

**S. CHAD'S CHURCH
TOLLER LANE,
BRADFORD**

Annual Report
of the
Parochial Church Council

For the year ended December 31st 2017

*From September 2016, owing to the retirement of Fr Crowe,
S. Chad's went into Interregnum.*

Membership

Members of the PCC are ex officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Council or co-opted until the next Annual Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC.

Incumbent: September 2016 the Church went into interregnum.

Church Wardens: Mr R Longcake, Mr D Sugden

Diocesan/Deanery Synod Representatives

No representatives

Elected Members

Mrs C Czenkusz

Mr A Czenkusz

Mrs C Eastwood (Treasurer & Gift Aid Secretary)

Mr J Eastwood

Miss E Holroyd

Mrs A Longcake (PCC Secretary)

Mr J Moss

Mrs M Speight

Mr A Speight

Mrs J Sugden

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meets between full PCC Council Meeting.

Standing Committee:

The only committee required by law, having the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to direction by the Council. It meets only when necessary for this purpose.

Events Committee:

This group met twice during 2017 for forward planning of social and fundraising events. At other times ideas were shared by email and telephone.

Church Organisations:

Sunday School:

The Sunday School operates on a fortnightly basis and is led by Mrs Sugden and Mrs Pawson . We currently have two children who attend on a regular basis. After absolution is given before the Mass begins, any attending children retire to the Parish Hall to receive lessons, bible readings and prayers. We then return to Church for the Offertory, Communion and Blessings.

Guild of Health and St. Raphael:

During 2017 our branch had three members who paid a subscription of £5 which included two newsletters from the Guild. The magazine 'Chrism' was available for an additional fee. A monthly prayer list is provided by the Secretary for members. Some of our intercessions are shared with the people of Holy Trinity, Bingley. Sections of the prayer list are read out at every mass, with the whole being read out once a month at the designated Wednesday Mass. The intercessions are updated frequently so that our prayers remain as relevant as possible. Since the Interregnum began the Sacrament of Holy Unction is available on request and visiting priests make themselves available to hear confessions. A monthly requiem mass is celebrated to pray for the departed souls on our year's mind.

Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament--Ward of S. Faith

We maintain the monthly Holy Hour on Fridays evenings, substituted by Stations of the Cross during Lent, the Maundy Watch in Holy Week and by Solemn Vespers on the Eve of Corpus Christi in early summer. Miss F-Elizabeth Evans of the College of Readers led the Holy Hour based round the Office and a meditation appropriate to the day. Attendance is open to all and individual membership of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacraments available for an annual fee of £5. In return, members receive a quarterly newsletter with devotional content, daily intercessions and news of the wards. Last year a new ward was inaugurated by Bishop Roger Jupp at St Hilda's Leeds and two of us from St Chad's were able to attend. Three people also attended regularly the monthly Holy Hour of Holy Trinity Bingley as a means of prayerful support between the two parishes. The Confraternity supports the sacramental worship of the Church throughout Britain and

overseas by practical giving and promotes the honour due to the Blessed Sacrament wherever resources may be lacking.

Walsingham Links

The Fraternity of Our Lady of Walsingham: S Chad and All Saints fell into abeyance because of the Interregnum. The spirit of Walsingham was kept alive during 2017 in the recitation of the Rosary by a small group, led by Miss F-Elizabeth Evans. This took place each month on a specified evening, except during Lent.

The Bradford Churches Pilgrimage to Walsingham, which is made up of Anglicans and Roman Catholics, set off in August 2017 from S. Chad's to the Pilgrimage of Healing and Renewal. As usual it was arranged by Mrs Lindsey H Stratford and led by Fr Ralph Crowe.

Journal

The Journal and Events Sheet was produced twelve times in 2017 with Steve Gardner taking over the production of the Events Sheet and the mailing of the e-Journals part way through the year. Ninety copies were made available each month from March, a reduction of ten. The parish buys in from ACS the magazine insert 'Christian Life' which most people choose to receive. Up to December last year thirty four e-Journals were sent each month and twenty copies of the Journal were posted, an increase of two. Three copies of each edition are archived.

World Wide Web

Mr Fairpo contacted the PCC to say that he did not feel he could continue to manage the website. Miss Evans said that she knew someone who would be able to continue the website and also would be able to update it.

Electoral Roll

This year was a simple revision of the Electoral Roll. There are 52 parishioners registered on the roll, 4 are resident in the Parish and 48 are non-resident. There were 6 additions, unfortunately there were 5 removals.

The total number of communicants at the Sunday and week day Mass during the year was 2649. The monthly figures range from 391 in January to 238 in December. The Solemn Mass on Sunday at 10.45 and a Low Mass on Wednesday evenings has continued.

Parochial Church Council

The full PCC met eight times during the year and there are 13 members of the Council.

At the first PCC meeting of the year the Chair gave details of a discussion that had taken place between the respective Churchwardens of St Chad's and St John's Bierley plus the Rural Dean and Archdeacon. The Dioceses was seeking to make a 3 year interim appointment for a shared role of a Priest between St Chad's and St John's. At the end of February an advert was placed on the Diocesan website and the Society website. Applications had to be in by the 6th March and interviews would take place over 22nd and 23rd March. There was one candidate but unfortunately he was not acceptable. In July a further candidate came forward after the interviews he was offered the post but he declined the offer as he believed the combination of the two parishes was not workable, the distance between the two churches was too far, and he urged the Diocese to rethink their strategy.

In September Mr Longcake told the PCC the Archdeacon had been in touch and had asked for another meeting with the PCC and the congregation to discuss the way forward with regard to a new Priest. Following this meeting Bishop Tony asked for further meeting. At this meeting the Bishop said that it had been decided to advertise for a half time Priest in Charge for St Chad's. The Priest would work 3 days a week plus Sundays. they would also have use of the Vicarage. A new and updated Parish Profile was produced, but there were no responses to the advertisement.

Mr Fairpo contacted the Council during the year to say due to ill health he would be unable to produce the events sheet or manage the website. The production of the events sheet has been taken over by Mrs Speight with help from Mr S Gardner. Miss Evans said that she knew some one who would be able to manage and update the website.

A letter was received from Mr and Mrs Price saying that they were resigning from the Council. They were our Deanery Synod representative and Mr Price was our Safeguarding Officer.

As it stands we do not have any Synod representation, but Miss Evans has offered to be our Safeguarding Officer and is now a member to the PCC.

Missions

USPG

According to USPG's own record, the total amount sent by our people during 2017 was £1,666.54 (£1,463.52 during the previous year). Where donations are sent by individuals directly to USPG these are credited to our annual total. We continued to support Churches and Hospitals in Malawi thorough our envelope scheme. The monthly average from our calendar envelope collection during 2017 went up from £91.66 to £95.50. The envelopes were contributed regularly by a group of eight people, an increase of one on the previous year. 'Gift aided' contributions from the envelopes were up £101 on 2016. Appreciative acknowledgements are received by email. Self-denial boxes raised more in 2017 (£122.91 compared with £49.20 the previous year) and the 'gifted aided' amount of £75 was up by £35. We collected £20.18 in profits from the sale of Fairtrade tea compared with £13.92 in 2016. These were sent to the USPG Harvest Appeal. In addition the previously agreed amount was sent from the parish.

In addition to prayers for our own project, global intentions for USPG are prayed at Mass. These can be followed in the prayer diaries which are available in church.

ACS

According to the Society's own records the total amount sent by our people to our home mission in 2017 was £1167.51 (£91.26 during the previous year). This includes donations sent directly to ACS and credited to our parish total. Self-denial boxes and one 'all year' box emptied at Easter raised £460.23 (compared with £359.61 the previous year). £406 of this amount was enhanced by Gift Aid (£321 in 2016). We contributed half the collection taken on the Eve of Corpus Christi This totalled £54.25 (£56 in 2016). We continue to receive twenty copies twice a year of the ACS magazine 'Good News' and make sure that all these are distributed. Some recipients choose to make a voluntary contribution of £1 for their copy and, as a result we were able to send £7 during 2017 towards minting this publication. In addition the previously agreed amount of £325 was sent from the parish.

It was a great pleasure to welcome Fr Darren Smith, Secretary of the Additional Curates Society, as our Celebrant and Preacher on Trinity Sunday 11th June.

Church Warden's Report

Although mindful of a number of items to address, from the quinquennial survey, the Wardens were also mindful of our current finances, and the uncertainties surrounding our future.

Church heating and how it worked needed to be addressed, previously this had been the domain of Fr Crowe, and being on site as it were, he was always in a position to manually turn the heating on and off. Clearly this would not be the case now and thus a timer linked to the thermostat was installed in early 2017, this cost of which was met by an anonymous benefactor. Our gas consumption is being monitored weekly.

Knotweed was evident on the NE corner of the church grounds and further treatment had taken place, and this would need to continue over the next few years.

Door locks proved to a problem in 2017 both in the church Sacristy door and the external doors, some of which were proving harder to lock. The main reason was probably some movement in the door hanging causing misalignment and this making the locks difficult to secure. Some efforts have been made to improve this but it is likely some new locks, particularly on the Sacristy door will be needed, as will the main external door lock to the Sunday School in 2018.

Other numerous small items of repair took place eg fixing trestle tables etc.

Again throughout 2017 we have maintained the external and internal environs, litter picking, weeding, grass cutting, gully emptying, as the internal cleaning. We have also had to encompass the Vicarage in this whilst it remains unoccupied, both around the garden and sorting out some residual books left behind by Fr Crowe.

There has been an increase in hall letting in 2017, which are mainly from the local community. However this has put extra work in having to open up and close the hall, and collecting money and putting the rubbish out. It is a requirement that the hall is left clean and tidy, and mainly this is achieved, but there will be instances which will require us to suffer some extra tidying.

The response from the PCC to church sit the numerous English Heritage open days has been pitiful, and falls on far too few people.

Pigeons in the bell turret remained a problem during 2017 creating some mess around the bell rope area.

However several working days at various times keep the church and grounds in good condition and thanks to all who attend and put in a stint, as well as those who tackle many other jobs at other times.

Sunday School

The Sunday School faced some uncertainty during 2017 with the apparent departure of our main pupils, the Kaso family at the end of the year. During their attendance our lessons included the Prophets of the Old Testament and the Parables of Jesus.

We helped at the Summer Fayre and our annual Coffee Morning in October raised £154 for Church Funds and £117 for Martin House Children's Hospice.

We have kept the Sunday School open, continuing on a fortnightly basis when possible so there is still provision for any visiting families or if the Kaso children should return. In September, little Max began attending regularly and we have tailored Bible stories specifically for his age. Little Belle also attends when able (they are aged 1 year and 2 years respectively)

After many successful and fruitful years it was decided in December to cease active fundraising for Guide Dogs. We have decided to concentrate on our other adopted charity, Martin House Children's Hospice. We also donate from time to time to the charity Safe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land.

Despite our low numbers we will still continue to function as a Sunday School and provide faithful care and tuition to any youngster who may require it.

Card and Candle Fund

Stocks of cards, Advent calendars and votive candles were replenished a usual at sale time. Christmas and Easter Cards sold well during 2017. The Fund continues to cover the cost of Hosts for both priest and people throughout the year and paid for the candles for the Advent Wreath. F M Church Supplies Ltd continued generously to provide all our candles free because of the Interregnum. This included the Paschal candle last year. Religious books, prayer cards and bookmarks were donated, and continue to benefit the Fund and were bought mostly by visitors. Additional items such as pens, key rings and trolley tokens are also available. We have continued to receive regular monthly donations directly into the building society, for which we are most grateful. The balance at the end of the year was £2,651.94 (£1,985.99 the previous year).

Treasurers Report

Income

The congregation provide the bulk of our income through standing orders, weekly envelopes and loose cash on the plate. We also receive miscellaneous gift-aided donations from visitors and friends. The total of these items amounted to £20,886, down from £24,100 in 2016. The reduction of gift-aided monies has a knock-on-effect on the amount of tax claimed back from HMRC, which was £6863 as against £7645 in 2016.

Gift Day brought in £1832 as opposed to £2170 in 2016. The Summer Fair (£706) and Autumn Fair (£912) were much the same as earlier, but the Shipley Bric-a-brac Sale £294 was well down on 2016 (400). We are hopeful that by changing the venue to Shipley Baptist Church Hall IN 2018 we may improve our takings. Coffee Mornings raised £1673, almost the same as in 2016.

Money received for the Journal, including adverts, was £462. We are grateful to our printer who again has waived his expenses.

Rent for Hall letting increased to £520, though by its nature this varies from year to year.

We again took part in the Yorkshire Historic Churches ride and stride effort in September. Half the sums raised goes to the Trust and half to St Chad's (£141 to each).

During the year, two Parish Lunches were organised by the Wagstaff family at the Jacob's Well pub. The total raised was £243. These occasions, together with the Coffee Mornings, are to be recommended as they draw the congregation together as well as raising much needed funds.

Expenses

The largest item is always the Diocesan Share (in 2017 £29,986). Unfortunately we were able to pay only £22,500 owing to reduced income.

Insurance on the Church and Hall (£3125) was slightly up on 2016 (£2949), but utility bills of about £10,000 were similar to the previous year.

Church repairs amounted to £657, whilst no repairs were incurred on the Hall. As in previous years, the Card and Candle Fund pays for wine and the Paschal Candle.

Donations

We have always considered it important to support charities and to contribute to those in need. In 2017 the following payments were made:

Barnardo's	£118
Martin House	£117
Christian Aid	£307
Children's Society	£191
USPG (inc. £325 from PCC)	£1618
ACS (" " ")	£803

Investment Income

We have the following reserves with the C. of E. Board of Finance.

General Account	£14062
Assistant Priest Fund	£3398
Ackroyd Fund (restricted)	£291

Our Current Account, used for day-to-day items, is with the Yorkshire Bank, Shipley, and at 31/12/17 the capital was £7245. In addition, there is a small amount in the Organ Fund, approximately £265. The Building Fund with the Skipton Building Society contains about £2900. During the year, the Flower Fund was merged with the Card and Candle Fund for easier management.

As can be seen, this has been a difficult year. We have managed to pay general bills only by cutting the amount paid to the Diocese. Although we have not used any reserves, this is unlikely to continue in 2018 if costs rise and income decreases.

If anyone can increase their weekly collection, this would be very welcome; if not, then please support our various money-raising efforts in order to keep S. Chad's on the map.

Safeguarding

The Safeguarding officer for the parish and in agreement with the PCC, Miss Evans, has updated our various policies and this will now be continued as an annual action. The PCC are fully aware that safeguarding has to be everybody's responsibility and as a parish our most important priority has to be keeping everybody safe and therefore we need to ensure there are people with current DBS certification in attendance at all relevant functions and activities so that our Church and parish hall are centres where all people feel welcome, respected and safe from abuse.

The PCC are committed to encouraging an environment where all people, and especially those who may be vulnerable for any reason, are able to worship and pursue their faith journey with encouragement and in safety. We have therefore adopted the national guidelines including the House of Bishops' policy for safeguarding adults in the Church of England "*Promoting a safe church*" as well as the House of Bishops' Child Protection Policy "*Protecting all God's Children*" as the basis for our own Church policy and practise document. Notices are displayed so all can see we follow these actions and copies of the documents are available from Miss Evans and the PCC secretary.

Most of our DBS certificates will need to be renewed in 2018 and Miss Evans is now registered to fulfil this work for the diocese. There will be more church members added to the DBS lists to ensure we have full cover for all occasions including worship where children are involved as servers, etc.

Risk assessments have been conducted, and on going, for both church and hall and necessary action and clarifying notices updated in accordance with safety needs; these include first aid and fire safety requirements

Deanery Synod Report

We have no Deanery Synod representative.