

MISSION ACTION PLAN 2021-2022



RESURGAM

VICAR'S FOREWORD

From before the time that the Government and Church of England recognised that the Coronavirus pandemic was about to hit this country and the whole world, St John's was already drawing on its spiritual and historical resources to make plans for the future. A few days after the first lockdown in March 2020 we had already:

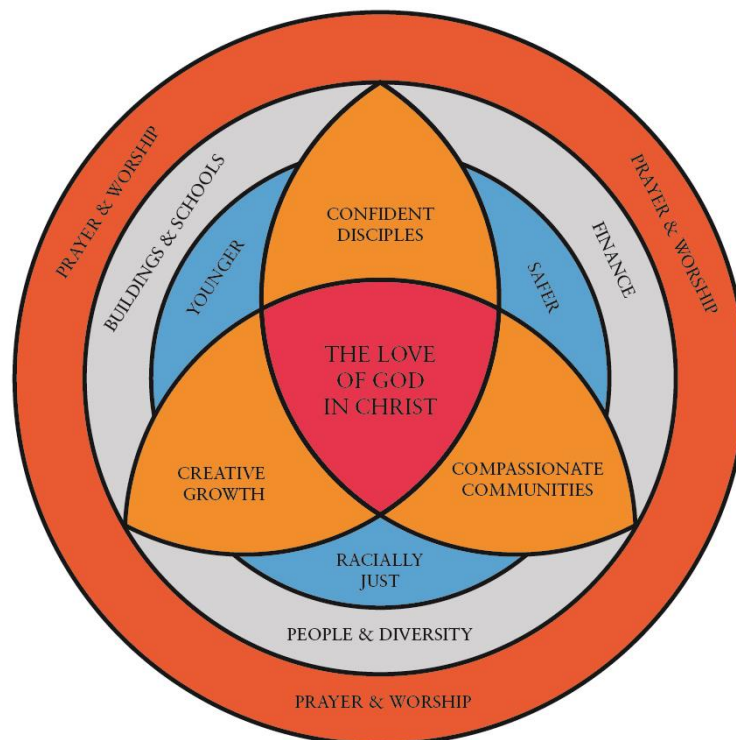
- Started negotiations with a new Nursery provider
- Looked for a new café provider
- Reduced our Common Fund payment by negotiation with the Diocese
- Furloughed our staff
- Transferred money from our reserves
- Made an appeal to regular worshippers to increase their contribution if they were able.

In the course of the pandemic, realising our dependence on the natural environment even more, we created a wildflower meadow and new vegetable beds for the community to grow food and introduced bees to increase pollination.

At the same time, as a sacramentally open Church, we campaigned vigorously for the continuation of live worship as a huge contributor to spiritual and mental well-being. We realised that this was not the first pandemic to hit the world and it will not be the last, but our spiritual resources give us all we need to look forward to the future in faith and hope.

This is where we find ourselves in June 2021. We have done extensive research in drawing up this Mission Action Plan, including a community audit and consulting many groups who use this Church and who wish us well. As an intercultural Church, we also worked with the Filipino, Persian and Cantonese chaplaincies in drawing up our plans.

Realising that there had been little or no ecumenical and international consultation in the drawing up of the Diocesan vision, we invited ecumenical partners in Kensington and Chelsea and Berlin Brandenburg, together with Anglican Communion partners in Mozambique to join in the drawing up of our own version of the Diocesan programme, rooted in the life of the Holy Trinity. This is the result. We rejected the Diocesan pyramid representation as inappropriate for the 21st century as it appeared static, top-down and hierarchical.



With our spiritual and liturgical resources, we feel energised and well equipped for the year ahead. In the widespread consultations we have done, there has been a high degree of convergence in articulating the things on which we need to concentrate in the year ahead - our children's work, music, and the increase of the use of our facilities by an ever-increasing cross section of people.

With high hopes for the future, I commend this Mission Action Plan for the year ahead in the certain bedrock of our faith - RESURGAM - "I will rise."

William Taylor

June 2021

Daily Services at St John's

The Church is open daily from 8.45am until 5.15pm and at times of services

Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sung Eucharist
(Once a month, an All Age format is used)
12.30pm Tagalog Mass
4.00pm Farsi Eucharist (once a month)
5.30pm Evening Prayer
6.30pm Choral Evensong - once a month.

Monday-Friday

8.45am Morning Prayer
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday

12.00pm Holy Communion

A healing service, with anointing with oil and the laying on of hands, is held monthly.

Resurrection

We value:

The Anglican balance of Scripture, Tradition, and Reason;

Worship, which is daily, inclusive, varied, and well prepared, using all the resources of the Christian tradition, with a strong focus on the Eucharist;

A church which is open and welcoming in the pastoral offices (baptisms, weddings, and funerals);

The full inclusion of children in the Parish Eucharist, using an All Age format once a month, and, following appropriate preparation, admission of children to Communion before Confirmation, from the age of 7;

The monthly Farsi Eucharist and the Persian Anglican Community of London as a Chaplaincy of the Diocese of London (Bishop's Mission Order);

The regular use of visiting preachers and speakers;

Space for silence, retreats and contemplation;

Creation Time in September and October;

The Parish as a place of training for ministry - lay and ordained, especially for placements for ministers from the persecuted Church;

A well-equipped and trained people of God - congregations, clergy, Eucharistic ministers, servers, intercessors, readers - that regards training, study, and development as the norm;

The term-time programme for Junior Church, with music and art, welcoming children of all ages;

The teaching programme offering a greater understanding of the Christian Faith for all - through courses (including the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults [RCIA]*) events for young people and seekers, house groups, Bible study, and retreats;



The rich variety of Christian backgrounds within our congregations and an ability to articulate confidently the distinctive elements of Christian belief;

The choir that takes a regular part in leading liturgical services, utilising the Choral Scholars;

The Sunday evening service in different formats, including monthly Choral Evensong, and as a place for liturgical experimentation;

The Filipino Chaplaincy as a Chaplaincy of the Diocese of London (Bishop's Mission Order);

The weekly fellowship programme and fund-raising activities of the Filipino Chaplaincy.



We wish to develop:

- Greater awareness and visibility of the needs of Christians from a Muslim background, especially those in our own community, particularly through English language provision delivered through the Filipino Chaplaincy;
- An “All-Language” Sunday once a year, celebrating our linguistic diversity;
- An exploration of the possibility (including funding) of a youth/children’s worker by setting up a children’s/youth working group to report to the PCC by November if it is to be included in the budget for 2022;
- The greater inclusion of the new informal Cantonese worship group, welcoming new arrivals and refugees from Hong Kong, into the Anglican mainstream.



Resilience

We value:

St John's role as the Parish Church at the centre of the diverse communities of Notting Hill;

Being an active part of the universal church both in giving and receiving, through the Deanery, Diocese and Anglican Communion;

Working with our Mission Partners - Mathieson Music School, The Parish of Chambone Mozambique, CMS in South East Asia and the IFI school in Kalibo, Aklan;

Working not only with other Christian organisations but also with other faith communities;

The commitment and expertise of our Vicar William Taylor with the Orthodox Churches, including his visits, acting as an ambassador, and bringing insight to our worship;

The use and promotion of the monthly Fair-Trade goods (including Palestinian goods);

The culture of generosity and responsibility that enables us to over contribute to our full Diocesan Common Fund;

The Café at St John's, serving refreshments from Monday to Friday;

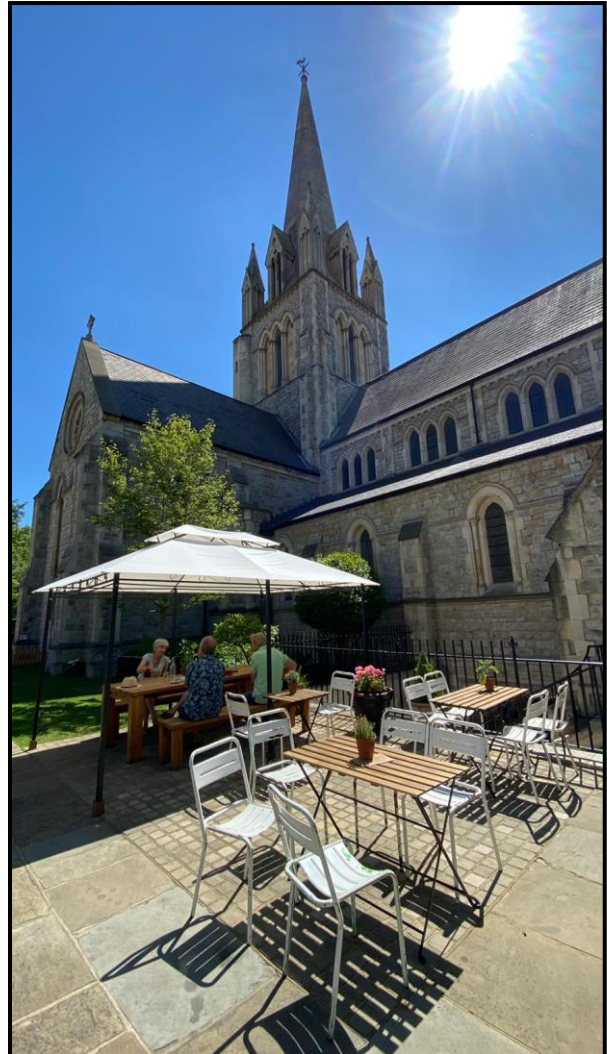
The better knowledge of each other generated through social events, support groups, and improved communications, using social media and the website;

The groups and individuals from Community Payback working with the Probation Service in the church and grounds;

The permanent exhibition around the organ, showing its history and the development of Notting Hill; History workshops for children and the information leaflets for the public on the history of the Church and its present activities;

The new First World War commemorative plaque as a focus for acts of memorial;

The Stewardship Advisory Group meeting regularly to give the theological and spiritual direction to our Stewardship giving which must meet the Diocesan Common Fund without support from other Church activities (lettings, etc);



The Mission Sunday, once a year (close to St Andrew's Day), focusing on our Mission Partners;

The annual, realistic and challenging stewardship campaign, together with more fundraising events, enabling us to build up cash reserves, and to pay the full Common Fund.

We wish to develop:

- A more proactive welcome to newcomers, inviting them to participate in the life of the Parish including a particular focus on ensuring that connections are maintained with families who have brought children for Baptism;
- The work of Junior Church and All Age Sunday by specific invitations to families to take part in the services;
- A community choir using professional and volunteer musicians.



Support for the persecuted Church- ordination of Deacon Milan Kakone as a priest in Iraq January 2021

Restoration

We value:

A welcoming, well-maintained building for worship forming the hub of community life;

Acorn nursery, providing childcare for the local community, interwoven with the values of the church;

The use of the grounds for community-based events, such as the Mayfest, Summer Fair, and Notting Hill Carnival;

The Bronze award in the Eco-church scheme;

The landscaping of the gardens and the planting of trees, hedges and the new wildflower meadow increasing biodiversity, together with the beehives;

The greater access provided for all users via the disabled entrance at the North Porch;



The role of the Parish & Facilities Manager and the Maintenance Manager in improving site management, income generation, and security;

The greater access to our grounds through the table and benches on the North side of the church;

The present configuration in the church created by the removal of the crossing platform, restoration of the pulpit, and relocation of the Font and seating further East;

The glass doors at the inner entrances of the North and South Porches, and the grille gates at the outer arch of both Porches;

The chapel for daily prayer and recollection;

The three community rooms (the SPACE) for use by community groups and for income generation;



We wish to develop:

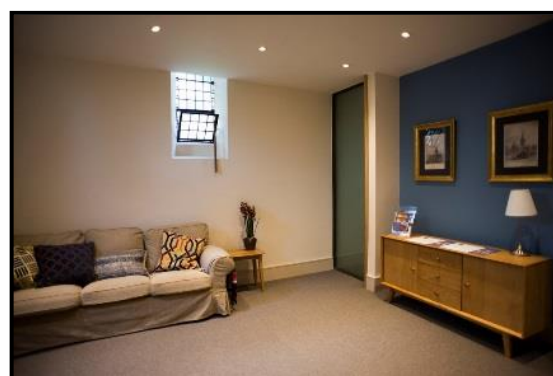
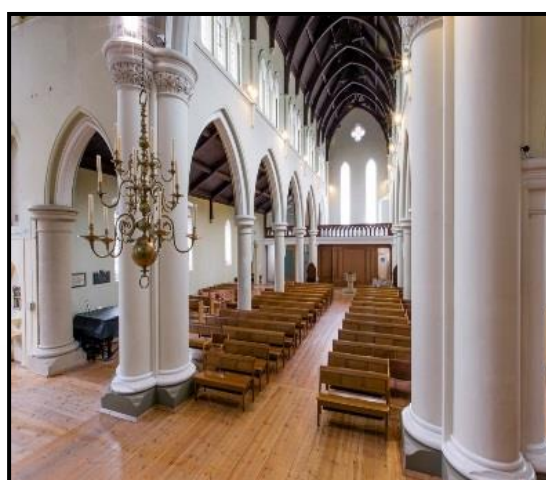
- The continuation of the reordering of the interior of the church, especially:
 - Energy efficient heating, lighting, and water systems
 - A sympathetic and appropriate redecoration for the whole of the Church, informed by historic paint analysis, and by the restored Reredos
- A fundraising strategy that supports the implementation of the restoration programme. Appealing for:
 - Public funds
 - Trusts and foundations
 - Charitable donations
- A heritage engagement programme which realises the wider benefits of the restoration, providing a wide range of opportunities for our communities to:
 - Develop heritage skills such as church restoration and painting
 - Learn about the sacred art of our diverse congregations
 - Participate in practical music and visual arts activities
- The continued reduction of our Carbon footprint, working towards a silver award in the Eco-church scheme

THE SPACE AT ST JOHN'S

COME AND VIEW THE SPACE, CREATED FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Bookings accepted by email, telephone or come in person. See office hours below or visit

<http://www.stjohnsnottinghill.com/thespace/>



Staff

Vicar: The Rev'd Canon Dr William Taylor, 020 7727 3439, email:

vicar@stjohnsnottinghill.com

Filipino Chaplain: The Rev'd Canon Larry Galon, email: larrygalon@ymail.com

Licenced Lay Minister: Serena Lancaster

Parish and Facilities Manager: Tobi Iyanda 020 7727 4262, email:

officemanager@stjohnsnottinghill.com

Facilities Manager: Mykhaylo Ibelgauptas 07929439704

Director of Music: James Speakman, email: directorofmusic@stjohnsnottinghill.com

Parish Office

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020 7727 4262

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Officers

Churchwardens

Rosemary Warcup, email: rosemary@thestarcentre.com

Aaron Jessop, email: aaron@stjohnsnottinghill.com

PCC Secretary

Kristina Axe

PCC Treasurer

Richard Burnett-Hall

Website

www.stjohnsnottinghill.com