

St Mary's Church, Launton

Report to the Parish Meeting Thursday April 16th. 2026

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is responsible for supporting the Rev'd Sarah Mortimer, our Team Vicar at St Mary's, in the running and management of the parish of St Mary's Launton.

We have 7 lay members on the PCC along with our Deanery Synod representative. At our APCM in May 2025 Celia Manderson stepped down as churchwarden and we thank her for all her time and dedication to St Mary's. Joan Packer has continued as Churchwarden and does invaluable work.

There are many different tasks that happen during the year and here is just a sample from the last year; our Family fun mornings have continued during the school holidays and 2 Prayer Space days were held in conjunction with Launton School. Community Café which, after a break last autumn, has been open in term time with sessions for all adults and for mothers and babies and toddlers during Tuesday mornings. V.E Day Celebrations were held last May in the Church and the spam sandwiches proved to be very popular! Thank you to all who helped and to the History Society for the very interesting display and also to the bell ringers who rang the bells for us and even let people have a go! We have also had regular churchyard clear ups and our thanks to all who have helped on those days. Also a big 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. St Mary's links with Launton Church of England School are strong and the children have services during the school year in the Church such as Christmas and a Leavers' service. Financial decisions are a constant matter and changing our electricity supplier has helped reduce costs in that area.

We held the St Mary's Fayre in September and this proved to be a very successful event with a great atmosphere despite the wet weather. In December the Community Choir held a Christmas Concert in the Church and this was once again a lovely occasion, our thanks to Nikki Fine for leading this.

On March 6th. 2026 we joined together with Friends of Launton Parish Hall to organise the Tythe Barn Quiz and this was a very successful evening, many thanks to Will and Emma Deeley for hosting us and to Chris Frost for the questions and Jon Spinage for technical support.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held last year on May 20th 2025 in the Church and we were pleased to say our PCC members all remained in post. The PCC has continued to look at policies and procedures and updated 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, Common Worship Holy Communion, Evensong, Morning Prayer and our Family Service.

Lastly thank you to many people, including Rev'd Sarah and our Church warden who both 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) 13/04/2026