



## **The Parish of St Mary's Church, Ideford**

*Address:  
Ideford Church,  
Church Road,  
Ideford  
TQ13 0BA*

### **Annual Report**

### **of the Parochial Church Council**

for the year ended  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

Team Rector:  
The Reverend Carol Green

Team Vicar:  
The Reverend Jane Frost

# **The Parochial Church Council of St Mary's Church, Ideford**

## **Annual Report**

### **for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

#### **Aim and Purpose**

St Mary's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Team Vicar, the Reverend Jane Frost, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, as well as the Church itself.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our Church, and to become part of our parish family. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish family albeit in small numbers, through:

- Worship and prayer:
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Mission and outreach work including new families through the successful Messy Church initiative
- Providing a continued Christian presence in the community

#### **Achievements and Performance**

##### ***Worship and Prayer***

Following the ending of Covid restrictions the church has returned to being open daily for the use of anyone and everyone in the community. Typically there are two services a month, Holy Communion and Evensong, with a consistent average attendance of about 10 to the morning service but this number increased significantly at Easter, Harvest and Christmas. As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. There have been no Baptisms, Marriages or Funerals during the year but one committal of ashes did take place. Those who are no longer able to come to Church can receive Holy Communion in their own home. In the absence of clergy availability some occasions, such as Christmas Morning and Remembrance Sunday, are marked by lay led events and are well attended. At present there are 33 parishioners on the Electoral Roll having been revised in March/April 2023. There were no changes to the roll.

##### ***Deanery Synod***

One member of the PCC sits on the Kenn Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with a link with the churches around us, and also with the Diocese as a whole. It also receives reports from the General Synod.

##### ***Church Fabric***

Thanks to Teignbridge District Council the churchyard continues to be well maintained. The overall fabric of the church, which is a Grade II listed building, appears to be in good order. It was very difficult to find an architect willing to undertake the Quinquennial Inspection but this has now taken place in February 2023.

### ***Mission and Evangelism***

St Mary's hosts and runs Messy Church activities for families on a regular basis which includes crafts, stories, prayers and eating together. Messy Church has run a session each half term, involving some new families and helpers; focussing on celebrating families and summer fun with a particularly fun session of games on the village Green plus Easter and Christmas.

### ***Other Activities***

The church is present in the community in a number of different ways. Some of the events are for fundraising but all are aimed at having a social benefit. Activities this year have included a Festive Lunch, sales of homemade jam, a sponsored walk, the Christmas Tree Festival and Advent Windows. The church became a focal point for the community after the late Queen Elizabeth II's death hosting the book of condolence. As in previous years, donations for the local foodbank in Teignmouth (HIITS) are collected throughout the year and particularly at Harvest. The church has worked with the other village organizations (Village Hall and Millennium Green) to organize the Village Fete and Christmas Craft Fayre and it is hoped that this joint working partnership will continue.

### **Financial Review and Statements – see separate document**

### **Safeguarding**

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). Requisite training during 2022 has been undertaken by PCC members with the exception of the Churchwarden which is not possible with the absence of a Churchwarden. A separate report for the Haldon Mission Community is also available.

### **Volunteers**

There is a good level of support within the village for maintaining the church, with more than 30 people giving their time and talents in many ways, including providing flowers and church decorations, bellringing, winding the church clock, playing the organ, verging, cleaning, maintaining the fabric of the church and the churchyard and fundraising. The PCC express their thanks to these people and did so directly through the Church Christmas Cards. Also the Parish Newsletter for Ideford, Luton and Ashcombe is compiled and distributed by volunteers. As a small community, there is much overlap of participants between village organizations and church members play a significant part in the life of the village. This year the church has been working with an emerging group in the community, Sustainable Ideford. The village Wildlife Wardens have also planted wildflower seeds in a small area of the Churchyard and swift boxes are going to be housed in the Bell Tower this coming year.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. The full PCC met four times during the year. Despite the lack of churchwarden, the PCC has continued to operate successfully in a very collegiate and supportive manner. The work is spread amongst all these voluntary members and brings to the fore their individual talents.

## Review of Objectives for 2022

These objectives were set out for 2022 as required in developing the wider Haldon Mission Community plans covering Fabric, Outreach and Discipleship. Progress made is reported overleaf:

Objective	Description	Progress
Fabric	Undertaking the quinquennial report and planning work identified	After much difficulty in finding architects who would undertake such inspections, an architect was appointed in November 2022 and the inspection carried out in February 2023. The PCC awaits the outcome of the inspection.
Outreach	Supporting Messy Church	New helpers from amongst the PCC and congregation have supported this year's Messy Church sessions
Discipleship	Supporting the Lent Course run in Ideford and other Team events	Bearing in mind the size of the church's regular congregation, seven different people attending at least one session of the Lent Course represents a high level of participation.

## Objectives for 2023

In terms of setting targets for 2023 as required in developing the wider Haldon Mission Community plans, these are:

- Fabric – producing and implementing a plan for work identified in the quinquennial report
- Outreach – supporting Messy Church
- Imagination – TBC

## Team Ideford

**Team Vicar**  
**PCC Team**

The Rev'd Jane Frost (Chair)  
Libby Ellison  
Vicki Gardner  
Jane Hill  
Tom Hill  
Nicki Horseman  
Vanessa Morby  
Liz Rice  
Robert Gillett  
David Aylmore  
Sue Harvey  
Alan Wooderson

**Treasurer (not on PCC)**  
**Fabric Officer (not on PCC)**  
**Safeguarding Officer (not on PCC)**  
**Verger (not on PCC)**