

St Mary's Church, Launton

Report to the Parish Meeting Thursday April 20th. 2022.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is responsible for supporting the Rev'd Peter Wright (who became acting, and then confirmed, Team Rector in October 2022), in the running and management of the parish of St Mary's Launton.

We have 7 lay members on the PCC along with our two churchwardens Celia Manderson and Joan Packer who has been our lay chair since Rev'd Peter became Team Rector.

There are many different tasks that happen during the year and here is just a sample from 2022; In February Storm "Eunice" brought a tree down in the churchyard and this was dealt with quickly. We held a songs of Praise in May, and also organised the Royal Scarecrow Trail to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Churchyard clear up days were organised in the spring and the autumn, thank you to all who turned out to help with this. I have discovered just how big our churchyard is when trying to remove ivy! A thank you must go Launton Parish Council for the grant which went towards the cost of paying for the mowing of the grass throughout the year.

We held the St Mary's Fayre in September and this proved to be a very successful event with a great atmosphere. Teas were served and people browsed the various stalls in the garden of the Old Rectory, many thanks to Tom and Becky Sowler for hosting us. In December the Community Choir held a Christmas Concert in the Church and this was once again a lovely occasion. In March 2023 we helped to organise the Tythe Barn Quiz and this was a very successful evening, many thanks to Will and Emma Deeley for hosting us.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held in April 2022 in the Church and we were pleased to elect two new PCC members. This meeting reflected on the previous year, that is 2021, and we were happy to report improving times. The PCC has continued to look at policies and procedures such as, updating their Safeguarding procedures, and looking into updating our A Church Near You webpage as well as keeping the St Mary's Facebook page up to date.

Throughout the year we have held our normal pattern of services from BCP Holy Communion, Evensong, Morning Prayer and our All Welcome Family Service.

Lastly thank you to many people, including our two Church wardens who do so much, all the PCC members and everyone who has helped with the day to day running of St Mary's, made donations or helped with our events. We are very lucky to have support from the PCC members and also from the church family as well as the wider community.

Celia Evans (Secretary St Mary's Church PCC) 10/04/2023