalty of the choir. He explained that our budget for music is large but, this is a key and valuable part of All Saints' mission. He stated that the intention is to continue this and, to continue the support and development of young musicians.

Lisa Randles suggested we initiate a fund-raising drive specifically for the music at All Saints' church.

- Events@ - Chris Eyden thanked Louise Herring and Nicola Hammerton for their hard work and involvement.
- All Saints' School – Chris Eyden noted that throughout his tenure the relationship between the church and All Saints' School has been excellent and Chris regards himself as very fortunate to be part of that remarkable relationship.
- Senior Social – Chris Eyden advised that Catherine Collyer has agreed to take over running this and he thanked both her and Sarah Barron who is moving on.
- Parish Action – Chris Eyden thanked Rosie Taylor-Davies for her stewardship and also thanked all who have been involved.
- Building maintenance – Chris Eyden advised that Mike Biddick will be standing down. Chris thanked him for all his years of service and advised that we will require a new person to take on the role.
- Garden – Chris Eyden thanked Kate Innes for her involvement in sponsorship of garden and for liaising with Parkgate. Chris also thanked Faith Sutherland and Chris Slemeck for all their hard work in tending the garden.
- Flowers – Chris Eyden thanked Nicky Taskis for her hard work in relation to the flowers in church.

03.18.13 AOB: the follow was discussed:

- Vandalism – the recent vandalism in the church grounds was discussed. Chris Eyden advised that the police have been notified and are making raids. He also reported that we are looking at installing CCTV but noted that this is a difficult problem to tackle. He asked people to be vigilant and report back any information that might help in trying to tackle this. Diana Wilson agreed to speak to Clemency Gordon-Martin to pass on any information, as she can see the church grounds from her house.

Chris Eyden closed the meeting at 12:55 with a prayer.

All Saints' Church, Putney Common.

Significant events in 2018/19. We started our regular Foodbank collections. On today of all days, we can remember with pride, our welcome to our Muslim brothers and sisters on Christmas Eve last year. We saw Laura Fawcett into her first incumbency in Hackney after a noteworthy curacy. Unusually, the Parish has been given another curate to train soon after Laura. Jonathan will be ordained on June 29th. I've met him, he's an ex actor, soon to be ordained. Watch out for ordained ex actors! They can be trouble!! We said farewell to two Pastoral Assistants, James and Steve as they moved on to pastures new. We appointed a new one in Ian. We said farewell to Paddy Allies after an enjoyable and distinguished four years as Director of Music. We appointed our current Director, Christopher Woodward and our new Assistant Director Josh Ridley continuing the tradition of the past 7 years, of high-quality music, at the hands of young emerging musicians. We renovated our floor. To my utter devastation, we said farewell to the platform Dais! We appointed and installed a new Team Rector, John Whittaker.

Vicars come. Vicars go. I will leave you as your Vicar on Sunday 21st of July, when I will move to Bury St Edmunds to take up a Diocesan role. This is my last AGM in Putney and, as I won't be a Vicar as such anymore, this is possibly my last ever AGM! I've chaired nine so far in this church and probably about 12 in the Parish since I came here 14 years ago.

Since last August, we are very lucky indeed to have enjoyed the ministry of Elisabeth Morse, both on Sunday and at our Thursday Toddler group. Elisabeth, as well as being a long standing and cherished friend of mine, is a fine experienced priest who has agreed to stand alongside you, liturgically, pastorally and spiritually, throughout the Interregnum. I have no doubt that you will be in the best of hands. However, Elisabeth is a priest, she's not the Vicar. Elisabeth will support you in worship and pastoral care. She won't be taking on church governance or rotas or lawns or gardens and guttering. She will need your support to make sure that the church operates practically, as it needs to, both in Sunday worship and during weekdays. I have no doubt she can count on that support.

Lottie Clarke will continue her remarkably supportive role as Church Administrator and the church office will move to St Mary's in early July when I leave the Vicarage in Landford Road.

There is a sense of an ending. But there is also a sense of a beginning. Every ending is a beginning.

It would be easy to give a valedictory address, but I haven't gone yet! I don't want to bang on about where the church has been, where it is now, and where it might go. I don't want to do the usual AGM thing, thanking everyone from the almighty herself, through the entire electoral role, to the nice man in the newsagent where I buy my milk. I think I want to say something quite different. In this brief few minutes, I want to talk about what churches are. How they become, and how they continue to flourish.

Firstly, a church is not it's Vicar. Vicars come and go. Some stay for a couple of years; some for 14; some even longer. The people in the community are the resources that make a church a church. A Vicar is only as good as the people we serve. I can remember coming to All Saints' for the first time about 13 years ago. I ran the first interregnum (and two in the Parish since). I came from a church where I often had to push to get things done. I arrived here and realised that I didn't have to push so much. Things were being done by a small but very dedicated team of people. It enabled me to do the job in hand.

What is distinctive about the Church of England, this Parish and All Saints' Church Putney, is we thrive and grow on "belonging". We feel we belong, sometimes years before we work out what we believe. Our spirituality is worked out in our worship, our music, our coffee mornings, our bonfires, fireworks, parish picnics and pancake parties, in our Toddler and Senior Social groups, our Carol services, Harvest festivals and Lent brunches. We find God in chance friendships and a shared

desire to “know and be known”. This generous, kind and open Christianity, has been the bed rock of the C of E, long before it adopted the strapline “Inclusive church”.

What I think people desire more than anything is to be “kind” and to be “kindly done to”, perhaps in a way in which the world outside isn’t kind to many. This desire to belong, to be kind, help out, do our bit, exists within the community and is also itself, the glue which holds the community together.

We are most certainly not a perfect community and not everybody always feels kindly done to or that they always belong. People do and say stupid things; the Vicar does and says stupid things sometimes, when he’s cross, frustrated, disappointed and tired. People sometimes are unkind and Love is easy to say, but much harder to live out, and not everyone can like everyone, and life never has been a bowl of cherries, not for me at least, but I don’t like cherries anyway. But, I hope, for the most part, we are a community of generous, well-meaning people, who want to be a part of the world’s light and not its darkness.

We are a community of busy people too. Able people are always busy. We are a prosperous community, and prosperity makes demands on our time because it gives us opportunities and choices which poorer people don’t have. Church always has to compete with so much “life” being lived. But, in whatever circumstance, the people that do the jobs needed to keep a community moving forward, are far more important to a church than a Vicar. The people being all of you.

The Vicar uses the platform created by you, the people, to inspire, to engage, to bring us together in worship, offering everything, to enable those who gather, day by day, week by week, month by month, year by year, to seek something entirely profound and unique. The rumour that God can be a reality in your lives. Journey to know that God is love. Love found in each other, in word, deed and in sacrament. Everything from the greatest to least, is itself a sacrament. An outward sign of the creative, kind and generous Love of God.

A Vicar’s job is to make these connections and to nurture a community that can bind up broken hearts when necessary, rejoice when needed and reflect when perplexed. When a Vicar has a solid base as a platform from which to work, then these things can and do happen, people can be inspired; held, and encouraged to be the human beings fully alive that God intends.

When a Vicar leaves, a Church doesn’t stop being a community, it doesn’t stop worshipping, praying and rejoicing. If you look back at your time here, be it 50 years or five weeks, there will be something about this church that you really value. Someone handed these things on to you as a legacy, you can hand them on to others.

I know from experience of other churches, when the infrastructure is worn down to the finger ends, it takes a new Vicar a huge amount of energy, and a huge amount of time better spent elsewhere, just to get that infrastructure back into being; whether it’s church governance, or any number of essential rotas for worship planning. Whether it’s Sunday school, stewards, readers, prayers, choir, creche, toddler, servers or senior group, it’s crucial that it all flourishes. A church is what the people do, not what the Vicar does.

Before I cause offence and I’m accused of suggesting that people do not do enough in All Saints’ Church; I know there are people in this church who do a lot, and there are people who do a bit. And, there are people who do far too much, battling against sometimes, impossible personal circumstances. I’m not going to “do” an Oscar thank you speech, and risk missing people out. So, to all of you; you who work tirelessly in order to keep our church moving forwards, worshipping God and serving our community; thank you. This Vicar could have done nothing without you.

It’s really tempting to see the departure of a Vicar to be a good chance to hand over responsibilities. Maybe gradually handing over to others is necessary, but I would ask that people don’t walk away too quickly, because this ship needs its crew. I’m taking the opportunity of this AGM to ask for some stability during the interregnum. The wisdom of experience in all areas is invaluable. Our tremendous church wardens Clemency, Iain and Kate have agreed to stay on for the duration of the interregnum, as has our District Church Council. We are hoping we will keep our Treasurer John Andrew too.

We enjoy wonderful things as a Church. We have wonderful worship and music. We have good children’s activities and Sunday school. We have a truly stunning building and delightful gardens. We run a Foodbank and a Shelter for the homeless and we raise large amounts of money for charities each year and this list is not exhaustive. All these take work. In addition, the contemporary

church is subject to rigorous Health and Safety and Safeguarding regulations, like never before. We depend on volunteers to put all of this into practice, and we are short of them.

We're running out of Sunday School and Godly Play teachers. We need a buildings Manager and a Health and Safety Officer. We need more people to lead intercessions and help with our many events.

People who have done these jobs for many years, need eventually, to handover to other people. So, before I leave in a few months' time, we are running a "Situations Vacant" campaign for the various posts that we need to be filled, in order that the church can continue to flourish.

Since the first announcement of my leaving, I've already received kind words and generous invitations. Obviously hugely appreciated, but what would mean most to me by way of thanks, is not treats, or necessarily anything material. Your best thanks, for whatever value I may have been to you over these many years, is a willingness to "stand up to the plate" and take responsibility for things that need to be done. It makes no odds if you've been here for decades or a just few months. If All Saints' is valuable to you, and I know so many of you love this church as I do, then help it to continue to flourish. Give it your support. There is a very bright future ahead I have no doubt. We have in John Whittaker a new Team Rector with a kind heart and a huge amount of ideas and energy. You will have a new Curate in June, and I'm hopeful, you will find a fine new priest with energy and vision, as your new Vicar next year. There is a sense of an ending. But there is also a sense of a beginning. Every ending is a beginning.

I hope your new Vicar, lands on a boat that is flourishing and sailing forward confidently. I know he or she will thank you and perform better for it, in their first few years of their ministry.

To conclude; I thank you now, for all the years that we've shared, for the challenges and the fun we've had and the love I've received; and I look forward to the next few months that we still have together. If you're around on the afternoon of Sunday 21st July, drop by the church garden for a glass of wine and a crisp. It won't be lavish. Just a quiet goodbye.

I hope that I am waving farewell to SS All Saints', as she sails onwards into a confident future, leaving me on the quayside, job done.

The Rev'd Chris Eyden: March 17th 2019

All Saints' Church District Church Council 2019-2020

Ex-Officio Members

Clergy

Reverend Chris Eyden (until July 2019)

Churchwarden

Clemancy Gordon-Martin

District wardens

Iain Cox

Kate Innes

Elected Members

Lay Members elected to serve on DCC

Kim Williams

Nick Pleydell-Bouverie

Louise Herring

Oliver Todd

Sarah Thomas

Lay Members elected to serve on both DCC and PCC

Marianne Coates

Rosie Taylor-Davies

Matthew Watts

Lay Members elected to serve on PCC alone

Simon Upton

Simon Killick

Chantry Westwell

Deanery Synod Representatives

Jane Turner (to sit on DCC ex officio)

Matthew Watts

Rosie Taylor-Davies

Faith Sutherland (until July 2019)

Gemma Duncan

Treasurer

John Andrew

DCC Secretary

David Thomson

Church Reports

1. Worship at All Saints' Church

- **Sunday Services**

Sunday worship at 8.30am is a spoken service, celebrating the Eucharist and following the Book of Common Prayer. A short (but always relevant, thought provoking and pithy) sermon is delivered by the celebrant or occasionally by an invited guest. Those who attend are, for the most part, seated in the quire which makes for an intimate service (enhanced by the lighted lamps, especially in winter) and with the welcome increase in numbers, often requires additional chairs to accommodate the congregation. Attendees regularly reach 20 or more in number, ranging in age from babes in arms to the retired, with an increasingly large core group of regular attendees of all ages. The atmosphere is warm and friendly, and welcoming to all visitors and newcomers and is perfect for those who appreciate the opportunity for quiet and reflective worship at the beginning of the day.

Sophie Mazzier

The Parish Eucharist at 10.30 am on Sundays is very popular with all age-groups. On most Sundays the traditional form of worship is followed, with children from the crèche and Sunday school joining their parents near the end for communion. There is something for everyone at this service, with the choir providing beautiful music and volunteers from the congregation transporting and helping the elderly to be with us. Children and teenagers are acolytes and book-holders and members of the congregation read and intercess, making for a friendly and inclusive atmosphere. The clergy follow the church calendar to provide structure and variety to the worship and sermons through the year. On the first Sunday of every month there is an All-Age Service, with no Sunday school, where the young choir, Treblemakers, sing for us and the younger members of the congregation do the readings and intercessions. Coffee and biscuits follow the service and wherever possible the lovely gardens are used as a place to gather and chat.

Chantry Westwell

Sidespeople, Chalice Assistants and Sacristans continue to play an invaluable part in the smooth running of Sunday (and other) services at church and welcoming newcomers. This past year 3 Stewards, 3 Readers, 3 Intercessors and 2 Chalice Assistants have joined this group of volunteers.

Carolyn Biddick

Servers: Important roles for younger members of the congregation at All Saints'.

I would like to give a huge thank you to the twenty-eight Servers at All Saints' Church, who provide an important support to our clergy. Our youngest Servers start as early as Year 3 as Acolytes, and as they gain experience they progress on to Crucifer, Book Holder and Thurifers. We are very fortunate that some stay with us through to adulthood, and we are thankful for the continued support from our adult Servers.

As well as serving at the 10:30 Service, Servers also officiate on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, All Souls day, The Carol Service and Midnight Mass.

With twenty-eight Servers at All Saints' Church, you would think that we have enough to cover throughout the year, but the holiday periods and evening services are often difficult, so if you feel you could help out but do not wish to be a regular Server, I will gratefully add your name to our ad hoc list. The average commitment is twice a term and the rotas are produced in four equal blocks of three months a year. Training is given in all roles, and extra support is given to younger Servers who are new to serving.

I have taken over from Alex Corner as co-ordinator of the Servers rota. If you would like any information with regard to becoming one of the Servers, please contact me for more information via my email servers.allsaints@parishofputney.co.uk

Marianne Coates

- **Children's worship**

For **All Saints @ 4** see Curate's report.

Sunday School - All Saints' Church offers approximately nine Sunday School sessions per term and weekly attendance is consistent at about 15-20 children in total; with a core group of children making up the majority.

Our Sunday School teaching is based on the fundamental aspiration to support children in discovering who God is, what God is like and what God does, allowing our children and young people to gain a clear and age appropriate understanding of Christian values and beliefs.

Sunday School at All Saints' has an inclusive ethos and welcomes all children. We enthusiastically promote and encourage reflection and questioning and respect the expression of different views. Our Sunday School is well resourced. In our teaching, we continue to utilize a range of methods in our delivery; including reading and storytelling, craft and games, cookery, as well as use of Godly play strategies. We are also trying to incorporate more use of the outside space we are fortunate enough to have access to. The use of this variety of methods creates the opportunity for children with a range of different learning styles to be involved and also keeps sessions interesting and diverse for attendees.

We continue to offer a pre-school group in the Burne-Jones room of the Church and Infant and Junior Group in the hall of All Saints' school. On occasion we offer a whole group to the children in the school, providing the opportunity for the children to come together and share their ideas from different age perspectives. Each term there is the chance for the children to participate in a Godly Play session to further enrich their spiritual thinking and learning and add to the diversity of teaching.

All Saints' dedicated and committed team of Sunday School teachers work extremely hard to ensure that children within our community are able to enjoy the benefits of Sunday School on a consistent basis. There have been four new teachers welcomed to the Sunday School team this year, two of whom are Godly Play trained, and we are thrilled to have these individuals join us in our ministry. The recruitment of new volunteers does however remain a priority.

In the coming year the plan is to increase the training sessions offered to our Sunday School volunteers so as to continually develop, share good practice ideas and offer the best we can to our children and young people. Termly social events will also be arranged as an opportunity to build a supportive and collaborative team. There will also be a focus developing our relationship with the Sunday School team at St Mary's so that we might offer further shared Parish sessions in addition to that on Palm Sunday. The children's worker will continue to offer support and guidance to all volunteers as and when required and can be contacted either in person, or via email – jackie.davis@parishofputney.co.uk

A massive thank you is extended to all of the team who consistently put so much of their time, energy and consideration into preparing and leading our Sunday School sessions; as well as adopting a flexible approach to ensure the successful delivery of our Children's ministry.

Jackie Davis

Godly Play continues to be a wonderful and calm way for Godly Play leaders to pass on spiritual stories to children. It remains a core component of Sunday school at All Saints' with each age group having at least one session a term.

The storytelling, wondering and free reflection within Godly Play allows children of all ages to actively engage with the Biblical stories, liturgy and topics of our Christian faith. Godly Play materials are simple in design and encourage children and young people to be creative and interpret the lessons through their own imagination. Children are given multiple craft and resources to utilise following each Godly Play story and can choose how to express what they have thought about or felt with minimal direction.

Godly Play is an accredited storytelling approach and we currently have seven accredited Godly Play leaders amongst our Sunday School teachers. We have a number of stories available at All Saints' Church and will seek to increase this number in the coming year.

If anyone is interested in learning more about Godly Play please do contact Jackie Davis - jackie.davis@parishofputney.co.uk

The crèche. This year has been a wonderful year for the creche. Alex Rhodes, who has worked so hard making it such a special place to go, passed on responsibility for co-ordination to myself, Leila Polydorou. We already had an established and reliable team of volunteers which has continued to grow over recent months. I have also been working closely with Jackie to make sure that we are doing as much as possible to make it as easy for parents, as well as fun for children. It has been a thought for some time that we need to manage all the different ages and needs of children, so we decided to have an open door policy between Creche and Pre-school so that parents can cater more easily to their children's needs and also have activities accessible to children ranging in age. Now in Creche we have 1 volunteer (a parent always needs to be there to supervise their child/children) to oversee the toys but also a drawing table which we now set out each week. Having the pre-school doors open so the older children come and go as they please also has meant that parents and children are more relaxed and involved.

We continue to be able to listen to the service via speaker and make sure that all is tidied up and we are back in church so that all can attend communion.

Feedback is very positive and I'm so glad that there is such an amazing community and so much support to give the children and families a safe, fun and supportive place

to go every Sunday. I look forward to another wonderful year here at All Saints', Putney Common.

Leila Polydorou, Creche Co-ordinator

All Age: Eight All Age Services were held in 2019, providing an opportunity for families with both young and older children to worship together in a child-friendly Sunday morning service. The inclusion of the Treblemakers children's choir is always enjoyable and the congregation's young people continue to make us proud as they very capably perform the readings and intercessions for these services. There are approximately 15 young people between the ages of 8-17 currently on the rota to read, and generally two or three involved per service. Once the new Team Vicar is in place, and considering any format changes to the service itself under new leadership, it would be worthwhile to recruit a few more children to account for those older ones who may want to retire their duties, and to broaden the opportunity to more young people. Huge thanks to Faith Sutherland and Joanna Robinson who stepped down in 2019 after many, many years of organising the All Age readers! *Lisa Randles*

- **Weekday Services**

Weekday Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is said in the choir stalls of the church each weekday morning. It begins at 9.15 am and lasts for about 25 minutes. It is led either by one of the Clergy, a member of the congregation or the Parish Assistant. It comprises bible readings, psalms and prayers. The content varies according to the day of the week and the season of the church year. It is a wonderful way to start the day with a focus on God's love for us all.

Clemancy Gordon-Martin

Thursday 10.00am Child Friendly Eucharist

The service, led by Rev'd Elisabeth Morse and supported by Jarel, continues to provide a welcoming and fun introduction to the church for pre-schoolers, with songs, hymns, bell ringing and a story box which tells a different bible story each week, as well as prayers and communion.

Stephanie Tollemache

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

Last year 24 children under the age of 12 years were baptized; 8 children from All Saints' were Admitted to Communion; 8 couples were married at All Saints'; 8 funerals were conducted at the church as well as 1 memorial service and 3 funerals were conducted at a crematorium.

Lottie Clarke

2. All Saints' Church and the Community

- **Curate**

Putney already feels to me like home! Following my ordination as deacon, and in part with a Team Vicar vacancy, I felt I've hit the ground running in my first Parish posting. Thank you to everyone who has been so welcoming and so supportive. My ministry here is very well supported, and is made so much easier with incredible help from Lottie, Berni, Julie & Antonia; and as this is a training post John Whittaker, and the other clergy, lay ministers and two parish assistants and youth leaders' have all been very generous with their time, as have our wardens, music leadership, PCC/DCC members, congregation and Putney Pantry!

This first year, for me, is very much focused on theological reflection. Thinking deeply on the prayer life of our churches and the unique vocations we all have as God's people has been the driving force for building upon and the development of a few of our services; this includes looking at opportunities of lay leadership, seasonal specials, (and specifically with Caroline and John) Caritas. Variations are part of our ongoing pattern, not least as John has been Team Rector for over a year; Chris has left, and we look forward to welcoming Daniel as Team Vicar. As part of the team I have reflected and discussed response to mission and ministry in this place; and officiating at baptisms and funerals has provided a number of pastoral opportunities, as has ministry to Mount Court and home visits. I am very grateful to Ditte Donnelly and Jarel R-B for their support, especially at Mount Court.

Running All Saints@4 and the Tuesday Toddler group (which is well attended), as well as being an interim governor at All Saints' Primary has been a very good way to connect with the youth and schools ministry of this Parish. As has the relaunch of the Youth Group (see separate report). It was worthwhile being sent on a three-day Godly Play teaching course, and I am really excited to join the teams at both churches and re-start GP within All Saints' school.

Passing so many of our youth, parents/carers most mornings on the way to Morning Prayer is a highlight of my day. Another particular highlight was working with older teenagers preparing for confirmation, and most recently the course of Admission to Holy Communion.

Sunday worship and mid-week services remain the core of the worshipping life of the Parish, and bringing a distinctive ordained diaconal ministry to these services has been very good preparation for July 4th when I will (God willing) be ordained priest, and 5th July when I preside at the Eucharist for the first time. I look forward to a joint service on that day where, I hope, we as God's priestly people can come together and give thanks and praise for our all our unique and collective callings.

The Pest Trust allocates a clergy discretionary fund which has been an added support and used to engage with ministry to those vulnerable and on the margins of our society. Very often people present at the church who are hungry and until being boarded up rough sleeping on Putney High Street was high. Joining in with the Sleep Out for Glass Door soon after I arrived, helped raise my own awareness of local homelessness, I am however apologetic that the diary has not allowed me to engage with the shelter at St Mary's in a way that I would have wished, this has been a learning point for me to address. I echo the words of my predecessor highlighting "just how vital" our work with homeless charities is, in providing support, and resources.

Other focuses have included sourcing speakers for Theology in the Pub and the last two terms have been rewarding and interesting, the group have enjoyed and found the program of speakers helpful. Contributing to the magazine has been fun as was the Parish pet service and the pancake party which were a delight to lead. I have enjoyed my first bell ringing lessons and meeting the tower team. Looking back my first Advent and Christmas saw an Advent group and a number of seasonal services in both churches. Preparations are under way for Lent and Easter and I am very happy to report that I will be involved with our ecumenical partners during a Lent Course. On the civic side, I represented the Parish at the relighting of Putney Bridge, helped with the Hustings before the General Election, and took a lead in preparation for our Service of Remembrance.

Once again, for the warm welcome to Phoebe, the gingernut dogs, and to me – my thanks and continued prayers. – Jono.

Rev'd Jonathan Haynes, Assistant Curate

- **Parish Assistant**

Pastoral Assistant Work

It has been a privilege to serve alongside you all here over the past seven months. Although the time seems to be flying by, I have found it a real blessing to have been made so welcome here in the Parish of Putney. It's given me a chance to see the ministry of the whole people of God from a different perspective, which, as someone hoping to return to full-time ordained ministry is no bad thing. I think it's a testament to the depth of Christian community here that folk have been able to have the imagination and ingenuity to enable someone like me (not a typical Parish Assistant) to inhabit this role. Regarding my work at All Saints', in particular it has been wonderful to get to know the people of the Parish. Being resident in the Vicarage and being a dog owner has meant that there have been many opportunities for encounter in the day-to-day routine and mix of personal and parish life. I've greatly enjoyed being at All Saints' for Morning Prayer each morning, and for the chance to help out with Treblemakers. I've found particular opportunities for pastoral contact at the Thursday Toddler Eucharist, and it has been a joy to assist Elisabeth Morse in this work and to help the parents keep an eye on little ones whilst making the coffee! Assisting with the admission to Holy Communion sessions has been a wonderful chance to share my own faith with the families and children who have been coming, and to support John, Jono and Caroline in this important work.

Apart from the obvious pastoral work, time has been spent in preparing liturgies for special services, and other bits of admin. Unfortunately, I have been unable to make regular contact with the Senior Social group as I have to attend lectures every Monday morning, although outside of term-time I have attended and look forward to doing so again soon. My work with All Saints' has broadened my horizons, a particular highlight was the Pet Blessing led by Jono and serving as Thurifer for the Midnight Eucharist at Christmas with Bishop Richard. Special thanks to Lottie, Clemancy and Carolyn in particular who have been extremely helpful and without whom I'd never have managed to find my feet! I've been really inspired by the ministry I've witnessed here, and I look forward to getting to know the people of All Saints' further over the duration of my time here, and I'm particularly grateful for their love and support as I've made this transition from Methodism to Anglicanism.

Jarel Robinson-Brown

- **Church Music at All Saints'**

Throughout 2019, worship at All Saints' has continued to be filled with music. Chris Eyden's departure was fittingly marked with both the church's adult and children's choirs joining together to sing. It is important to acknowledge and give thanks for all that Chris did to support the role and development of music at All Saints' during his ministry. Chris championed the children's choir, Treblemakers, he supported the development of Choral Scholars and he ensured that music was, and continues to be, well-resourced. Above all, however, Chris was a trusting manager: he had full confidence in his music team that they would seek to make music to the glory of God and with the very best of their abilities. I believe it is for this reason that music at All Saints' has continued to go from strength to strength. As a church, I believe we are now reaping the rewards of the sustained and committed investment: All Saints' is known for its consistently high-quality offering of music.

During the period of interregnum from July 2019, we must all be thankful for the commitment of our Adult Choir and Choral Scholars. A strong SATB choir is something that is precious and relies on a team of people singing independent lines. In a relatively small chamber choir, regular absence can be tricky and missing voice parts can significantly impact what a choir is able to sing. However, week by week, members of our choir have turned up to sing the Sunday Eucharist and provided a constant presence during the Team Vicar vacancy. I am so very grateful to every member of the Adult Choir for their singing over the last twelve months. Hannah Cox, Lizzy Hardy, Jack Yates and Chris Waters are a talented, dedicated and fun-humoured group of Choral Scholars and have contributed much to the atmosphere and ability of the choir. The BCP Choral Evensong has remained a highlight month by month, both for its loyal congregation and for those singing in the choir.

Every good choir needs an even better organist and Josh Ridley has been an excellent Assistant Director of Music. In his short time at All Saints', he has played with flare and confidence and we have all benefited from his musicianship.

Following the success of 2018's performance of 'The Manchester Carols', the combined choirs of Treblemakers and Newton Prep joined the Adult Choir for a similarly enjoyable Christmas Concert at the end of 2019. 'The First Nowell' by Vaughan Williams was the centre-piece of the concert which featured narrations by Nick Rowe and Mari-Claire McClintock. The work was commissioned in 1958 to raise money to provide homes in England for children who had been in Nazi slave camps; it was rather special to be performing this piece exactly 61 years to the day since its first performance in Drury Lane whilst also simultaneously raising money for Glass Door. This concert saw the first performance of a newly formed choir, Putney Youth Choir. With Treblemakers now in its fifth year and numbering 40 children each week, there was a continued desire by former members of the choir to continue to sing at All Saints'. As a result, some fifteen singers in Years 7-10 met regularly on Thursdays in the Autumn Term to rehearse for the Christmas Concert. Overall, we brought 100 singers together for the concert and they were accompanied by a professional orchestra. It was undoubtedly a highlight of the year.

As I write, I am aware that this will be the last time I contribute to an AGM report for All Saints' Putney. Having spent some six years making music at All Saints', I feel hugely privileged to have worked in such a beautiful church and to have been welcomed so warmly into the Putney community. When I move to St Barnabas and Christ's Chapel, Dulwich in July 2020 to take up the position of Director of Music, I take with me so many fond memories of All Saints', its music and its people. I want to take this opportunity to formally thank all of those who have helped, guided and supported me

during my time at All Saints'. I have always sought to use music to enable and inspire worship and feel immensely proud to have contributed in some small way to the history of our most special building. Clemency Gordon-Martin has been a constant source of inspiration and guidance and enabled me in so many ways.

2020 started with a visit to Peterborough Cathedral to sing Evensong for Epiphany. We received warm comments from the congregation present and even warmer praise from the cathedral's clergy. This is a rather comforting reminder that our church choir is very good and more than able to hold its own in even the most prestigious of settings. I have no doubt that music at All Saints' in 2020 will continue to receive the warm praise it deserves. Most importantly, however, I have every confidence that music will continue to play a fundamental role in worship at All Saints'. This should be rightly celebrated.

Christopher Woodward, Director of Music

Music in the Community - 1885

This community choir has had another busy year, performing spring, summer and Christmas concerts in All Saints' church and giving a splendid performance of Verdi's Requiem in Southwark Cathedral. In December they busked for three hours and were able to send £350 each to Trinity Hospice and the Royal Hospital for Neurodisability. After their Christmas concert they sent £960 to Glass Door.

The 1885 Singers are a very caring group; they support each other through illness and difficult times. Writing as their founder and musical director I am looking forward to many more concerts.

Alison Hunka

- **Events@ All Saints'**

A big thank you to all the volunteers who have given up their time to help organise, cater and support the many events during 2019. We are hugely dependent on volunteers' time leading up to the event and on the day in order to put on the varied social and community functions that are enjoyed throughout the year.

Over the last year we supported our traditional events, overall they included the Mothering Sunday Daffodil tying, Lent Brunch, Easter Garden, Parish Picnic, Fireworks Evening and the Parish Christmas Fair. We are always open to new ideas and formats. For many of the events we work closely with Parish Action and had a great success at the Parish Christmas Fair with Regenerate. For the second year running Regenerate volunteers supported the Christmas Fair along with showcasing their Feel Good Bakery. In 2019, Kate Hampton brought together a craft group to learn new skills and made some beautiful and unique gifts which were sold at the events.

We are a friendly and resourceful team who work closely together to make events happen. We were delighted to welcome some new members to the team this year and are always keen to recruit more!

Louise Herring & Nichola Hammerton

- **Home Group**

We meet fortnightly on Fridays at 10.30am in order to discuss a Christian book we're reading. Texts range from biblical commentaries to modern cultural studies, always with coffee and cake, and prayer at the end.

Amanda Cameron

- **Pastoral Care Team**

In 2019 the Pastoral Care Team has continued to offer support to church members and the wider community. This has included home and hospital/nursing home visits to the lonely, elderly or ill, shopping and meal preparation for people unable to leave their homes and small maintenance and gardening jobs. We continue to provide transport for people who would otherwise be unable to attend church. We are increasingly taking people to hospital appointments and staying with them while they see the doctor as a 'second pair of ears'.

On Sundays the Welcome Team, a small dedicated group, are at the back of church before and after the 10.30am family service to recognise and welcome people who are new to the church. We are very aware that this first impression of All Saints' is vital if we are to be the friendly, welcoming church to which we aspire.

During the year several welcome drinks parties have been held. They create an informal opportunity for people new to the church to meet more long standing members as well as each other. These events are held in the vicarage or at homes of members of the congregation.

Clemancy Gordon-Martin

- **The Toddler Group**

Following the Thursday child friendly Eucharist, we run a playgroup from 10.30am to 11.30am during term time. There is a good core of regular attendees and the group provides a supportive and friendly place for parents while children can play with the many toys and books on offer or do crafts. Each week a different volunteer mans the kitchen to provide teas and coffees, as well as bringing healthy snacks for the children (which is always a much anticipated moment) - many thanks to all who have helped the Toddler Group this year. The session ends with songs and many of the children enjoy helping tidy up, especially rolling the rug which has become an event in itself.

We have had a number of social events for parents this year which have all been extremely well attended, and the toddler group has become the core of a large network of parents from around the Parish.

Going forward, we need to have another review of the toy cupboard which is filled to the brim thanks to generous donations, but increasingly difficult to tidy away. We would love to see numbers grow further, so please do help spread the word about both the Playgroup and the Thursday Eucharist.

Stephanie Tollemache

- **Youth Group**

After a very well attended launch BBQ in July, the Parish's new Youth Group has continued to provide young people in Year 6 and above with a safe space to explore big questions and develop their friendship and fellowship with each other. The group meets monthly, with games, discussion and reflection.

Will Fazackerly

P.S. Huge thanks from Jono to parents for their support, and our youth for their enthusiasm. On behalf of them and the Parish thanks also to the group leaders : James, Julia, Chloe, Simon and Will. For more info on the group contact jonathan.haynes@parishofputney.co.uk

- **All Saints' Church of England School**

All Saints' School continues to trend well above both local and national averages for both academic attainment and academic progress. Longer term strategic planning and streamlining governance have been a focus this past year. Operational budgets remain very tight, and the focus on longer term will ensure academic excellence continues despite real-terms cuts in funding. The governing body now operates on with three main committees: Children, Families, Church and Community; Resources and Curriculum and Standards, this simplified approach has already enabled more efficient delegation and decision making.

All Saints' School offers a wide range of programmes that support good emotional health and well-being, these programmes, alongside a rich, broad and engaging curriculum, support our vision of 'confident futures' for every child.

As an integral part of the church community, All Saints' receives a SIAMS inspection (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) every four years. This year a new and more demanding framework was set and the overall judgement of excellent was given to the school. Two additional judgements on "The impact of collective worship" and "The effectiveness of religious education", were also deemed excellent.

Our new Christian values and vision underpin our drive for continued long term high levels of academic performance, good emotional health and well-being and sound financial position.



We encourage you to browse our website for more information on the life of the school: <http://www.allsaintsputney.org.uk/>. On behalf of the Board of Governors, we would like to thank the Headteacher, her staff, our parents & carers, our pupils and all those who support the school.

Alec Boulton, Chair of Governors

- **Book Group**

We have once again enjoyed another year of wonderful reading and the books chosen this year were Pachinko by Min Jin Lee, The Last Painting of Sara de Vos by Dominic Smith, The Seven Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle by Stuart Turton, Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved by Kate Bowler, Precious Bane by Mary Webb, The Warden by Anthony Trollope, The Wind in my Hair by Masih Alinejad and A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles. We meet about every six weeks and have lively discussions enriched with a glass of wine and always enjoy the diversity of views.

Oriane Haldane

- **The Senior Social Group**

The Senior Social Group is a weekly fixture organised for the benefit of the more senior members of our local community here in Putney, and anyone over the age of 60 is warmly invited to join in. We meet every Monday morning between 10.00am and 11.15am at All Saints' Church. A group of enthusiastic volunteers bake and buy cakes, biscuits and fruit and set up and run the sessions where we chat over coffee, laugh, form friendships, support each other and share birthdays.

In 2019, our Seniors also enjoyed two lunch outings to The Tolworth Carvery, and a slap-up Christmas lunch on their own table at St. Mary's. Our lovely volunteers helped transport them and looked after them on these occasions. We are grateful to The Pest House Fund whose financial support makes these outings possible.

Currently we have 8 volunteers on the rota – we are trying to recruit more. Most of us have attended safeguarding training and first aid courses.

Working alongside us, MOASS (Men at All Saints') continues to visit male members of our local community and in 2019 organised two lunches at The Sun Inn in Barnes.

The number of Seniors remains steady at 12ish per week.

For any further information please contact Sarah Barron at 07983 607811 or at barron.sarah@hotmail.co.uk.

Sarah Barron

- **Parish Action**

Overview

Our focus is to raise parish awareness in social issues relating to health, justice, poverty, education and refuge both locally and globally by providing a platform for event ideas that support our nominated charities both financially and in partnership by promoting their work. Selection of our 6 charities is made in consultation with the

congregation via a parish-wide survey every three years, the next one will be collated in the autumn this year. Each chosen charity is assisted for a period of three consecutive years at which point they can tender for one further period of tenure alongside new suggestions. Charities where volunteering opportunities are possible are particularly encouraged because we are equally interested in our journey and community as well as the funds that we raise. We welcome the promotion of new charities within the parish and if anyone would like to propose a new charity that is close to their hearts please do let us know.

The Parish Action committee ideally has two representatives for each charity, one based at each church, however, we currently have vacancies at both ends of the parish. Heartfelt thanks to the members of the committee and to all those who have kindly given money, time, donations in-kind and volunteered and helped in numerous unsung ways.

The Charities

Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call 2019 supported projects that provided an income for the Dioceses as well as helping with education, food security and healthcare. One such project abroad was with the work of the Leprosy mission in Northern Sri Lanka and another with the Church Army Africa's Carlisle College in Nairobi. Projects in the local Diocese included the Sutton Women's Centre, the Salmon Centre and Christian CARE in Merton. Funds for the Lent Call are raised in our parish via the Lent Brunches at All Saints' and St Mary's.

Christian Aid works globally to eradicate poverty and provides practical and effective assistance to tackle the causes and effects of it. The charity works pre-emptively in areas identified as being in great need to try to avert emergencies but also reactively during traumatic times and offering longer term support and help to find solutions for the local people in the aftermath. Christian Aid believes in life before death and is part of a global movement for change. Our parish works together with churches of all denominations in Putney to support this charity with a door-to-door envelope drop. The events to promote this charity are the All Saints' car wash, collection buckets at tube stations and our church schools and a very successful new initiative, a sponsored walk in central London.

Diocese of Southwark Parish Support Fund supports churches and communities in deprived areas of South London. This enables every parish to have clergy when they might not otherwise be able to finance them. The greatest proportion of money raised for this charity is through stewardship in our churches, but in 2019 Parish Action started a new initiative in The Boat Race Family Day which was designed to provide an oasis near the start line for families especially with small children to be able to enjoy the iconic sporting event in a relaxed environment. Big screens were installed in the church to watch the BBC live coverage alongside boat-race themed games and stalls to please all age groups. Although a seed event it proved very popular and is being continued and augmented along similar lines this year.

Glass Door is London's largest emergency shelter and provides a safe, warm place to sleep for more than 100 homeless people per night every winter in local churches,

including St Marys' and other venues. Glass Door also provides longer term assistance to help guests build more stable futures giving them time and space to develop relationships and trust. The charity promotes respect, dignity and the ethos that all people have value. The bonfire and firework display at All Saints' and the annual sleep out on the streets of London provide funds for this cause.

Regenerate is a local youth and community-based charity that fosters positive transformation in the lives of young people, 8-25 years, and their families. It supports people who may be experiencing financial hardship, behavioural or educational difficulties, unemployment, antisocial behaviour or being at risk of involvement with gangs and crime. The people who run this organisation are from within the Putney and Roehampton community that they are now supporting. Our dedicated event for this charity is the Christmas Fair which the young people help to run.

Vulindlela Guardians is a charity based in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe and cares for the orphans of AIDS victims and children who have nobody to pay their school fees. The money we raise goes to pay their school fees and to finance a feeding scheme for the children at the Vulindlela Centre in Bulawayo.

The Parish Picnic is the main additional event that supports this charity, but individuals may also sponsor an orphan via an online giving page through the parish website. The parish started to support this charity in 2007 and they are in their last cycle of tenure which ends in 2020 but it will still be possible to support the charity online.

Wandsworth Foodbank is within the Trussell Trust national network of foodbanks providing three-day packages of emergency food and support to local people, and assistance to resolve the underlying causes of their crisis. Foodbank also campaigns for structural change at a local and national level to help end hunger and poverty in the UK. Our parish has partnered directly with the foodbank in Tildesley Road. This year we started a scheme which makes shopping bags from the Edinburgh Fringe crowd barrier jackets that would otherwise go into landfill. The congregation can buy into the scheme for £5, then bring their groceries in to church in one bag and collect a replacement for the next month – this scheme is being trialled at All Saints'. Foodbank was chosen by the All Saints' DCC as one of our Christmas charities this year, and through a link with Westminster Abbey Choir School we were also able to raise £300 in cash which converted to £570 worth of groceries when bought through our Booker cash and carry account. However, our main donation is through a collection of specifically requested groceries on the second Sunday of every month. This charity does not follow the tenure process but has been established as a permanent part of our parish outreach.

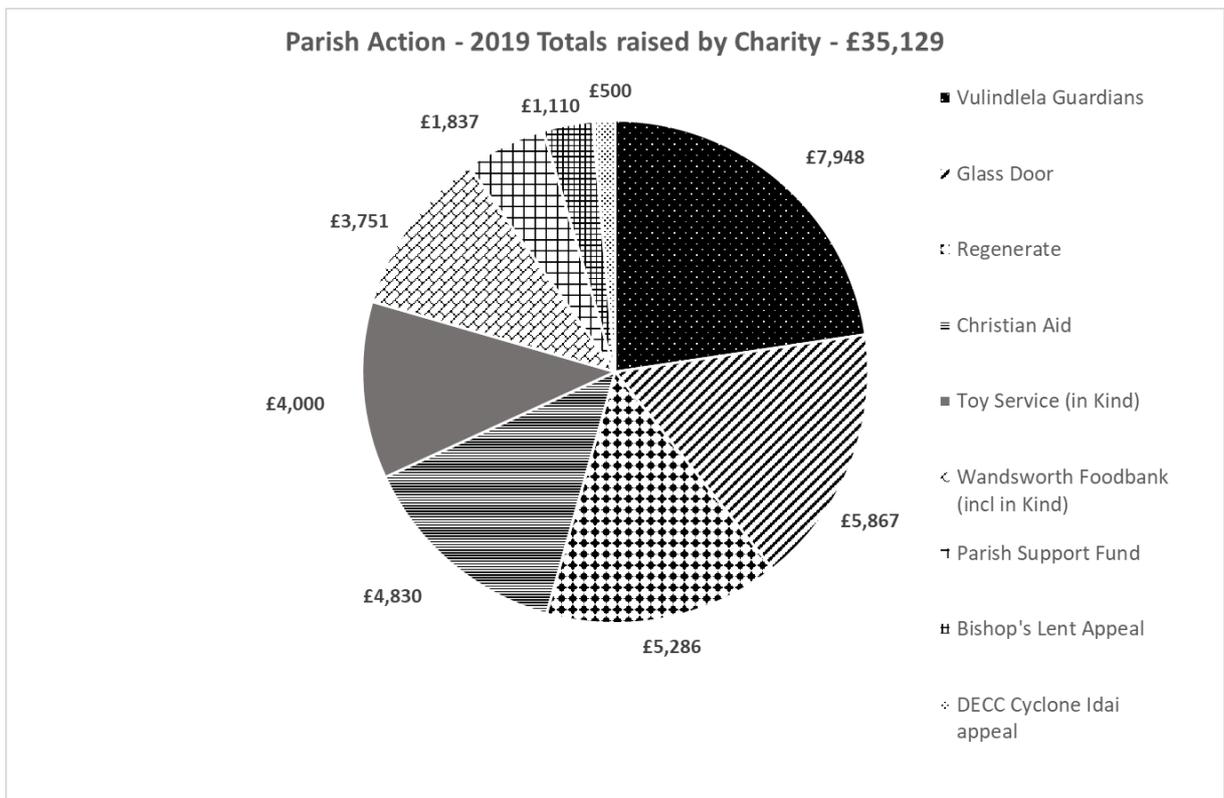
Fundraising and Finance

After ten consecutive years of running a charity ball, Parish Action paused to reconsider the style of this major fund-raising event and what direction we would like to take in the future. We are also looking for a major sponsor to partner our next function. It has been decided that we will run an event in February 2021, and we are looking for enthusiastic people to come to join this new committee.

Despite the lack of income from the Parish Ball, funds were still raised from a wide range of events through online and offline appeals. The purchase of a contactless payment machine has improved the ease with which people can donate.

There have been a number of congregation initiatives with an amazing ultramarathon by one parishioner, a table-top sale by another and various external parties who gave concerts and kindly donated proceeds to the Parish Action coffers. Another principal 'in-kind' donation alongside the Foodbank donations comes from the parish Toy Service and we also ran a successful collection for clothing to help those being released from Wandsworth prison.

The 2019 total raised is significant with most events raising more than their equivalent in previous years. Grateful thanks to everyone for helping with our practice-based mission.



Rosie Taylor-Davies, Chair and Richard Phipps, Treasurer

3. The Church, Buildings and Grounds

- **Safeguarding Report**

All Saints' Church continues to be proactive in the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults, both in regards to identifying and responding to concerns appropriately, and also in regards to making Safeguarding an integral part of the Church community ethos.

All Saints' Church strives to be a safe and accessible place for all. The Safeguarding Officers for All Saints' Church, Putney, continue to be Mari Watson (Young People and Vulnerable Adults) and Jackie Davis (Children).

The Safeguarding Officers are at hand to give support and advice to any member of the church community regarding issues relating to the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults. They also provide a link between the church team and any parishioner who may wish to raise a safeguarding query or concern. The officers work to ensure provision of a confidential and neutral space in which a concern or query can be raised.

The Safeguarding Officers can be contacted directly via parish email accounts to ensure that any matters raised can be addressed in a timely, safe and confidential manner. These email addresses are available on the Parish website and within the church. Details of the Diocese Safeguarding Team are also available in these locations.

When a concern is raised, it will be addressed in an appropriate manner and in consultation with the Diocese (and other professionals where appropriate) in order to minimise risks or concerns. All Saints' Church will seek to ensure that the best interests of all involved in such cases are kept at the heart of any action, but within the remit of the Safeguarding of the vulnerable person being the priority.

The provision of the C1 safeguarding training is provided in the Parish throughout the year and is engrained in our safer recruitment procedures, along with DBS checks and the taking up of references. We are now in the position that a majority of Church volunteers, as well as those in paid and unpaid positions, have attended. There is therefore an increased awareness of safeguarding and responding to concerns amongst those who volunteer or work in a wide range of roles within our Church community.

In this past year, in addition to responding to any concerns arising, the Safeguarding Officers have also completed a review of historical cases with All Saints', as requested by The Church of England. The purpose of this review was to further ensure that places of worship remain a safe environment for all who access them and check that the procedures in place for reporting safeguarding concerns are rigorous and effective.

In September there was a re-establishment of Parish Safeguarding and Pastoral Meetings. These meetings, which are made up of the clergy team, pastoral leads and safeguarding officers from both All Saints' and St Mary's Church, take place quarterly. They are an excellent opportunity to share good safeguarding practice and thinking, reflect upon how we best respond to circumstances that might arise and further demonstrate how this Parish prioritises and views the importance of safeguarding and places it at the heart of all we do.

The Safeguarding Officers and Pastoral Team continue to be mindful and vigilant in regard to safeguarding issues. We encourage members of the congregation to feel able to raise any concern or query, however small, to ensure that the Church continues to be a safe, supportive and nurturing environment.

Mari Watson and Jackie Davis

- **Health and Safety**

In May 2019 Stephen Westwell was appointed Health and Safety Officer for All Saints' Church Putney, replacing Simon Killick.

Stephen met with Nick Pleydell-Bouverie (Simon's predecessor) and Simon for a detailed handover in May 2019.

Some specific actions taken since May 2019 were as follows: -

- a) A copy of the All Saints HSE policy was circulated to all Keyholders who were required to acknowledge receipt of the policy and confirm that they had read and understood the policy and their responsibilities as Keyholders.
- b) Following on from concerns raised in 2018 about the HSE risks associated with the annual fireworks display, additional safety measures were introduced for the 2019 display. These included the appointment of a dedicated HSE officer for the event, better crowd control, more safety marshals, a smaller bonfire and strict adherence to recommended safety distances for firework events. The 2019 event went off smoothly.
- c) In January and February of 2020 training in Fire Awareness, fire evacuation procedures, use of fire extinguishers and use of the new defibrillator was given to all Keyholders.

Stephen completed the 2019 H&S audit, following the process that Nick put in place during his tenure in the role. As part of this process, Stephen completed the following reviews:

- A. General Risk Assessment form.
- B. Ecclesiastical Risk Assessment form for small churches
- C. Fire Risk Assessment form

While completing the Fire Risk Assessment form Stephen reviewed this against the - St Mary's and All Saints' Church Fire Risk assessment that was created by Precision Safety Services in February 2018 to ensure that recommendations from that report had had consideration.

Finally, Stephen compiled a list of recommendations following his 2018 audit and presented this to the DCC for consideration and approval.

Stephen Westwell

- **Maintenance report**

As part of the regular planned church maintenance, the gas heaters fire alarm system and fire extinguishers have been serviced. Individual electrical items have been PAT tested. The light bulbs continue to require constant replacement even though low maintenance, long lasting bulbs are used. Plans are still in hand to get quotes for replacing tiles on the main church roof. The capping stone to the buttress on the south side of the church has been fixed back in position. Plumbing to the hand basins in the W.C.'s has been upgraded so there is now hot and cold water available. The gardeners store has been organised with shelves and hooks to carry equipment. The music library lock has been refitted. Kim Williams has now taken over the responsibility of church maintenance.

Mike Biddick

- **Church Flowers**

The flower group have continued to enjoy creating flower arrangements at the front of the church every Sunday. We are very lucky to have our enthusiastic core group of regular volunteers, with 2 new people joining at the start of 2020, as well as a slightly larger group to help with the big decorating occasions at Easter and Christmas. With such a beautiful space to work in, this is one of those 'jobs' that is actually a pleasure

and we all take joy in our part of it. A huge thank you to the parish for supporting our budget, all of the ladies on the flower rota, and to Chris and Lottie for their help and support.

Nicky Taskis

- **Church Garden**

It is difficult to remember the glory of summer during the recent deluges and the grass in the garden more closely resembles a swamp than a beautifully manicured lawn!

The garden continues to do very well thanks to the excellent work by John Bruen, our Thrive Gardener, and our volunteers especially Alison Price who never misses a gardening session and Tamsin Hellier-Hough's experience with her Box Caterpillar hunting capabilities. We are really grateful that several new volunteers joined us during the year – Julie Kidsom and Lucinda Taylor who has also stepped in to replace the excellent work that Richard Smith has been doing.

We all miss Faith Sutherland who did such a great job in co-ordinating the gardeners as she moved to Scotland just after the departure of Chris Eyden. Fortunately the gardens were looking fabulous for her departure and for the reception before Chris' final service.

We have also been joined by two boys from Fulham Boys School who are volunteering in the gardens as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. They have worked incredibly hard and will be with us for the next three months.

The gardens are also now being regularly used by Wild about Play during the week who run a nursery based on the principles of Forest school and Montessori. This has caused some challenges especially during the very wet winter that we have had. We are working closely with them to make sure that the heavy traffic areas are repaired and that the grass is given a chance to recover.

The level of maintenance required has reached very manageable proportions. We have now moved the other half of the compost heap onto the gardens as well as redistributing the chippings from the trees that were cut down before Christmas across the rear half of the borders helping to suppress weed growth. Kim Williams continues to brilliantly manage the hedge around the gardens making sure that the Church is fully visible for those driving past. He has also picked up the responsibility from Mike Biddick for the Bonfire on Firework night.

Two thirds of the willow picket fence in front of the Yew Tree were replaced at the end of the summer and the final third of this fence will need replacing during the forthcoming year.

The Box Tree caterpillars are still present and thanks to Tamsin and Catherine Dando we managed to save the box hedges on the south side of the church with the north side hedges still looking sorry for themselves. The Strawberry, Mulberry and Crab Apple Trees from "Trees for Sacred Spaces campaign" continue to thrive and are establishing themselves well.

The Magnolia Bush planted in memory of Susan Barnes is thriving and we are very much looking forward to its flowering in the spring.

The "youths" have continued to enjoy the benches on the South Eastern end of the Church for their own "specific recreational" purposes during the longer summer evenings and sunnier Autumn days. They have succeeded in removing the imitation CCTV camera from the wall above the benches and continue to leave litter near the benches.

The grass is being cut regularly during the season and some additional tasks such as laying turf along the northern hedge have been undertaken by the gardening contractors. Our many thanks to Parkgate who have sponsored this work.

John Bruen, our Thrive gardener, and a band of volunteers meet fortnightly on Saturday mornings between 11.00 am and 2.00 pm; our work involves digging, weeding, trimming the shrubs and spreading compost. New helpers are always welcome and strongly encouraged – coffee and biscuits provided with regular baking contributions from Alison!

Chris Slemeck

4. Church Administration and Finances

- **Warden's Report**

We began our report last year with the words “2018 was a year in two halves for the Parish of Putney”. We begin this year in a similar way: 2019 was a year in two halves for All Saints', Putney Common. Our Team Vicar, Christopher Eyden, announced at the AGM last year that he would be leaving All Saints' in July. Since then we have been in a period of interregnum.

During Chris's seven years as Team Vicar we have flourished as a church, our congregation has grown as has our stewardship. Amongst other things, we have been able to invest in our music which now has a reputation for excellence and we have employed a part time children's officer to work with our Sunday School. We have also invested in our church garden which has gone from a patch of grass surrounded by wild flower beds to a well-cared for garden, planted carefully and maintained to a high standard. We continue to benefit from the generous financial support of Parkgate Estate Agents.

We bid farewell to Chris on a lovely summers afternoon in July, many people, from both ends of the parish, joined him and his husband Joe for a reception in the garden before crowding into church for his last service – full of emotion, music, gifts and thanks. As tradition dictates, Chris left through the main church doors which were slammed behind him. We wish him well for his new life in Bury St Edmunds and we give thanks for all he brought to the life and worship here at All Saints'.

And so to Interregnum – a time for reflection and introspection on who we are as a worshipping community and where we want to go in the future.

We have been incredibly fortunate to have had the support of Elisabeth Morse, an extremely experienced priest who lives locally. Elisabeth has led us in our Sunday worship bringing continuity during a time of change. Her sermons – always thought provoking, relevant and full of common sense – have shown her depth of Christian love and her understanding of us. Elisabeth has also brought new energy to the Thursday morning Mothers and Toddlers Eucharist where she is much appreciated by adults and children alike. We owe Elisabeth a great debt of gratitude for this time she has spent with us.

All Saints' has also been hugely supported by the clergy of the Parish. John Whittaker, our Rector has always been available to advise and his wisdom and prayerfulness is much valued by the Wardens. John's wife, Helena, has also led

services at All Saints' including the 2019 Carol Service which attracted so many people we had to turn some away.

We have also been fortunate to have Jono Haynes as our parish Curate. He has reinvigorated the AS@4 children's service injecting enthusiasm and creativity. Anyone attending the Pet Blessing Service in the Autumn will remember it for years to come.

The Parish was also joined in the autumn by Jarel Robinson-Brown as Pastoral Assistant. He came to us as an ordained minister in the Methodist church and has contributed with his experience and notably by his preaching – the searing honesty of his sermon, "Why am I here?" is still talked about.

During the year we have continued with the established events which raise money for the church and for our Parish Action charities. The car wash in the Spring which we hold in the playground of All Saints' School was its usual soapy, wet fun, with all the proceeds going to Christian Aid. Once again it didn't rain on our Parish Picnic when the congregations of both our churches join in worship in the church garden followed by barbecue, picnics, inflatable children's activities, a tea tent and Pimms. The money raised was given to Vuilindella Gardens supporting Aids orphans in Zimbabwe. Our Patronal Festival on November 1st started with a very child friendly service before a magnificent bonfire was lit – smaller and safer than last year – followed by a wonderful fireworks display to which members of our community flock. Hot dogs and mulled wine attract long queues, the profits being donated to Glass Door Homeless Charity. Thank you to everyone who took part in this year's party, it takes a very great deal of work from many people to achieve such a seamless and successful event on the night.

Our church music has continued to enhance the worship at the 10.30am service and Choral Evensong, held monthly, is attracting a growing and loyal following. Our joyful junior Choir, the Treblemakers, now numbers 40 primary school children. This year, our Director of Music, Christopher Woodward, has begun to build a second choir, the Putney Youth Choir, it is made up of young people who have moved from our local primary schools to secondary schools, a time when we often lose them from the church community. Last Christmas Benjamin Britten's, The First Nowell, was sung by our three choirs and the choirs from several other local schools. It was an extremely professional performance made possible by the hard work of all the singers and the dedication of their teachers. We have recently learnt that Christopher will be leaving us in July to take up an appointment at St Barnabas and Christ's Chapel, Dulwich. He will be much missed and we wish him well as he moves forward in his career. We will be advertising soon for a new Director of Music to ensure the continuity of our choral music tradition and our choirs.

We end the year, and nearly our interregnum, with the appointment of the Rev'd Dr Daniel Trott as the next Team Vicar of All Saints', Putney Common. Daniel has completed his curacy at St John's Upper Norwood and will join us in June. He is a man of many talents, a Baptist by upbringing, a linguist, a lover of music and travel and with a real heart for Christian life. We, your Church Wardens, look forward to welcoming Daniel and, along with the DCC and the congregation, supporting him as he leads us forward to the next phase in the exciting, joyful, loving life that is All Saints'.

Clemency Gordon-Martin, Iain Cox, Kate Innes

- **DCC Report**

All Saints' Church's District Church Council (DCC) is responsible for the daily running of the Church and the funding of the Church's activities and maintenance, as well as

raising money for the diocesan fund. It comprises a total of 19 members (including co-opted members and Deanery Synod members) plus the vicar. The DCC has met 6 times in 2019-20 since the last AGM.

It has been a challenging year for All Saints' especially as we have gone into a period of interregnum following the departure of Rev. Chris Eyden with his move to Bury St Edmunds in mid July. The DCC thanks Chris for all his inspiration and dedication during his tenure at All Saints' and wish him, and Joe, every success and happiness in this new chapter of their lives.

The DCC thanks Rev. John Whittaker, Rev. Elisabeth Morse, Rev. Jono Haines and Rev. Helena Whittaker for all their hard work supporting the ministry of All Saints' through this challenging time. In particular the DCC would like to thank our wardens, Iain Cox, Clemancy Gordon-Martin and Kate Innes for steering us through this period of interregnum. Their leadership and commitment in ensuring All Saints' continues to be managed and run well should not be underestimated; neither should their hard work and dedication to the process of selecting our new Team Vicar. Thank you. We look forward to welcoming our new Team Vicar, Rev. Dr. Daniel Trott, later in 2020.

In September, we welcomed our new Parish Assistant, Jarel Robinson-Brown, following Yin-An Chen's (Ian) departure. Jarel has made an immediate and positive impact on our community and we thank him for his hard work, spark and enthusiasm.

While there have been no headline maintenance or compliance issues this year, the DCC would like to thank both Nick Pleydell-Bouverie and Stephen Westwell for their work over the year ensuring we are up to date with our Fire and Health & Safety requirements. The DCC would like to thank the Maintenance Committee for their continued dedication to the maintenance of our buildings and, in particular, the DCC would like to thank, and recognise, the enormous contribution Mike Biddick has made to our church, over many years, as he stands down from his role.

Despite the inevitable challenges in a period of interregnum, our finances continue to be in excellent order thanks to the tireless and meticulous work of Treasurer, John Andrew.

Music at All Saints' is a central element of our ministry and outreach. The DCC would like to congratulate and thank Christopher Woodward, Director of Music, and Assistant Director of Music, Josh Ridley, for maintaining the exceptionally high standard of music. We are lucky to have such talented musicians working with us and the DCC would like to thank them both for their vision, enthusiasm and dedication. Our junior choir, Treblemakers, continues to flourish, both leading our worship at Sunday services and also performing concerts. It has also been great to see collaboration between Treblemakers and the senior choir, as well as the forming of a youth choir for those in secondary school. It is therefore with great sadness that we have to say "goodbye" to both Chris and Josh, as they move on to pastures new.

The DCC would particularly like to thank Lottie Clarke, All Saints' administrator, for all her hard work and efficiency over the year.

All members of the DCC have worked hard over the past year but we are particularly grateful to Matthew Salisbury who has moved out of the parish and stood down from the DCC in December but has served on the DCC/PCC for many years. The DCC is

also grateful to those members who agreed to extend their term of office for an additional year to help provide continuity and stability during this period of interregnum.

David Thomson – DCC Secretary

- **Electoral Roll**

As of 1st March 2020 the number of people on the Church Electoral Roll is currently 199.

During the period March 15th to April 19th the current Church Electoral Roll list will undergo a full revision. During this period members of the congregation are invited to check the details we hold on the current list, update as necessary or complete a form (ONE PER PERSON) if they wish to be included. The list can be viewed every Sunday in church or contact the Electoral Roll Officer by email angelaholman@btinternet.com or lottie.clarke@parishofputney.co.uk. Forms are available at the back of the church or via Lottie in the office.

Print the form, fully complete and sign and return to the Parish Office at St Mary's Church.

The updated / revised Church Electoral Roll numbers will be reported to and ratified at the APCM on 28th April 2020.

Angela Holman, Electoral Roll Officer

- **Financial Report**

All Saints' Church matched its breakeven budget in 2019. The unaudited income and expenditure of this church for the year ended 31 December 2019 resulted in a deficit of £87 (£6,517 in 2018) on nearly £220,000 each of income and expenditure. This was driven by an increase in overall income of 3% while overall expenses were held steady. However these totals were comprised of significant variations in different areas. Direct giving decreased by 4.8% (£7,300), wiping out the 4.2% gains of 2018, as a result of the departure of a few significant givers and a lack of replacement of these, likely exacerbated by Chris Eyden's departure. But this was offset by investment income returning to the expected level after being eliminated by unrealised losses in 2018. Parish investments did recoup in 2019 the unrealised losses we had shown in 2018 (AS share over £4,100), but with current volatility and in line with accounting practice, this is not shown as a gain in the 2019 accounts. Income from parish properties was up £2,500 and letting income and donations was up over £6,500, so more than offsetting the loss in direct giving overall.

We had pledged to increase our giving to the Parish Support Fund by 2% (about £2,300) to £116,484 in 2019 and maintained this in the face of falling direct giving. We balanced this by reducing overall expenditure in other areas, despite the additional costs of renting an office in the Brewer building at St. Mary's and having some unexpected costs on emergency lighting (£1,600). We again gave large amounts to charities, including £2,900 to our Christmas charities and £2,700 to Glasdoor from our fireworks event as well other donations to then and £800 to the Bishop's Lent fund.

We continue to invest in music, but ensure that we manage this expenditure more closely than in the past, coming in just under budget. A Christmas performance of Vaughan Williams' First Nowell was very successful and more than covered the costs of over twenty professional musicians accompanying our adult and Treblemakers choirs. We maintain the church and will continue to do more on that in 2020 with plans to replace tiles on the roof and potentially replace some gas heaters.

Our garden continues to be used for church events from the Parish Picnic to our hugely popular Fireworks as well as for sports days and the summer fair run by the school. We are very lucky to benefit again from generous sponsorship of the gardens by Parkgate during 2019 and also benefited from income from Wild About Play activities for children. We are grateful to all those who help to ensure our gardens are well cared for. We hope you enjoy the gardens all year around.

We go into 2020 excited to have appointed Daniel Trott as our new vicar and with the excellent continued support of the rest of the clergy team allowing us to do more of the good works that your giving supports. We will keep careful control of costs while we restore our giving and we have again pledged to increase our giving to the Parish Support Fund by 2% (about £2,300). With additional maintenance work and a full year of office rent (£6,000) we budget at deficit of a few thousand for 2020 although most will be covered for 2020 by our designated reserve for office rent.

Stewardship: Giving by standing order and through gift aid decreased by 4.8% in 2019 after an increase of 4.6% in 2018 and plate giving increased by 2%. We have introduced contactless giving which is bringing in small amounts generally but hugely popular for events like the First Nowell concert where over £1,200 of ticket sales went through this. The drop in giving was apparent from the end of 2018 when the annual rate had dropped by over £4,700 even though the 2018 total was higher than 2017. This showed that the overall drop of £7,300 from 2018 to 2019 was largely not a drop in giving on the departure of Chris Eyden but from departures from the parish in both 2018 and 2019. We have not cut back on any of the good things we do, continuing to increase our spending on the Diocese, music, gardens and children. We are keen to encourage more new members to join our thriving church, who might have held back during our vacancy between vicars, and those who support it to reflect what they get out of being members in what they give. Together with Daniel Trott we will launch a stewardship campaign later in 2020 to encourage both aspects.

A big thank you to all involved in stewardship, especially the Wardens and Angela Holman this year, and to Lottie Clarke and Jemma Taylor who have helped variously to run the church finances, maintain the financial records and do all the hard work.

John Andrew, Treasurer of All Saints' Church

**All Saints' Church, Putney
Balance Sheet (Unaudited)
As at 31 December 2019**

	2019	2018
	£	£
ASSETS		
Fixed Assets	7,855	8,855
Cash at bank and in hand	81,814	84,765
Due from Parish Central Account	29,405	26,389
Prepayments	2,990	2,936
Accrued Income	5,016	7,719
	<u>127,080</u>	<u>130,665</u>
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Accrued Expenses	9,541	13,549
Prepaid income	2,020	1,600
Due to Parish Central Account		
Reserves		
Friends of All Saints'	2,487	2,097
Music fund	44,473	44,473
Ministry (from legacies)	20,000	20,000
General maintenance reserve	30,920	25,920
Office rent reserve	5,800	10,000
Toddler Group	2,226	1,655
General	9,614	11,371
	<u>127,080</u>	<u>130,665</u>

**All Saints' Church, Putney
Income & Expenditure Account (Unaudited)
For the period ended 31 December 2019**

	2019	2018
	£	£
INCOME		
Direct giving	144,895	152,226
Investment income	20,436	13,980
Donations, fees, lettings, events etc	52,444	46,932
Total income	<u>217,775</u>	<u>213,138</u>
EXPENSES		
Diocesan quota	116,484	114,236
Clergy, admin	49,642	51,392
Music, maintenance, church expenses	51,736	54,027
Total expenses	<u>217,862</u>	<u>219,655</u>
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	<u>(87)</u>	<u>(6,517)</u>