

## Churchwardens Report 2019/20

At the APCM last April, we welcomed Catherine Holton as our new churchwarden.

It has been a very busy 18 months in the life of our church since the last Churchwardens' Report – not least in responding to the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic for the life and worship of St Andrew's.

We have compiled a new inventory of the church's property as well as a new "terrier" – the list and description of all the land and buildings belonging to the church.

We have continued to do work on both the Church building and Parish Centre. A very welcome element in this has been the installation of toilets in the church building and further improvements to the lights. Work in the Parish Centre in the first half of the year continued to improve its quality and functionality for those that use it, including tackling leaks in the main hall roof. The biggest change, of course, has been the leasing of the Parish Centre from the end of March this year to be used as a special needs school – a valuable and much needed asset for the community of Enfield, and sustained income for the church which enables us to invest in the future of the church building, and for the mission of St Andrews. The lease means that for the first time in many years, the church is in a good place financially and so the leadership team is able to take a pause, celebrate what we have achieved, and review priorities for action over the next year or so towards delivering our Mission Action Plan – Towards 2030.

We are very grateful to all those volunteers who helped clear the Parish Centre, and especially to Laura Bruce for her sterling efforts in passing on Parish Centre furniture and furnishings to other local charities. Thanks also to Simone Berndes for her work in maintaining and increasing the income from letting out the Parish Centre until the end of March and, of course, the car park. We look forward to seeing the outcome of the extensive building works.

St Andrew's has continued to have a variety of services, introducing all ages worship initially in the Parish Centre at the 10am service. We then made changes to the times of services, retaining the 8am Communion Service, moving to a more traditional communion at 9:30 and all ages worship at 11am in church. We are grateful to those who helped lead all ages worship, especially Jo, Adele, Illy, Rob and Tom, for their enthusiasm and for the enjoyment they brought to all those attending the service. Many thanks too to the refreshments team who took on the new challenge of providing (excellent) refreshments in the church between the 9:30 and 11am services. The quality of the refreshments, and the opportunity to mingle with people from both services, were very much welcomed. Messy Church is firmly part of St Andrew's life, and youth church on Sunday continued well. New bible study groups continued to build fellowship and discipleship.

Of course, everything changed in March when the country went into lockdown for Covid-19. We are all blown away by the way in which Rev. Steve launched and developed new online worship on Sundays, Monday-Friday Morning and Evening Prayer, and TFG. We've seen substantial growth in our Facebook Group membership. Building digital worship so

amazingly has meant we continue to grow as a mission shaped church and is a cause for real celebration.

From July, we worked hard to re-open the church in line with Government and Diocesan guidance – initially on Saturdays for individual prayer only, and from September for public worship. We are grateful to the team who came together to assess risks and make arrangements for safe re-opening, especially Clare, Dinos, Laura and Rob, and to Simone for all her efforts. Most of all, many thanks to all the volunteers who came forward to steward at the Saturday sessions, and the Sunday and Wednesday services. **We couldn't have re-opened the church without you.**

We extend our thanks to all those who volunteer their time to the life of St Andrew's in any capacity. Last but no means least we are very grateful to Rev Steve and Jo for all the work they do, especially the vital work that is not seen by the church family but which continues to build up our church. Most of all, we thank Rev Dr Steve for helping St Andrew's to think boldly and truly be a mission shaped church.

**Paul Edwards, Catherine Holton and Patience Wilson**  
**October 2020**