

The Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood
St Michael and All Angels Church
YEARBOOK 2022-23

Vicar's Remarks

The Archdeacon of Hertford's letter to Parishioners, March 2023
Church website <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7536/>
Pattern of Services

Ministry Team

Thanks to all who served in 2022 in Sunday and mid-week ministry, including:

Leading Services
Welcoming the Congregation
Reading the Lessons
Leading the Intercessions
Serving Coffee
Cleaning the Church
Youth Church
Prayer Chain
Welcome Café, Summer Meals and Warm Spaces
DCC members and Church Officers:
Wendy Churchill, rep
Pat Clarke, Churchwarden and Gift Aid
Revd Louise Collins, Vicar
Kathy Foster, rep and Electoral Roll Officer
Smile Imoh, rep and Treasurer
Carol McKee, Churchwarden and Lay Vice Chair
Felicity Olojo, rep
Grace Silvera, rep and Deanery Synod rep
Andrew Whittington, rep and DCC Secretary

Electoral Roll Report

There are 63 names on the Electoral Roll of St Michael and All Angels 2023.

Kathy Foster, Electoral Roll Officer

St Michael and All Angels District Church Council

The Annual District Church Meeting was held on 3rd April 2022 after the service. At the meeting Pat Clarke and Carol McKee were again nominated as Churchwardens for the year, and duly formally elected at the Annual Parish Meeting.

The Churchwardens are automatically, by virtue of holding that office, members of the DCC for the year. The following members of the congregation were elected at the ADCM to serve on the DCC: Wendy Churchill, Kathy Foster, Smile Imoh (subsequently elected Treasurer), Grace Silvera, Felicity Ojo and Andrew Whittington.

The Deanery Synod Representative is also an ex officio member who is elected to a three-year appointment which runs to 2023. Currently held by Grace who is also a DCC member this position is, therefore, to be filled at this year's ADCM.

Details of the 2022 ADCM are in the minutes which will be available to view at the 2023 ADCM. The DCC met seven times during the year and at the time of the drafting of this report in February 2023 a further meeting was proposed for 5th March.

We have again faced a challenging year. The absence of the Team Rector for the whole year due to ill health has added to the strain on the parish as a whole.

During the summer damage to the structure of the church hall became evident. Cracks appeared in the walls at the NE corner of the hall. Consultation with professional parties is continuing but fortunately it has not meant that the hall must be put out of use. The Welcome cafe and the warm spaces scheme have continued.

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults remained an issue and again we finished the year with no Safeguarding Officer for St Michael's.

The DCC is charged with considering all aspects of church life and matters raised this year ranged from the continuing liaison with the Air Cadets who help in cutting the large church hedge to the review of pandemic arrangements. This has resulted in most restrictions being lifted and the common cup is now offered at Communion.

I hope this brief note gives some idea of what the DCC does but if you would like to know anything further or would be interested in becoming a member of the DCC please speak to me or any of the DCC members or alternatively if you would like to attend a meeting you would be most welcome.

Andrew Whittington, DCC Secretary

Churchwardens Report

Please don't tell me that time goes more slowly as you get older! Believe me, it does not as it seems to be no time at all since I was putting pen to paper last year. We finally returned to some sort of normality, while still using sanitiser, which was a great relief to all.

The routine maintenance and upkeep of the church and hall continued as usual. The boilers, gas heaters and fire extinguishers were serviced. The PAT testing was carried out and the lightning conductor checked. The Archdeacons Inspection was carried out on her behalf by Canon Richard Osborn and we were pronounced to be in good heart. The Quinquennial Inspection took place and most of the report was reasonable with no particular urgent or major repairs, apart from some cracks which had appeared inside at the rear of the hall. These cracks became much worse over the summer and resulted in an Insurance claim, inspections by surveyors and others and the findings were that it was due to subsidence and not covered by our insurance. However an independent survey by a surveyor who volunteers for the Diocese gave us the good news that the hall can still be used as normal as the repairs are not urgent and can be dealt with in due course.

The church needed attention to the electrics in the boiler room and the lady chapel, which was done, new light were fitted in the vestry, boiler room and entrance lobby and the piano was tuned. The main church door also needed a bit of attention as it had 'dropped'.

Extensive work has been carried out on the emergency lighting in the hall, as stipulated by the Fire Brigade at their visit in 2021 and the expense was covered by a very generous donation and we thank this person. A new fridge for the kitchen and a vacuum cleaner for the church were

purchased. A donation paid for repairs to the fence at the side of the hall which was damaged in the dreadful gale. The Air Cadets cut the hedge once again. And members from the Day Centre keep our gardens in good order. Some potholes in the car park were filled in but this is always an ongoing problem. Andrew and I dealt with a dead fox found in the church grounds and gave it a decent burial!

The hall continues to be busy and we have 3 new groups as well as the Welcome cafe and Warm Spaces. 40 children's parties were hosted, as well as a pantomime and a Foodbank meeting. As always my thanks to the VERY few who help to keep our church in good shape. Thank you to the cleaners, the flower arrangers, and all on the coffee rota. Thanks to the welcomers (there are still vacancies) . My thanks to Grace and her team for cleaning the hall after children's parties, to David for his work on the grass and church grounds and to my son in law for doing any bits of DIY that crop up. Thanks to Carol for her support and her role as resident DJ. We look forward to another good year together.

Mrs Pat Clarke, Churchwarden

Youth Church

The Youth Church helped with several Services and had several events since last year:

Services that Youth Church helped with including readings & prayers:

- Holy Communion on Sunday July 10th
- Holy Communion on Sunday Oct 30th
- Advent Service on Sunday, December 18th, 2022
- Christingle on Christmas Eve
- Candlemas Parish Service Jan 29th
- Mothering Sunday March 19th

Events

- Water Aid Youth Church sponsored Walk
- Deanery Wide Youth Light Party – on Sunday October 30th
- Parish-wide Christmas meal at Nando's on Saturday, December 3rd
- Purely Pancakes on Sunday February 19th

Grace Silvera, Youth Church Helper

Other Youth Ministry

Revd Collins continues in her role as Chaplain to the RAFAC Air Cadets Squadron 1372 Borehamwood and ministers in several local Primary Schools. Mrs Pat Clarke supports Christian assemblies at Woodlands School with Pathways.

Revd Louise Collins

Barnet Deanery Synod Report

The Barnet Deanery meets approximately three times a year, with guest speakers for most meeting and are held at various churches throughout the Deanery. Since the last ACDM there have been three meetings:

1st June 2022 at St Giles, South Mymms with David White, St Albans Diocesan Secretary as guest speaker, and the main discussion points were:

- 1) William Marsterson, Churchwarden of St Giles, spoke about the history of St Giles Church. And he also spoke briefly about the work of the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust of which he is Secretary.

2) Richard Osborn gave a brief overview of the new deanery website

4th October 2022 at Holy Trinity Church, Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet. The main discussion points were:

1) Bike 'n Hike Eco Relay. Louise Collins updated the meeting on the event held on Saturday 10th September 2022.

2) Deanery Youth Programme. Revd Canon Laura Hewitt advised the meeting that the Revd Atalie Gaines is the lead person for the Barnet Deanery programme. The aim is to organise three youth events per year.

a) The first was held during summer at Holy Trinity Church, Lyonsdown and about 15 children from 7 different churches attended. Great event lots of games BBQ and reflective message delivered by Rev Atalie.

b) The next event will be held in St Michael and All Angels Church, Borehamwood on Sunday 30th October 2022.

3) Tony Lang presented the Barnet Deanery website to the meeting by briefly discussing each of the main sections and the information available within each.

4) Update from each church

8th February 2023 at St Giles Church, Blanche Lane, South Mymms with Guest Speaker Maggie Dodd, from the Anna Chaplaincy 'Offering spiritual care in later life'

1. Upcoming events were discussed and are all on the Deanery website.

2. Dr Jacob Kurien, Chair St Albans Diocesan Racial Justice Action Group (RJAG) and the Dispute Advisory Service (DAS) presented the background and summary of the activities of these two groups.

3) Deanery pilgrimage to St Albans Abbey. LH advised the meeting that a pilgrimage is being planned to St Albans Abbey later in 2023.

Grace Silvera, Deanery Synod Rep

Welcome Café, Summer Meals and Warm Spaces

The 'Welcome Café' was established in 2021 as the country began to come out of lockdown. It welcomes people from across the Parish for coffee, cake and an opportunity to socialise. It has a weekly attendance of up to 30 or more and a programme of activities, including Keep Fit, Knit and Natter and Craft. It is popular with friends from the Adult Day Centre in Aycliffe Road. A Harvest Lunch was held in September. A highlight was joining a summer day trip (over 60's) to the seaside at Broadstairs organised by the Town Council.

Working with others, St Michael's has recognised and responded to the cost-of-living crisis faced by many people locally. Over 1,000 hot meals were served, Mon-Fri, over the 6-week summer school holidays thanks to Watford-based charity 'Akshaya Patra', Hertsmere Borough Community Engagement Team and others. A 'Salad and Salsa' Party has held to thank the volunteers.

Building on the success of the 'Welcome Café', St Michael and All Angels Hall has been open as a Warm Space on three days a week from November 2022-March 2023. Attendance has been up to 30-40 people per day. Thanks to generous local donations and grants from Hertfordshire County

Council, monthly free fish and chips have been served and parties held on several occasions. Volunteers have come from across the community and Parish Churches. Talks have been held by church members and others, e.g., living with visual impairment, finding hope as a refugee, shopping on a budget, personal / fire safety.

Revd Louise Collins

Safeguarding

Our Parish has adopted the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy which is found at:
<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/safeguarding/>

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Mrs Hazlyn Hazel who can be contacted for advice or concerns etc. on 07977 185 174 or hazelnutti@hotmail.com. We have no District Safeguarding Officer for St Michael and All Angels.

The Yellow List: A list of helpful safeguarding phone numbers is widely displayed on yellow paper. Some positions in St Michael and All Angels are subject to mandatory safeguarding checks. All activities are risk-assessed, subject to review by the PCC.

DCC

Gardening Group

We enjoy support from the Adult Day Centre in Aycliffe Road who every week bring a group of keen gardeners to tend the Church Garden and grounds. The Group were thanked for their efforts with a coffee and ice-cream outing to Shenley Orchard & Tearooms (Jan 2023).

Revd Louise Collins

Charitable Support

The 3 charities selected by the DCC to each receive £300 from Church funds in 2022 were RNIB, Mind and The Peace Hospice, Watford. Special offerings and collections were also made for The Children's Society, Water Aid, The Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal and The Royal British Legion

DCC

Statistics for Mission, Jan-Dec 2022

Usual Sunday Attendance = 28
Average Weekly Attendance in the month of October = 30
Easter Day Communicants = 54
Christmas Communicants = 33
Christmas Worshippers = 177
Baptisms = 15
Confirmations = 0
Weddings = 1
Funerals = 27

<https://app.klipfolio.com/published/2ed0245bd9e484b056d52a30b28cc719/diocese-of-st-albans--church-mission-statistics-church>

Coffee / Hospitality Rota

Sunday morning coffee has been up and running again for just over a year now. A time to catch up with old friends, and to welcome new ones. I would like to say thank you to the small and dedicated band of volunteers who have done sterling work in the kitchen preparing the tea and coffee each week. As I have done before, I would like to repeat my plea for more volunteers. The job is not onerous – it involves setting up before the service, and then leaving before the final hymn to finish the preparations, serve and wash-up. Just don't forget the milk, or to take the tea-towels home to wash!

The hospitality team was also called into action in June – preparing/setting-up/serving at the Jubilee tea parties. These were well attended and enjoyed by all. This coming May well will repeat this (although with just one sitting), as we celebrate the coronation.

Carol McKee, Churchwarden

Borehamwood Foodbank

To follow

Pattern of Services

Sunday

9.30am Holy Communion or Service of the Word

5.00pm Evening Prayer (via zoom)

Wednesday

9.30am Morning Prayer

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain exists to support requests for prayer. All prayer requests are strictly confidential.

The Prayer Chain team pray daily for one month unless renewal is requested.

Please contact Marian Walker 020 8953 7370.

Paying Our Way ...

It costs over £900 a week to run St Michaels.

Our income comes from fees, hall letting, regular stewardship, gifts and offerings, fairs, fund-raising, public donations and occasional grants. Grants for 2022:

- Sports England / Herts Sports Partnership Keep Fit £650
- Jubilee Grants from Hertsmere Borough Council £335
- Diocesan 'Fresh Expressions' grant for Warm Spaces Fish 'n Chips £250
- HCC Community & Well-Being Festive Grant for Christmas Party £360
- Hertfordshire Communities Foundation for Warm Spaces Welcome Café £2,000
- Church Commissioners Energy Grant £1,279

Our expenses include electricity, gas, water, repairs, renewals, maintenance, supplies, services, PAT testing, fire safety, organ upkeep, insurance, administration, mission costs, Parish Office costs, Vicar's expenses and more.

In addition, we pay towards the costs of having a Vicar and a Vicarage, plus the training and support of ministers and legal advice. This is covered through the **Parish Share Scheme** whereby each Parish in St Albans Diocese pays their Parish Share to the Diocesan Board of Finance. In the Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood, this is split four-ways between the Parish Churches as follows:

St Michael and All Angels pays 34%

All Saints pays 33%

St Nicholas pays 17%

Holy Cross pays 16%

In 2022, the Parish Share for the Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood was **£95,343**.

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/finance/parish-share-scheme/>

Rev'd Louise Collins, March 2023

Mission Action Plan

OUR INSPIRATION:

"Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

John's Gospel, 15.4-5



OUR VALUES:



OUR VISION:

'To be a Church Shaped by the Five Marks of Mission'

OUR PRIORITIES:

Five Marks of Mission



- **Tell:** Proclaim the Kingdom's Good News
- **Teach:** Baptize and nurture new believers
- **Tend:** Respond to human need by loving service
- **Transform:** Change society's unjust structures
- **Treasure:** Safeguard the integrity of creation

— The Anglican Communion (1984-1990)

The Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood

St Michael and All Angels Church



Mission Action Plan 2023

DCC November 2022

OUR SMART GOALS:

Tell –

To hold Open-Air Services:

- Christmas Carols at the Wellington Pub
- Coronation Songs of Praise (Meadow Park, May 7th)
- Praise in the Park (Meadow Park, August 27th)

Teach –

- To hold Lent Lunches (March/April 2023)
- To promote the Youth Church programme and consider running a Youth Alpha Course
- To hold training morning in Sacramental Ministry (scripture readers, intercessions, chalice, choosing the hymns, serving as sacristan)

Tend –

- To hold more Warm Spaces / Welcome Cafes
- To re-start the Dial-A-Friend scheme held in lockdown and to explore organizing in-person home visits

Transform –

- To host a charity-fundraiser concert: Borehamwood Brass Band concert for Alzheimers on November 4th
- To publicize the needs of Borehamwood Foodbank every last Sunday of the month

Treasure –

- To tend Church / civic flower beds and develop a Church vegetable patch (Spring 2023)