

# ALL SAINTS CHURCH ANNUAL REPORTS

All Saints: God's living church – nourishing faith,  
family and community.

Yr Holl Saint: Eglwys bywiol Duw - yn ymborthi  
ffydd, y teulu, a'r gymuned



2020

## **Vicar's Report**

These reports cover 2020, a year like no other! I did not begin as your Vicar until March 2021 so my notes here are much more forward looking than a retrospective on 2020. When the lockdown hit Sam was able to offer a great deal of online worship, which is still on the Facebook page – and offers an insight into this bit of history. When Sam and family left in August 2020 to serve the Church in Llandudno, the Church went into interregnum and was served by the Mission Area clergy for worship and duly cared for by the Wardens. There are no attendance figures included in this report as for a great deal of the year in person worship was either impossible or significantly reduced due to the pandemic.

I joined you mid-March 2021 and it's been an interesting couple of months! I am excited to be your vicar and to worship and work with you in the service of God. Having been licensed via Zoom on the 7<sup>th</sup> March, I have endeavoured to get to know you, and for you to get to know me – as best we can. I was overjoyed when we were able to gather for Sunday worship for the first time together on Good Shepherd Sunday. There is not much I can report really, other than to express my thanks for the welcome you have given me and admiration for how you cared for one another during lockdown.

Drawing on what I have heard from you about last year, and looking forward to the coming year I do want to note three things:

### *Endings and beginnings*

You will note from the reports below that Lynn and Judi have come to the end of their term as Church Wardens. A heartfelt thanks to you both for your work and care as wardens over the last 8 years. You have held a lot and have led and cared for this church family through a VERY interesting 8 years!

At the time of writing we do not have any nominations for Church Warden. That is ok. Sometimes when folk have held a role well and for a while it becomes hard to see how anyone else could take on the role. Please do continue to pray, and to ask yourself if this is something God might be calling you to. It is a year-to-year commitment, with no one serving for more than 6 years in a row (unless there is unforeseen circumstances).

### *In this together*

One of the metaphors for the church is that we are the Body of Christ. That means we belong together and are dependent on one another – but we are connected to one another through Christ, and together we are called to be Christ's body – the physical form of Jesus in our world today. Each of us has a part to play, and that comes out of who we are. Those of us who play an active and visible role in the life of the church do so with and as the whole church. So please do not worry if you are not called to a visible role, those who are encouragers, prayers, crafters, carers are vital to a healthy and vibrant church. If you are however called to a more visible role, server, reader, sides-person, warden – you can do so knowing that your offering is part of the offering of the whole church.

### *Money and Mission*

We are not in a great place financially. We can either focus on this fact and get worn down by it. Or we can see it as an encouragement to grow our church and break down barriers within the communities we serve.

As we come out of lockdown I would really love to see the social committee rise to the occasion and find ways to welcome more and more people. If we focus on welcome first, and fund raising second, I believe we will grow. With growth, and nurturing faith, will come an increase in funds – to the glory of God!

We will take some time later this year to prayerfully think about our own giving in response to God's love. If you are not currently giving by gift direct and are able to, it is a significant help as they deal with the gift aid etc directly. You can now do it online by visiting <https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/gift-direct/>. I have just changed my giving, and it was so easy to do it this way.

*Fr Dylan, Vicar*

## **Wardens' report**

The last 15 months, have been to say the least, very difficult, for our church family, we have been a long time away from church and each other, we have not been able to meet or and socialise but hopefully things are slowly getting back to normal and we hope everyone is well and has had at least one vaccination or hopefully two!

Judi and I have now been Wardens for eight years, and it has been a privilege to serve, however we both now feel the time is right for a change and for us to step down.

We will continue to help and support Fr. Dylan in any way we can.

*Lynn & Judi*

## **Craft Group**

At long last there seems to be some light at the end of a very long tunnel, and perhaps some hope that we may be able to meet up again as a group when restrictions allow. Hopefully our craft and art has helped to keep us occupied (hands and mind) during the time we've spent in lockdown.

I'm sure we have all missed our weekly Monday meetings but like me have appreciated the support of phone calls and doorstep chats. I hope that you have all managed to keep safe and well and look forward to meeting up with you all again.

*Alwena.*

## **Sunday school report**

It's been a very odd and different year and it seems strange writing a Sunday school report when we haven't been able to meet up. We have missed seeing, working, learning, worshiping and just having fun with the children every week.

The last thing we did was Joseph and his dream coat where we did tie dying and we have actually finished the dream coat, but no one has really seen it yet (apart from Rebecca who won an award for it in school 😊) I hope we can still make up the song and dance so we get to show off the coat in church and especially with all the hard work that the children and helpers put into making it.

We are hoping we can start Sunday School in September where fingers crossed things may get a bit more normal, well as normal as we can be in Sunday school 🙏.

We are looking forward to working with Dylan our new Vicar and learning about some interesting Saints. Look forward to welcoming everyone back, we have missed you all! Let's see how much you have all grown in a year!

*Love from Sunday school helpers*

## **Choir report**

All Saints Church choir is a small but very loyal group of members who enjoy singing and give a definite lead in services. This last year has been drastic, comma, no hymns, or practices, and we have been unable to worship by singing praise and raising a joyful noise unto the Lord.

We have all missed this expression of our faith, enormously, and hope we can soon return to normality. We welcome new members, and encouraged suggestions of music and hymns, at all times. The congregation, choose hymns for July to August every year. So we will hope this can continue.

We have visited the local nursing homes to bring some Christmas cheer for them also joined by members of the congregation. I hope that we can repeat this, and may be the same for Easter. Many thanks for all the support the church gives us in many ways of love and care.

*Jean*

## **Gardening Report**

The lockdown last March brought gardening at All Saint's to a very abrupt end as with everything else. Sam very kindly did the grass once as he had access when nobody else did. David and I were cautious about venturing across town to do anything afterwards so nothing had been done until we and a few others did a tidy-up for the polling station mainly for health and safety reasons.

*Maggie*

*Vicars note: A huge tank you to Maggie and David and Hilary and Fred for their soldiering on with the garden. Moving forward we ideas of how we are going to manage the grounds. Like everything I think there is huge*

*mission potential here, perhaps working with other organisations or agencies.*

## **Mission Area Conference 2020-2021**

The Mission Area Conference has been able to meet throughout the pandemic, either face-to-face or on Zoom

In summer 2020 a survey of members was conducted to decide whether the Mission Area should continue to retain four stipendiary priests and all seven churches. This was particularly significant for All Saints (and Holy Trinity) because we had just lost our vicar, might not get another one, and faced a serious possibility of losing one of our churches. However the Conference voted unanimously to retain four priests and by a majority vote to keep all seven churches. This puts a heavy financial burden on the Mission Area and on each church, emphasising the importance of maintaining and expanding our mission activities and thus paying our way. A further consideration is the possibility of sharing more resources as a Mission Area. All these questions will be considered in the Mission Area Review which will be undertaken by the Diocese this summer.

Other important developments have been the setting up of the Church Army (Wrexham) Centre of Mission (formerly known as the Tin Can) and the start of the activities of the Resource Church (Hope Street) who have established a good relationship with the Mission Area. Rev Sarah Errington's community GroGarden project was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> May. The Conference feels that the pandemic has been blessed in that it has enabled us all, through online activity, to appreciate the worship and life of all the churches in the Mission Area.

The All Saints representatives on the Conference from are: Lynn and Judi (Churchwardens) Elizabeth (Lay Chair) Nick (Editor, Mission Area News)  
*Elizabeth Cottrell*

## **100 Club**

Well what a year 2020 was Nora and I managed to draw it every month even if we had to draw more than one month at a time. We have a little in the bank which I am sure we will need for something. Nora and I have run the 100 club for 25 years after taking over from Mike Evans and Dorothy who ran it for a few years before us. We now feel it is time to step back and let someone else take over from us we are quite willing to

help anyone else set it up I have all the names and numbers but someone may have better way of running it. We would like to thank everyone for the help and support we have always had and are sorry to have to step back but think now is the time for new ideas and new ways of doing things thank you all once again.

*Wendy and Nora*

## **Financial Report**

**Total money in accounts beginning of 2020: £34,772**

**Total income for 2020: £24,720**

**Total outgoings for 2020: £34,604**

**Total money in accounts end of 2020: £24,888**

From a financial point of view, All Saints' has had a challenging few years, but we were never expecting to have a year like this!

Despite the closure of church, our congregation were committed to supporting the finances of All Saints' and were faithful in continuing their regular giving, either saving their envelope donations or even giving generous one-off donations, for which we are very grateful. The 'Gift Direct' scheme was an extremely important source of income throughout the lockdowns and provided a stable monthly income, in terms of both donations and the automated Gift Aid rebates. The Diocese is keen to promote such schemes and is also looking at alternative options for giving to the Church, particularly given that we are moving to an increasingly cashless society.

Functions and other fundraising efforts were typically a significant source of income in previous years. Clearly, due to the pandemic, such income has been extremely limited.

Expenditure was managed very closely again in 2020, with no non-essential spends. The Mission Area Share for 2020 was set at £32,943, although this was thankfully adjusted and reduced by £9,400, due to the closure of churches. The revised Share represented 68% of All Saints' expenditure. We were able to pay the reduced Share of £23,542 by the end of the year, although this was achieved by drawing £8,000 from the Income Bond account. £10,000 was similarly drawn from the NSI savings account in 2019 and the total reserves in savings accounts is now just £3,330.

The balance sheet shows the net assets of All Saints' Church as £24,888. Our net loss for 2020 was £9,884 (compared to a loss of £7,802 in 2019).

Once again, I would like to thank each and every member of our church family for their immeasurable contribution towards the financial security of All Saints'.

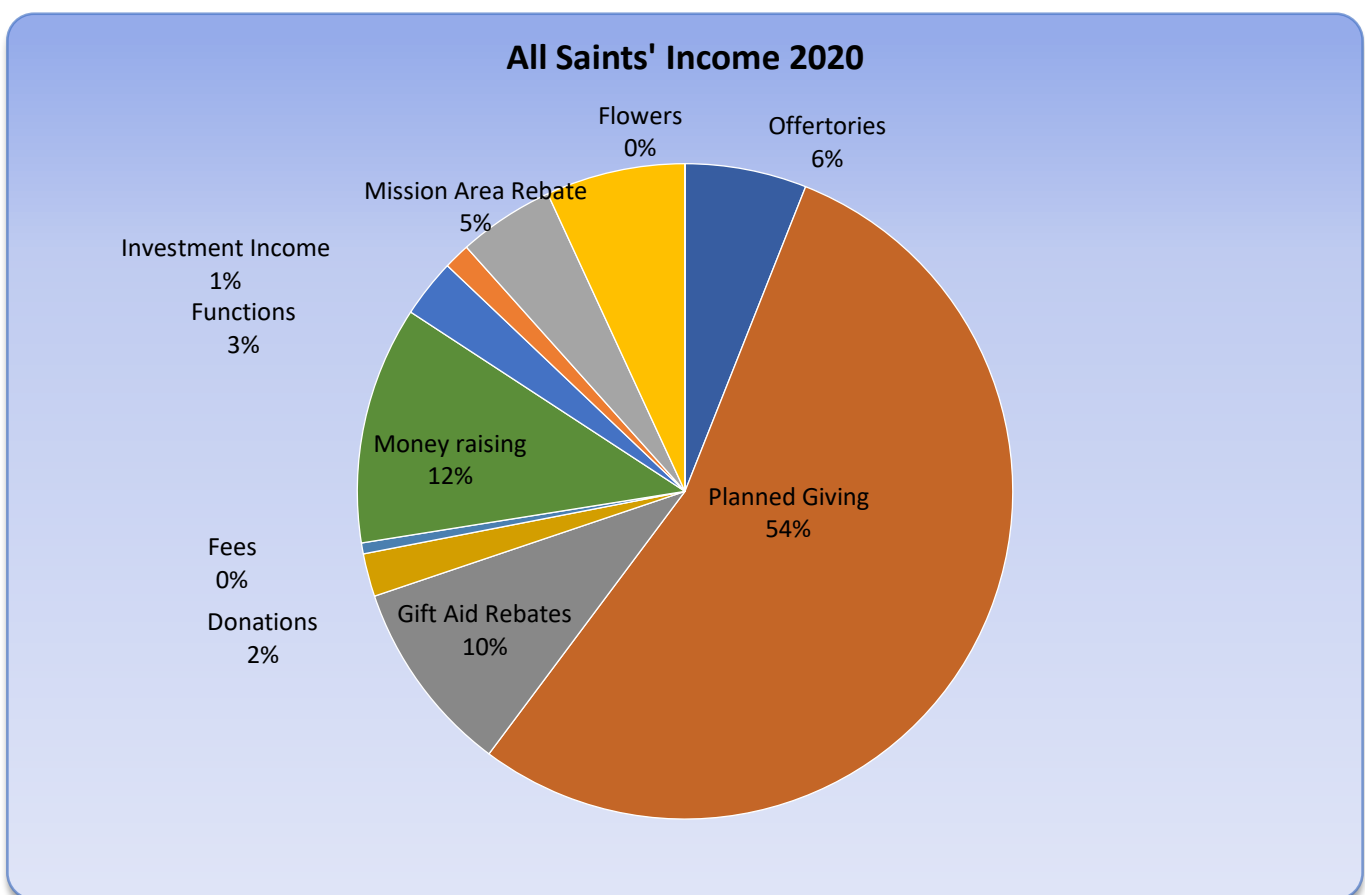
*Claire Lunn*

#### 2020 Reconciliation of Bank Balances:

	Balance 31/12/19	Receipts	Payments	Balance 31/12/20
Church	22,115	30,909	33,824	19,201
100 Club	992	1,740	780	1,952.08
Sunday School	405.06			405.06
Income Bond	10,000		8,000	2,000
NSI	1,259	70.57		1,330
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,772</b>	<b>32,720</b>	<b>42,604</b>	<b>24,888</b>

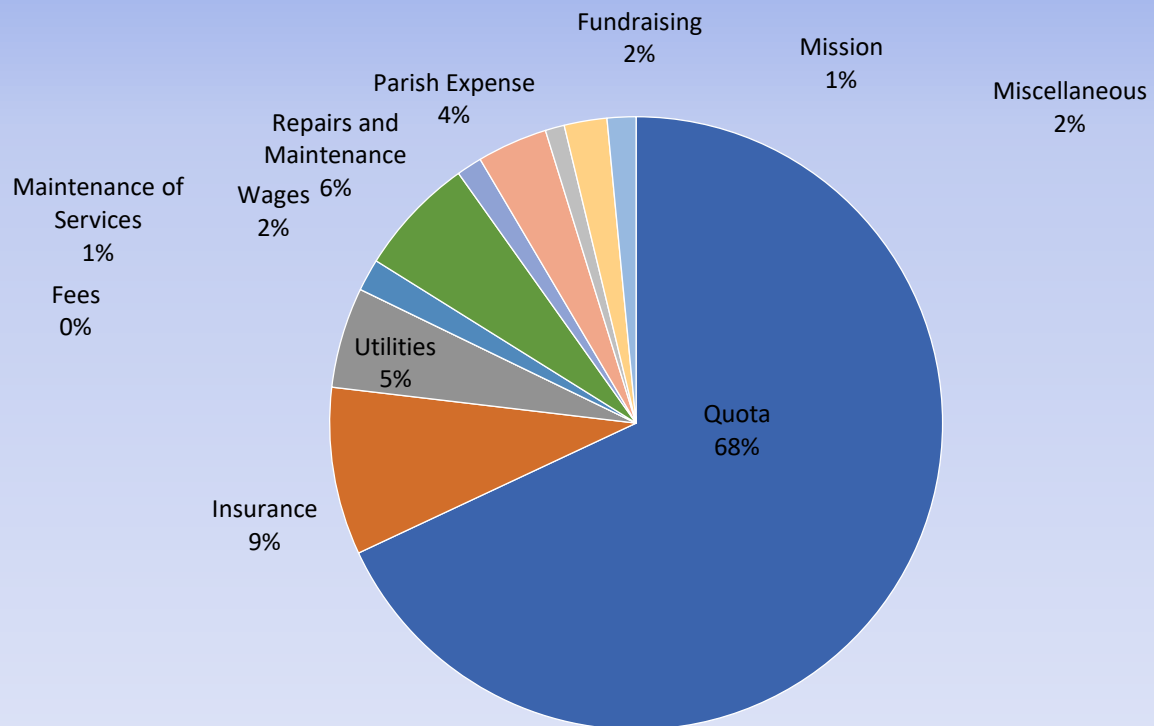
Per P&L

	<u>32,720</u>	<u>42,604</u>	-9,884
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## All Saints' Expenditure 2020



Income		2020 Breakdown	2020	
Offertories		1,484	1,484	6%
Planned Giving	Envelope Scheme Gift Direct	3,188 10,212	13,400	54%
Gift Aid Rebates	Envelope Scheme Gift Direct Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme	2,376	2,376	10%
Donations	Undisclosed Craft Club Memorial Psalmathon	525	525	2%
Fees	Funeral Weddings	133	133	1%
Flowers			0	0%
Functions	Bingo Christmas Fair Coffee Mornings Coffees (Sunday) Barn Dance Dancercise	354 226 131	711	3%
Money raising	100 Club Church Hall Hire Sunday School Youth Group Votive Candles	1,740 1,161	2,901	12%
Investment Income	NSI Bond NSI Interest Dividend RC in Wales Investment	80 71 169	319	1%
Mission Area Rebate		1,172	1,172	5%
Grants		1,700	1,700	
Other			0	0%
Total Income		24,720	24,720	

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>2020 Breakdown</b>	<b>2020</b>	
Quota	Church Hall	23,542	23,542	68%
Insurance	Church Hall	2213 846	3059	9%
Utilities		1837	1837	5%
Fees	Funeral Weddings		0	0%
Wages	Church Hall	156 432	588	2%
Repairs and Maintenance	Church Hall Hall requisitions Heating	1444 0 0 729.4	2173	6%
Maintenance of Services	Altar Requisitions Books/Readings Christingles Flowers	464	464	1%
Parish Expense	Copying/Stationery Gift Aid envelopes	1196 90	1286	4%
Mission	Sunday School Youth Group Community	19 0 330	349	1%
Fundraising	Functions 100 Club payments	780	780	2%
Miscellaneous		525	525.3	2%
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>34,604</b>	<b>34,604</b>	

