



ST GEORGES EVERTON

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**



AIM & PURPOSES

St. George's Church is situated in the Everton district of Liverpool. It is part of the North Liverpool Deanery in the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England.

St. George's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Adam Maynard, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the St George's Church Building.

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

St George's Church seeks to fulfil its aims and purposes through its vision to be **A Beacon of Faith- Living and Loving Like Jesus** and core values of:

Sharing Welcome

Sharing Worship

Sharing Love.

We also seek to work towards the fulfilment of the Diocesan vision of asking God for a **Bigger Church making a Bigger Difference: More people knowing Jesus, more Justice in the world.**

In order to help us achieve these aims we have adopted the Bishop of Liverpool's **Rule of Life- Read, Pray, Learn, Tell, Serve Give.**

Below are some of the ways we tried to achieve these objectives.

Sharing Welcome, Sharing Worship, Sharing Love.

2020 was marked by the serious outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic. The pandemic affected every area of life across the globe, including the work and worship of the church.

From Sunday 22nd March- Sunday 12th July, and then again between Sunday 8th November- Sunday 6th December, the church building was **closed for in person worship** by order of the UK Government.

When we returned to in person worship, it was under stringent guidelines from the Government and Church of England.

Measures included: mandatory social distancing (2 metres or 1 metre plus mitigation between households), face masks, and a ban on congregational singing. To meet social distancing guidelines, numbers in the building at any one time needed to be limited to 15 households.

However, during this time we learned to **worship in different ways** through online, printed and telephone services. From 12th July we began live streaming or pre-recording services and broadcasting them on YouTube. We continued to do this whether there was in person worship in the church or not.

We also learned to use Zoom- an online meeting platform. We have used this for Kid's Church weekly on Sunday mornings since July, as well as for business meetings such as PCC and for social gatherings and discipleship courses.

- Before the first lockdown, our usual Sunday attendance was **67** (53 adults, 15 children).
- During the first lockdown we were unable to gather any data on how many people engaged with our worship.
- Following our return to in person worship in July we also began live streaming services. Our usual attendance was:
 - **21** adults in the building
 - **8-10** children at Kid's Church on Zoom

- **37** views on YouTube (views does not necessarily reflect how many people engaged with the worship, only how many screens it appeared on. For example, one 'view' might be being watched by 3 people. Equally, a person may watch the service more than once or in two chunks, this would record as two 'views')

At the end of the year, there were **68** parishioners on the electoral roll.

At Christmas we welcomed **25** people at our midnight and Christmas morning Holy Communion services along with **54** views of those services combined online.

Every Wednesday during school term time, we lead a service of Collective Worship for **275** children and staff from Beacon CE School. Following the return of schools in September, this was recorded and watched in the classrooms by all the children.

In 2020, all prospective baptism families and wedding couples decided to rearrange until 2021. We conducted **17** funerals in church, **1** at the cemetery and **2** more at the crematorium.

Read, Pray, Learn

In March, we began the **Start Course** for those new to faith or those still exploring it for the first time. Unfortunately, it was cut short after only two sessions due to the first lockdown. We managed to resume the course again in May, this time on Zoom.

In the autumn, we ran the **Prayer Course**, alongside a Sunday preaching series on 'How to Pray'. We ran the course twice a week, socially distanced in person on Sundays and on Zoom on Wednesdays. However, we were once again disrupted by the November lockdown, with everyone joining in the final sessions on Zoom.

We finished the Prayer Course with a **P.R.A.Y.** prayer evening in December, where we tried to put into practice some of the things we had been learning.

During the **Sunday services**, we tried to reflect theologically on what we were living through. We explored the story of Joseph in the book of Genesis, the Lord's Prayer, and the Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy.

Members of the **Kid's Church** team- Terri Quigley, Alan Quigley and Amy Gillespie- did a magnificent job adapting to the pandemic by running sessions every Sunday on Zoom for the children. They also organised a **Light Party** on Zoom and recorded an online **Christingle** service.

Tell, Serve, Give

Opportunities to reach out and share our faith in a formal organised way were severely limited by the coronavirus restrictions.

We were however able to organise two outreach events at Christmas. The **outdoor carol service** saw 62 people attend, with around half not being regular church attenders. The online **Christingle** service saw us give out around 100 Christingle packs to children and families from the Beacon School and the Pantry.

St George's Pantry launched in December 2019 and grew steadily during the first three months of 2020. When the lockdown was announced in March, the Pantry team had to find a new way of serving the members. From March-June, the team, with support from members of other churches, delivered food parcels to members weekly.

In July, the Pantry was able to reopen to members with a new socially distanced format. Unfortunately, the café element of the Pantry had to remain closed, but members were able to choose their own food items as well as receiving support and conversation from the volunteers. The team continued to deliver to a small number of vulnerable members who were unable to attend the Pantry in person.

In total, there were **2167** visits to the Pantry (in person and deliveries) and the Pantry currently supporting roughly **380** people across **140** households.

When the **Beacon School** returned in September, social distancing guidelines meant they could not hold all their music lessons with **'In Harmony'** (Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra) on the school site. In response, we offered the use of our building four afternoons per week so all the lessons could take place, as an act of support and generosity.

Beacon of Faith

St George's Church building stands on the site of an old fire beacon at the highest point in Liverpool as a now visible 'Beacon of Faith'. The Grade 1* listed building is of significant historic and architectural value owing to it being the first 'Iron Church' in the world.

In 2020, we updated our General Risk Assessments (with help from Sean Corcoran) and Fire Risk Assessment (with help from MSC Safety Consultants). Both highlighted some remedial work required to improve safety in the building. Principally, the installation of a fire alarm, which the PCC has determined to resolve. Other housekeeping items, such as tidying and improving storage has been actioned.

Due to circumstances outside our control, the church website was deleted, and we were not able to retrieve it. Soap Creative Agency kindly offered to rebuild the website for free, for which we are extremely grateful.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church aims, in faith, to donate a proportion of our income to Charity, which for 2020, totalled £2,752 - £200 to the Children's Society; £250 to Everton and Anfield Together; £250 BAPTA; (Clock); £52 to Urban Saints; £500 each to Mission Aviation

Fellowship; Scripture Union; FRRME; Y-Kids Limited and supported the local Foodbank through food donations.

There are now 14 people giving through the Parish Giving Scheme which has increased (8 on the old white envelope scheme). We are now compliant with HMRC for the church's two employees, Natalie Morgan and Lil Thomas – Lil has now resigned. HMRC claimed back £1,457.50 and to date the Church has not been fined for late payment. The cheque to Turning Point for £500 has not been cashed yet.

ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Location: St George's Church, Heyworth Street, Liverpool, L5 3QG

Address for all correspondence: 40 Northumberland Terrace, Liverpool L5 3QG.

Bank: HSBC- City Centre Branch, 5 Whitechapel Liverpool, Merseyside, L1 6DZ.

Independent Examiner: Michael Caputo FCA, 2 Hilliards Court, Chester Business Park, Chester, CH4 9PX

Incumbent: Rev. Adam Maynard, 40 Northumberland Terrace, Liverpool L5 3QG.

Membership of PCC: During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Chair- Rev. Adam Maynard

Vice Chair – Ann Evans

Secretary- Natalie Morgan

Treasurer- Jean Williams

Churchwardens- John Simpson, William Dawn (*re-elected at APM 29/10/20*)

Deanery Synod Reps- John Simpson, Irene Sutter (*re-elected at APCM 29/10/20*)

Elected Members until APCM 29/10/20- Lorraine Cavanagh (resigned), Esther Cooper, Ken Dinsdale, Stephen Hesketh, Wendy Hesketh, Julie Jones, Ruth Little.

Elected Members after APCM 29/10/19- Esther Cooper, Ken Dinsdale, Stephen Hesketh, Wendy Hesketh, Julie Jones, Ruth Little, Natalie Morgan, Robert Morris.

Members Appointed by APCM- Ann Evans (Licensed Lay Reader-*reappointed 29/10/21*), Terry Till (Reader Emeritus- *not eligible for reappointment at APCM 29/10/21*).

Co-opted Members- Natalie Morgan (*until election at APCM 29/10/21*), Jean Williams.

STRUCTURE, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956. The PCC is excepted by order from registering with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met 9 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 70%.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. During the year the following served as members of the Standing Committee:

Rev. Adam Maynard, William Dawn, Ann Evans, Natalie Morgan, John Simpson, Jean Williams.

Sub-committees

In addition to the Standing Committee, the PCC appointed three non-statutory sub-committees to aid and support the work of the Incumbent and PCC. They were:

- Health & Safety sub-committee consisting of: Rev. Adam Maynard, William Dawn, Wendy Hesketh (Health & Safety Rep.), John Simpson.
- Finance sub-committee consisting of: Rev. Adam Maynard, Ann Evans, Jean Williams.
- Building Development consisting of: Rev. Adam Maynard, William Dawn, John Simpson, Terry Till.

Safeguarding

The PCC has adopted and implemented the House of Bishop's policy 'Promoting a Safer Church' (2017), 'Parish Safeguarding Handbook' (2019) and a parish safeguarding policy statement. These are reviewed annually. Action has been taken to follow up on changes in our practice and updates have been released to all relevant volunteers.

The PCC appointed Ann Evans as the Parish Safeguarding Officer and Lead Recruiter.