

Report of the Priest-in-charge 2021

Overview

The year began with the Third National Lockdown (January to March 2021) followed by a phased exit from lockdown, from 8 March to July 2021. Despite the restrictions, places of worship, including churches, were permitted to remain open throughout the year. While some churches chose to close at various times, St Mary's remained open with services of public worship offered on all Sundays throughout the year. Other church activities were conducted as far as possible within the legal restrictions, and resumed when possible.

Services of Public Worship

Attendance was below pre-pandemic levels, but fairly stable, typically around 30 adults at 1030. Regular prayer and worship was available online from the Straw Chapel, with Morning Prayer most days and Holy Communion on Sunday. Following the ending of lockdown in July and the subsequent summer holiday period a gradual reintroduction of services and events began in October. In particular, Holy Communion at 8 restarted on 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. Sunday Club led an imaginative and educational Climate Action service on 7 November, which took place in Send Primary School. A 'Stir Up' service was possible again on 21 November. During Advent, Sunday Club successfully and enjoyably performed a Nativity Service and the choir were able to support a Carol Service. Christmas was celebrated with a Crib Service, Midnight and Morning services of Holy Communion, including a service from the Straw Chapel on Christmas Day.

Baptism, marriage and funeral services were conducted throughout the year with various restrictions, notably concerning the number of people permitted to attend.

Baptism

There were 6 baptisms during the year, all conducted at 12.30 on Sundays, which avoided packing people into the church.

Lucy Marie MANDER	18 July, aged 1 year
Alexandra Rosy ARMSTRONG-TAIT	12 September, aged 10 months
Emily Rosy ARMSTRONG	12 September, aged 2 years
Henry MCLUSKEY	19 September, aged 8 months
Emilia Madeleine LEIGH	31 October, aged 11 months
Arthur James Edward HAMMOND	28 November, aged 9 months

Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child - There were no services of thanksgiving in 2021.

Confirmation – No candidates were presented for confirmation in 2021.

Marriage

There were 3 marriages services:

Adam BROWN and Emily HANDFORD	8 May
Richard BOTTOMLEY and Lucy O'BRIEN	10 July
George HOWARD and Sophie GIBBS	21 August

Thanksgiving for Marriage

Matthew and Rosie BOREHAM	31 July
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30th Anniversary Thanksgiving for Marriage

Craig and Michelle DODD	18 September
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Funeral

There were 19 funerals, with 11 services in church and 8 at a crematorium.

Date	Name (age)	Age	Place of service
21 January	Hans MEYER	99	Church and Send Cemetery
18 February	Rosemary SALE	80	Church and Send Cemetery
22 February	Phillip HARRINGTON	85	Woking Crematorium
25 March	Edwin GOLDUP	91	Guildford Crematorium
26 March	Marjorie SHEWARD	86	Guildford Crematorium
29 March	Leonard THOMPSON	87	Church and Send Cemetery

31 March	Prudence KYNASTON	98	Church
15 April	Marigold JACKSON	82	Church and Woking Crematorium
29 April	Ronald SMITH	93	Church and Guildford Crematorium
12 May	Peter FLOYD	68	Church and Send Cemetery
20 August	John SYMONDS	85	Woking Crematorium and Church
8 October	Alan MEEKINS	75	Woking Crematorium
28 October	Pamela WINDEBANK	87	Church and Woking Crematorium *
29 October	Donald MASKELL	84	South West Middlesex Crematorium
8 November	Peter BLAKE	95	Woking Crematorium
17 November	Vivien LAMB	75	Church and Send Cemetery
24 November	Irene BLEACH	97	Woking Crematorium and Church
22 December	Pamela MULBERRY	92	Woking Crematorium

* Conducted by the Bishop of Grantham

Burial of Cremated Remains in the Churchyard and Send Cemetery

Date	Name	Burial Register Entry No.	Place of burial
12 March	Patricia JAMIESON	-	Send Cemetery
30 April	John BRYAN	396	Churchyard
1 May	Terry IRVINE	-	Send Cemetery
12 May	Phillip HARRINGTON	-	The Mount Cemetery
29 July	Valerie WRIDE	-	Send Cemetery
10 September	Philippa TASSANO	397	Churchyard
15 September	Heather and David WESTCOTT	-	Send Cemetery

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Schools

Interactions with Send Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School were curtailed due to COVID-19 restrictions. I made some videos for collective worship and participated remotely in the business of the governing body.

Anne Haynes Charity

As the principal minister in the parish I continued as an ex officio trustee and chair of the Trustees of the Anne Haynes Charity (Charity no. 1037331). Founded in 1702, the objects of the benefaction are 'Apprenticing poor children resident in the ancient parish of Send with any surplus to be applied in assisting poor persons under the age of 21 resident in the said area who are preparing for entering upon or engaged in any trade occupation or service.' The 'Ancient Parish of Send' means Send and Ripley, with each Parish Council appointing a trustee. Mr Mark Clover continued to represent Send. The trustees did not meet in 2021.

Thanks

I am grateful for the dedication and encouragements of the congregation, many of whom work quietly and unobtrusively to promote the mission of St Mary's Church in the parish and beyond. I am especially grateful to my wife, Beth, for all that she does to support me, as well as for her involvements with such blessings as the Mothers' Union and coordinating support for Your Sanctuary and other Surrey refuges for women and their children.

On earth as it is in heaven

I know many of us nurture ever-watchful and prayerful hope that more people will find a welcome home among the community of faith that is our parish church. In our devotion to God's word, the Church's doctrines and sacraments, service to our community, and Christ-minded common sense, we trust we will grow in mutual love and conviction. I hope in these endeavours that we will neither to be so heavenly minded as to be no earthly good nor to 'so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal', as the old prayer has it. In our embodiment of Christian values we imagine St Theresa was pointing towards something salutary when she famously wrote: "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

Rev'd Tony Shutt – April 2022