

## **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH REPORT FOR 2016**

### **Church Worship**

All Saints Church continued in a period of interregnum (being without a vicar) up to September and the pattern of services remained in the amended format with the organisation of outside clergy to lead our Eucharistic Services.

In September our long interregnum finally came to an end with the Installation of our new Rector the Reverend Alison Massey. Rev. Ali was Inducted by the Bishop of Warwick on the 19th September and was followed by a welcome with refreshments after the service at Knightlow School. With the period of Interregnum over Reverend Ali led her first service on Sunday 25th September.

A number of special services were held at All Saints during the year including a Remembering Service, a Rogation Service, Women's World Day of Prayer, a Songs of Praise Service, Sung Eucharist with the Scholars Choir from St Mary's in Warwick and a Christingle Service . Carolling around the village on Christmas Eve continued in 2016 with village people coming forward to organise this event.

The Church Choir, now called the Festival Choir, continued throughout the year.

The Church maintained its commitment to Knightlow Primary School with Eucharist, Harvest and Carol services being held in the church and also helping at the assembly services each Wednesday throughout the year.

### **The Church Building and the Churchyard**

The church building was been used for regular weekly worship, church meetings and for special services including baptisms, weddings and funerals.

We hosted     6 baptisms  
                  4 Weddings  
                  9 Funerals, 3 of which were followed by burial in the churchyard

(The churchyard has \_\_\_\_ plots still available)

During the year four sets of windows were refurbished and a new Sound System was installed all thanks to a Legacy from our late Reader Elizabeth Kirk. We also replaced the carpet to the aisle and refurbished the toilet.

The churchyard was kept in good order throughout the year and the PCC's thanks go to Stretton Parish Council for their donation towards the upkeep of the churchyard, making it a pleasant and peaceful place for both churchgoers and visitors.

We had a request from the War Graves Commission to erect a sign near the gate ,indicating that we have several war graves in the Churchyard.

The outside flood lighting has suffered in the last year , due to age, and new light units have been installed.

## **Church Finances**

In common with many organisations the question of finances, with a cost of £370 per week to keep the Church operating, remains a constant issue, especially as our voluntary income is falling.

## **Fund Raising / Church Socials**

The PCC organised a number of events during 2016, including the Pudding Club in January and the Christmas Fair in December which this year was held on a Friday night in conjunction with the village lights switch on. The PCC also supported the Village Fair in June by running the book stall.

## **Outreach**

The Church was also involved in a number of other outside activities including ;

Organising Hospital Lifts & Visits

Support for Hope 4 Operation

The Good Neighbour Scheme

Men's Breakfasts

The 'Pendulum' village magazine

## **Conclusion**

This then is the picture of All Saints and St. Cuthbert's as it was in 2016. It was a year that saw the start of a new era now under the leadership of our new Rector the Reverend Alison and a new Chapter in the history of our Church in Stretton.

