

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, ADEL, LEEDS
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL, 2016

AIM AND PURPOSES

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Adel cooperates with the Priest in Charge of the Parish and its elected Churchwardens in promoting, in the ecclesiastical Parish, the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. To do this, it aims to make the most appropriate use of the resources available to it: a beautiful 12th Century Parish Church; The Old Stables (used as a meeting place for activities in the Parish); the funds donated to the Church by regular giving, legacies and bequests; and, most importantly, the lay members of our Church, both those who wish to be formally identified by inclusion on our Electoral Roll - 220 at the end of 2016 - and those who, though not formal members, regard our Church as their spiritual home.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The mission of the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Adel is:

Through Christian worship, word and action, to celebrate and share the love of God with our neighbours.

Our Vision Statement:

We offer a warm and sincere welcome to everyone, old friends and new.

We share the love of God with our Church community and neighbours near and far.

We provide care and compassion by loving service for those in need.

We respect and nurture God's environment.

The PCC carries forward its mission and seeks to achieve its vision by maintaining oversight of our regular worship to ensure that it meets the spiritual needs of as many of our parishioners as possible; by making specific provision for young people to grow up in our Christian family; by encouraging and enabling all parishioners to take advantage of the occasional offices (baptism, marriage, funerals) and welcoming as many as possible to festival and special Services; by facilitating, promoting and organising social events open to all; by making The Old Stables available for the use of groups which benefit the community; and by providing spiritual and practical support for Adel St. John the Baptist Church of England Primary School. To achieve all this, we make prudent use of the financial resources available to us to maintain and enhance our beautiful church, The Old Stables (both Listed Buildings) and the churchyard.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our Church

Regular Sunday worship starts with a service of Holy Communion at 8.00 am and ends with Evening Prayer with hymns at 6.30 pm; both these services follow the usage of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). The main Sunday service is a sung Common Worship (CW) Eucharist at 10.00 am. After the start of this service, young people from babies (with a parent) to teenagers go to The Old Stables for Junior Church, where they receive separate instruction relevant to their age groups but following the same lectionary as the adults. They return to Church in time to share Communion with their parents and the rest of the congregation. On the third Sunday of the month, the 10.00 am service is a shorter All Age Worship - also a Eucharist - in which our youngsters take a greater part: as members of the instrumental group which plays for some of the worship songs; as readers; and in leading the intercessions. The address is aimed at our younger members – and often involves them. We also offer a mid-week CW Service of Holy Communion, at 11.00 am on Wednesdays.

In mid-March (just before Easter) our Rector, Rev Dr Ian White was obliged to take an extended period of sick leave. In his absence, Churchwardens Jenny Jones and Lesley Walton made alternative arrangements

for the conduct of services. Thanks to their efforts and with the help of our Curate Rev Ian Johnston, our Reader Liz Williams and a number of visiting and retired clergy, only a few regular - and no special - services were cancelled. Ian Johnston took responsibility for baptisms and weddings and Liz Williams dealt with funerals and burial of ashes. And with the support of Jenny, Lesley, Ian Johnston and Liz, it was possible for the Rector to make a phased return to duty in July and he celebrated the 10th anniversary of his priesting at a special service on his return.

Rev Ian Johnston completed his curacy with us in September and left for his next post as Associate Priest in a parish near Harrogate.

In October the parish joined Liz as she celebrated 25 years of continuous Reader Ministry in Adel, preaching at the 10.00 Parish Communion, this on the actual anniversary of her licensing in 1991.

In 2016, average attendance at the regular Sunday early morning and evening services, and the mid week service (2015 figures in brackets) was: at 8.00 am 9 (11); at 6.30 pm 13 (13); and Wednesday 11.00 am 10 (11).

Average attendance at the regular 10.00 am Sunday Parish Eucharists was 109 (107); this includes those who attended Junior Church, which averaged 19 (16) children each week; though 37 attended on the first Sunday of Advent.

Because of the size of our church and the numbers who often attend Baptisms, it is rarely possible to include them within our regular services, but services of Baptism often follow our main service; we welcomed 27 (40) new members of the church in 2016.

Our clergy encourage wedding couples to attend our church for a period before their wedding and many do; and though most are not permanently resident in the area, some have continued as members of our congregation after their marriage. We celebrated 16 (16) weddings in the year. There were 12 (14) funerals and 19 (22) burials of ashes.

On Ash Wednesday, 10 (17) communicants attended CW Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes.

Services of Night Prayer were held at 7.30 pm on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week; there were congregations of 16, 9 and 9, compared with (16) on each evening last year. On Maundy Thursday, 26 (27) communicants attended the Eucharist of the Last Supper, when we welcomed a speaker from the Children's Society.

At 10.00 am on Good Friday, we held a service of Reflection on the Passion, attended by 57 (66) people; and 30 (30) attended At the Foot of the Cross from 2.00 pm.

This year, 38 (55) attended the 6.00 am Dawn Eucharist on Easter Day and 162 (230) came to the 10.00 am Parish Eucharist.

We celebrated our Patronal Festival in June, with a Rainbow of Flowers in Church and a River of Colour prepared by children from our church school and Junior Church lining the path to the church (a public footpath). The Church was open Saturday and Sunday and attracted a steady stream of visitors; cream teas were available in the Old Stables on the Saturday and we enjoyed the (now traditional) barbecue lunch on the Sunday. The prayer tree in church was well patronised.

Our Harvest Festival celebrations included lunch this year and finished with a service of Choral Evensong.

A congregation of 138 (144) attended the 10.00 Service on Remembrance Sunday and our Church School also held a Remembrance Service in the Church on 11 November; 229 students, staff and parents attended.

On 18th December, 166 (239) people filled our church for a Carol Service led by our augmented choir.

At 3.00 and 5.00 pm on Christmas Eve, 171 (185) and 181 (194) children and adults attended our 2 Crib Services and 108 (135) celebrated Midnight Mass. On Christmas morning, there were 21 (23) at the 8.00 am BCP Communion Service and 98 (101) attended the 10.00 am service.

During the year, we introduced a monthly informal weekday service for pre-school children and their carers, calling it "JJ's" (junior junior church). Although it is still early days, this seems to be satisfying a need in the parish.

The Old Stables

This listed building provides an excellent resource to support our Church's outreach into the community. The main room is used every Sunday - during the 10.00 a.m Service for our Junior Church and after it to provide refreshments and the opportunity for fellowship for the whole congregation. And both downstairs rooms are regularly used throughout the week by up to a dozen different community groups, ranging from

a parents and toddlers group to activities for older people. The PCC and some of its committees also meet in The Old Stables. It has a fully equipped kitchen and our Social Committee arranges and runs a series of events throughout the year, some associated with the church's Festivals and others, such as regular coffee mornings on Saturdays, talks, quiz nights etc., which are aimed at - and attract - people from the wider community. These events always include refreshment, which acts as a lubricant both for fellowship and for outreach. At Rogationtide, 25 people enjoyed participating in all or part of the Boundary Walk, starting and finishing at The Old Stables.

We ensure that hirers of The Old Stables, who are not members of our church family, have adequate public liability insurance, so that the PCC would not itself be liable if there were a claim against the church. The Old Stables makes a profit over expenses and our church social events also raise funds, either for our church, or for designated charities.

We are assessing how we can ensure that this valuable resource not only continues to serve the needs of the community, but also how we use it as a mechanism for outreach, by informing its users - many of whom have no contact with the Church - what the Church can offer them.

Adel St. John the Baptist Church of England Primary School

During 2016, the chairman of the Governors at our Church School was a PCC member; and the Vice Chair and most of the Foundation Governors (appointed by the PCC) were regular members of our congregation. Our Priest in Charge is a governor *ex officio* and attends the school on a regular basis to lead collective worship and carry out other duties on behalf of the governing body. A number of PCC members and other members of our church assist the school in other capacities. Special services for the school - at Pentecost, the Patronal Festival and Advent - were held in Church and the school choir and their parents swelled our congregation and enhanced our worship on other occasions during the year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the ecclesiastical Parish of St. John the Baptist, Adel is a Registered Charity which administers the activities of our Church in the Parish. So its policies and procedures are controlled not only by Church law - in particular the *Church Representation Rules 2011*, the *Churchwarden's Measure 2001*, and the *Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended)* - but also by the criminal and civil law of England and Wales and in particular the *Charities Act 2006*.

The policies and procedures of the PCC are formalised in our Governing Document (last updated in January 2015) which, in accordance with the legislation listed above, defines the mission, structure and organisation of the PCC. It commits the PCC to providing a safe environment for all church members and visitors to our premises by implementing all relevant Health and Safety legislation and by adopting and implementing Diocesan and national Church policies and guidelines for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. The Governing Document includes annexes which lay down the rules for the conduct of the Annual Parish and Church Meeting and PCC meetings and gives details of the purpose and procedures of the permanent committees of the PCC.

The PCC has a Standing Committee and 6 other permanent committees:

- Worship Committee
- Mission and Outreach Committee
- Fabric Committee
- Finance Committee
- Social Committee
- Health and Safety Committee

The Governing Document defines the purpose of all 7 committees, their membership, the minimum number of meetings they should hold and the arrangements for reporting back to the PCC. Most of the committees also have oversight of Teams, under the leadership of a coordinator, to carry out particular functions - e.g. Eucharistic ministers; Junior Church leaders; churchyard conservation.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parish Church of St. John the Baptist is situated at the junction of Church Lane and Back Church Lane in Adel, north Leeds. The Parochial Church Council is a Registered Charity no: 1133876; during 2016, its members (i.e. trustees) were:

Rev'd Ian J White)	<i>Chairman and Priest in Charge</i>
Rev'd Ian Johnston)	<i>Curate (until September 2016)</i>
Liz Williams)	<i>Reader and Diocesan Synod Representative</i>
Jenny Jones)	
Lesley Walton)	<i>Churchwardens</i>
Bruce Buchan)	
Mary Larner)	
Siân Moxon)	<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>
Rev'd Ian White)	

Lucy Best-Shaw <i>(from April 2016)</i>	Heron Brown <i>(until April 2016)</i>
Marjorie Cole	Chris Cunliffe
Allan Dawson	Alison Duckworth
John Gabbutt <i>(until April 2016)</i>	Sylvia Halliday
James Harrison <i>(from April 2016)</i>	Bob Holloway
Alison Howarth	Sarah Johnson <i>(from April 2016)</i>
Sandra Lavery <i>(until April 2016)</i>	Andy Neal
Margaret Perkin	Geoff Steel <i>(until April 2016)</i>
Beryl Thompson	Samantha Travis <i>(from April 2016)</i>
John Williams	

During 2016, the PCC met 6 (7) times; average attendance was 68% (62%).

John Williams,
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