

## 2019 Annual Report for 2020 APCM – 15<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 in church.

### 2019 PCC

Vicar Canon Rosamund Seal

Churchwardens Carol Hellen & Mick Boylan

Treasurer(s) Carole Williams & Michael Barton (both resigned)

Secretary Michael Slater

PCC Judy Kelly (resigned), Pam Rix, Sue Sims (resigned), Bruce Buck, Sara Williams, Mike Goodman, Lynne Barkes, Michael Barton, Jude Browes, Isobel Hutchinson, Michael Barton

### 2019 Mission statistics (2018 in brackets)

Elect roll	148	(156)
ASA	64 + 5 child	(73 + 7)
Baptisms	37	(37)
Weddings	5	(5)
Funerals	14 + 14 crem	(33 + 13)

We went into lockdown at pretty much the same time as we were beginning to think about preparing a full report, as in previous years, for our APCM.

2019 seems a long while ago now, so rather than produce a full report from all the organisations, here is a summary of much of what we did during the year.

- We began the year by ringing out the old year and ringing in the new with a lovely Watchnight service, and we are very grateful to Mike Slater for recruiting the bellringers and enabling this.
- Caz was appointed as Deanery administrator and Rural Dean's PA in February, working from an office in the Coubro chambers. This has been a valuable resource to both the parishes and the deanery, particularly those parishes in vacancy. Caz now completes all the administration for Baptisms, weddings and funerals.
- As part of our observation of Holy Week we hosted a live performance of The Vigil by Ladislav Fodor performed by the St Nicholas Players.
- Bishop Nicholas was not able to join us for as many of our Holy Week and Easter services as planned due to his father's illness but he was with us on Easter day
- Prior to our APCM in April 30 new worshippers were added to the electoral roll
- Mick Boylan and Carol Hellen have done a wonderful job of becoming first time church wardens and have worked really well together.
- At the end of April we said a very fond good bye to Kate (our curate) at a very special evensong as she left us to go to her first incumbency in Derbyshire
- We got our Fresh Expression of church, which had been initiated by Kate, properly off the ground in June under the new name of The Gathering – meeting over a simple lunch in the Reading Rooms every 6 weeks or so with a grant of £500 from the transformation fund to help us fund the food and with a short biblical reflection and a time of prayer built in.
- Michaela was sent on an enforced sabbatical following her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday prior to her being given PTO in December
- The tower appeal was launched to raise 150,000 for works to the tower and the West Window. We are very grateful to Isobel for her work on this project.

- As a joint venture with the Community Larder we ran a School Holiday lunch and craft project each Monday during the summer holidays. It was fun to do but did not really attract the number of children we had hoped for and the craft activities became more of a focus than the lunches. If we do this again it will need a rethink.
- In order to reduce the amount of work that was entailed, without losing out on quality, the magazine was reduced to a bi-monthly edition with some new feature articles commissioned and then from June moved to full colour. We continue to be hugely grateful to Kevin and Martin at Welland Creative for the new design & layout of the magazine.
- We launched the national Parish Giving Scheme to which over 20 people have signed up and it is good to have that money and the associated gift aid coming in regularly and anonymously each month.
- Over the summer the ALMs involved in ministry to the Care Homes rewrote and simplified the themes and hymns for the monthly care home service. These came into use in September. The August Care home & Dementia friendly service and afternoon tea was held for the third year running with plans in place to run a similar service on three occasions during 2020
- Morning Worship was introduced to replace communion on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday service as this has enabled our team of ALMs and our Reader to lead a regular service and has introduced a bit more variety to our worship and has enabled Rosamund to lead services elsewhere in the deanery on those Sundays.
- We prepared 3 members of the junior choir & 3 adults for Confirmation by Bishop Nicholas at St Mary & St Nicolas Spalding in September
- Sally Clifton joined us from Sutton St James as a Reader in September while continuing the process of discernment for ordination.
- We had 3 new recruits to the Junior choir and one or two new adults in the senior choir and sung once again at the Lincoln RSCM evensong at the cathedral in October stopping for lunch at McDonalds' on the way.
- We successfully held our second Harvest Lunch in the church building.
- Clifford Godfrey funded the full repair of the choir organ (at a cost of £30,000) in memory of his wife Iris who had died earlier in the year and we were able to get the work completed before Christmas so that the organ could be used to it's full potential again. This was an extraordinary gift which we would never have otherwise been able to afford.
- We held our second Carols in the Pub evening at the Horse and Groom, using a more suitable spot that didn't block access to the bar. It was very successful and included a very precious moment of silence and prayer.
- Both Flower Festival and the St Nicholas Fayre were an outstanding success despite all the hard work and the Lantern parade was a very welcome innovation for the 2019 St Nicholas Fayre and raised much needed funds. The flower festival raised £3,304.
- We also raised a magnificent £926.93 for Crisis from our Christmas services and event including £395 raised by the Junior Choir Stable Sleep Over
- Sadly our Sunday attendance having ranged between 70-73 for the last 8 years has dropped this year. This appears to have been due to a number of our very regular worshippers becoming housebound or ceasing to attend church altogether. These people have been replaced by the 30 new members on the electoral roll, but the new people attend far less regularly.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wardens Carol & Mick, Michaela, Sally and the Ministry Team and Barry for their huge commitment to the ongoing life of the church.