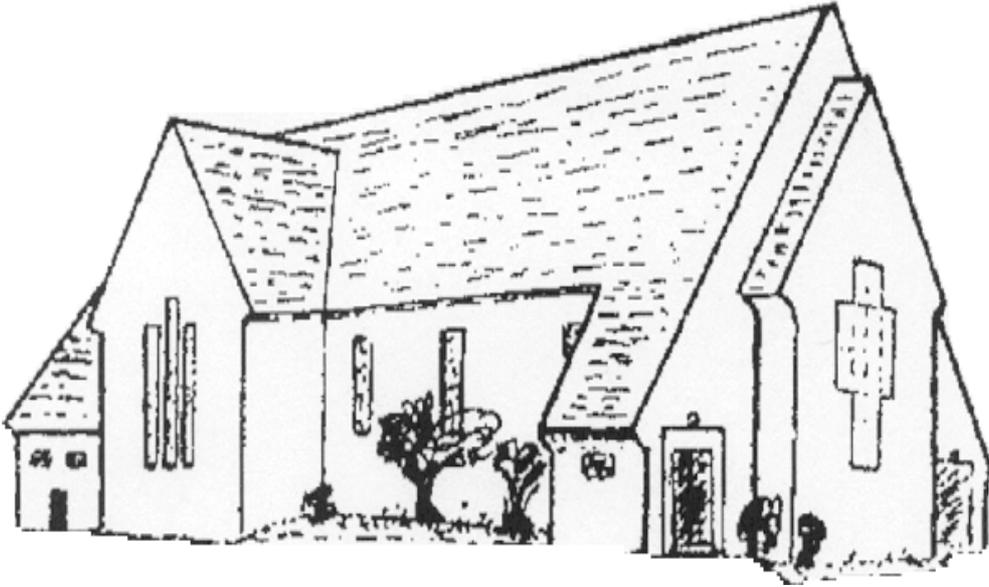


*St. Barnabas,  
Lenton Abbey.*



*Annual Reports*

*APCM 2019*

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## Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held during the morning service on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Ruth Young (Chair of the PCC) opened the meeting with prayer & chaired the proceedings.

### Vestry Meeting

Scilla Kirke has agreed to continue in office as churchwarden.

Scilla Kirke                      Proposed by Ruth Young                      Seconded by Sue Hillier

Ruth acknowledged our gratitude to Scilla for her longstanding and faithful service as churchwarden. Ruth also stated it would be useful to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> warden to help Scilla and provide cover.

### Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Apologies were received from Claire and Mike Cook, Jez Barnard, Kenny & Dolly Fagbemide, Natalie Shaw and Herma Clemmings.

#### ▪ Minutes of the last Meeting (2014)

Accepted as an accurate record by all attendees (proposed by Scilla Kirke and seconded by Gary Stephenson) and were signed by Ruth Young.

#### ▪ Matters Arising

No issues were raised.

#### ▪ Elections to PCC

There were 2 nominations for the PCC:

Pete Bruce                      Proposed by Jenny Shaw                      Seconded by David Paterson;

Johnathan Lundie Proposed by Elaine Hinchliffe      Seconded by Martin Hinchliffe

Ruth said we have plenty of vacancies, and invited people to join the PCC during the year if they're not sure now, and we could co-opt them on with a full election at next APCM.

#### ▪ Financial Report

Dave went through the accounts and statements of the year. Dave added that we do appreciate all the giving over the years, and it does mean we are able to meet expenditure generally. Our accounts remain relatively stable, with enough amazingly to cover expenses such as repairs.

In comparison with the previous year's accounts the income for 2017 was £25,000, whereas for 2016 it was £21,500. The 2017 income contains allocated funds for the Flush Fund, hence why it's a larger amount. The expenditure for the Church Redesign (part of Flush Fund) means we spent £120, whereas in 2016 we had to pay out the remaining balance of £4500 for the server. In 2017 we have given £10,300 towards Giving for Ministry (formerly known as parish share), whereas in 2016 it was £10,000. This year out utilities bill has gone down slightly with a new contract.

There were no questions. Ruth thanked Dave for all his hard work with the accounts.

With regard to the Flush Fund Scilla explained the project will equip us to be a more comfortable and modernised environment for us and our community around to use. Although we remain a small congregation God has blessed us and recognised us for who we are and what we stand for in our service and ministry. We still need help with funding applications and fundraising events to bring in £51,000 for this [project. So far the amount raised stands at £10,000. Scilla said we can all play our part in the fundraising efforts, such as helping to organise and coordinate events/concerts, promising pledges and gifts, filling up pringle pots. We can only apply for larger grants when we have secured 50% of the total amount. Scilla asked us to consider our connections and approach businesses or charities for support, as well as considering prayerfully if we can give a pledge (to be released when needed). It is our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May 2018, so the PCC will consider if we can mark this with a special event.

▪ **Receipt of Written Reports**

There were no questions. Elaine mentioned that there's no specific written report from the Home Group led by Claire & Mike Cook, and they are both absent today. Anyone interested in joining can speak to them or Dave Morris.

▪ **Updated Safeguarding Policy & Procedures**

This has become a prominent issue again in light of scandals in the Church. The Diocese has responded by developing a new robust training programme for a variety of people with different roles. Elaine thanked everyone who had completed online training and attended follow up training modules. Elaine is keeping a list of who's done training so please pass relevant information on. Kath and Ann mentioned that they had done both, and would recommend attending as the training is specifically set in the Church context.

The new Policy & Procedures for Children were signed by Ruth, and is available at back of Church if anyone is interested. The PCC is in the process of developing the Policy & Procedures for Adults, and there's a draft version at back of Church too. Elaine also keeps details of DBS checks for certain positions.

▪ **Election of Sidespersons**

All sidespeople present were happy to continue. They are Edna Carlile, Sue Hillier, Elaine Hinchliffe, Len Kirke, Ann Lowe, Dave Morris, & Kath Walker. Pete mentioned Ethan Bruce should come off the list for being a welcomer.

**Closing Prayer** – we finished with the Grace.

## Warden report 2018

How lovely it would be to be able to discuss what should be included in this report with the other Warden!

For several years now I have written this on my own, hoping that I have included what is necessary and also what is of general interest - often as a reminder of what has been accomplished - and then hopefully to include some note of encouragement.

As we all know from financial business at home, at church, or at work, the basic running costs are much the same whether there are a lot of people or just a few. So it is with jobs in church - the jobs that need to be done are the same regardless of how many people attend. The fact that we are a small church does not mean that we only need one warden - we still need two!

If this takes you by surprise, think for a moment - are you the one who could become the other warden? Ask me what is involved, don't assume it's just opening up the church on Sundays, counting heads etc - it is so much more, and most importantly, it is intended to be a *shared* role.

Actually the paragraph above is a total replica of last years report – the reason being that everything is exactly the same when it comes to the position of Church Warden . The position of Warden is a legal role, as Bishop's officer. Each Warden can deliver a term of a maximum of 6 years – I have already completed 8 years, the last three on my own. I need to stand down, and two people need to consider whether this is a role they could do, or share. Advice and help can always be available, and I should add that not everything you see me doing in church is part of the warden's role!

So, back to this years report.

For Sunday services through the year we have welcomed the Rev'ds Bob Short, Colin Bourne, Frank Robinson, Victoria Ramsey and Will Foulger, and Tom Tuck and Jonathon Mole, both ordinands from Trinity Church. We have also welcomed Arch Deacon Sarah Clark, (soon to be Bishop of Jarrow) and Kirstine Buchan, who many of us will remember as a past member of St Barnabas, who was priested at St John's Beeston in November. The Rev Richard Kellett, our Priest in Charge, has been a regular visitor for services, and has been available when questions have arisen. A problem arose at Easter when Richard was unable to come to give us Communion at short notice. We were helped by Rev Andy Tuffnell at Christ Church, who blessed our bread and wine, then Elaine raced back with it in time for our service. Similarly on Christmas Day, unable to find a priest available to serve our Holy Communion, the elements were blessed at Christ Church's midnight service, then brought by Rev Mike Payne to his house, to be collected by myself and Len and then brought to St Barnabas on Christmas morning – this demonstrates one of the realities of not having a priest dedicated to our church.

Service leaders through the year have been Elaine, Herma, Pete, myself and Gary. Elaine has organised and led most of the All Age services, while others have been led by Pete. Mike Cook presented a thoughtful meditation on Ash Wednesday in church, and then Kath led a music and meditative event on the evening of Good Friday – both of which were much appreciated by those who attended. During the year there were three lunches held after the morning service. By the time of the harvest lunch in October the church hall was being hired,

so we had lunch in church instead, and appreciated having a little more space. We again enjoyed an Away Day at Attenborough church – there were activities for all, and we really appreciated being in such peaceful surroundings, compared to the usual hustle and bustle in the City.

At the end of June, St Barnabas Church celebrated 80 years since its consecration – we celebrated first by hosting a concert by the Boot's Orchestra, (of which Helen Hodgkin is a member), and then this was followed by having an evening of prayer, music and fellowship – the music this time being led by Jonathen Lundie. Although numbers were quite low, it was felt to be an encouraging time of fellowship spent well together. At the last service in the month, Will blessed our new altar frontal. This had been planned and worked on over the previous year by Ann, Joan, Edna and myself and was the culmination of our talents and creative skills. It replaced an original frontal thought to have been used at first at St Mary's in the Lace Market, and then donated to us when St Barnabas was consecrated.

There were the usual 'special' services throughout the year. The memorial service was held in September, and the harvest service was in October, followed by a bring and share lunch when there was a chance to catch up with each other at leisure. The guest service at Christmas this year was led by Pete, assisted by Will, and was followed by the usual drinks and refreshments for visitors – it was lovely to see so many familiar faces visiting. In order to save our energies for the afternoon guest service it had been decided that the morning service would be cancelled, and this proved to be a sensible decision. Another innovation was the Christmas poster, designed by Mike, with the St B's logo and attached to the park railings, which complemented Jenny's poster in the noticeboard, both offering seasonal greetings and advertising details of our main Christmas service.

During the year we were sorry to say goodbye to Dolly, Kenny and Moyo, who have moved to Essex because of work commitments. Olivia has gone to do further study in Birmingham but hopes to return. Sadly in November we heard that Margaret Carr, a long standing church member and organist at St Barnabas, had died. She had been living in a care home, but kept in touch and always included us in her prayers. We welcomed Alice and Michael, later joined by our youngest member, Gabriel. Lal and Chhan, and their boys Calvin, Caleb and Clement joined us in the late summertime.

By the end of the year, the St Barnabas Centre was paying its way by being the home of two pentecostal churches, one on Tuesday evenings, the other on Sunday afternoons – this last being a temporary arrangement while they search for permanent premises. Once again the church building has again used by Hope for sorting food collected for the food banks, with some of the food being stored until needed. On Fun Day there were again children's activities on offer, organised by Caroline, and a table sale, with refreshments and a cake stall in the Centre. Following some success last year, there was again a toy tombola where all the toys had been donated, and 'every one was a winner'. As ever, this event draws in people who would perhaps never visit a church, so it is good to demonstrate that we are just everyday people who share a love of God, and who make errors and mistakes like everyone else. The church opened again to welcome the Ride and Stride riders in September, and between visitors some members tidied up the garden while others were cleaning and tidying inside.

Money continues to be raised towards our Flush Fund to provide up to date toilet facilities as part of the church building. Half of the money raised by the Ride and Stride event went towards the Flush Fund – so a big thank you to our intrepid riders - Dave, Chris, Gary and Mike! Several times in the year we have had a 'Pringle Sunday' when we have brought in our pots of small change (or 'loos change' as suggested by Jenny) to be counted and banked. In

October, Keeley organised a quiz night at the White Lion – this proved to be a fun and enjoyable evening which, along with a raffle, raised about £180 towards the Fund. Around the time of the 80<sup>th</sup> celebrations Dave had a solicitors letter informing him that St Barnabas church was to receive a legacy – as yet the amount is a mystery, but just knowing that the church here in Lenton Abbey has been significant enough to be remembered in someone's will is very encouraging.

We are still significantly short of our total, so any ideas for raising funds and offers of help are always welcome.

Nearly every time we have a visitor to church, whether it be for a service or to repair something, they say that they have 'passed the church so many times but never been in'. Let's see if we change that to 'one day I must go in!' I always suggest that they visit us via google streetmap for a tour round the inside of church and centre – not many churches can offer that, why not suggest it to your friends?

And now to finish as I started – again using phrases from last year -

*As ever, I would like to extend a big thank you to all the people who regularly serve in one way or another at St Barnabas - the many who just get on quietly keeping the church and services running, we could not manage without you.*

*But we still need to renew our personnel, so I would ask everyone to consider if there is any way in which they can help to keep this church moving forward.*

*2018 has been another year in which God has been faithful and generous to us at St Barnabas; we thank God for all the blessings he has given us, and for each other, so that together we can continue to keep His presence alive in Lenton Abbey.*

Scilla

# Fabric report 2018

The church building continues to be sound, but it is expected that the Quinquennial Inspection will take place at some time in 2019, and there may be actions and recommendations to be followed after we have received the report.

Following the failure of some light bulbs in church, it was decided to replace them all with more modern LED bulbs, which are much less expensive to run. They can also be switched on and off repeatedly without the need for them to cool down, which can make their use more flexible in services. This update was completed during the summer months and initially went unnoticed by many people in church. External lights at the rear of church were also replaced at the same time.

Although we had to call the engineer to mend the church boiler during the year, it has been serviced again and the engineer has checked the whole system; whilst old and somewhat temperamental it is still keeping us warm. Thanks go again to Chris who has checked the boiler regularly to make sure that the pilot light has not blown out.

There is no official cleaner for inside church, so we are always grateful when any spillages, crumbs etc are cleaned up straightaway. We have tried to have cleaning days twice a year; often we combine the winter cleaning with putting up Christmas decorations, with varied success!

The boiler in the church hall has needed some attention; rain water had got into the actual boiler and it could not be re-lit. This was a result of the guttering above the air intake being damaged by people climbing up on to the roof. It had to be dried out thoroughly, but fortunately it was repairable, and a further problem with a switch was also repaired soon afterwards. Len constructed a shield over the flu to prevent water running down into the boiler again as we had been advised that some of this problem would be also due to movement of the building.

As the church hall is in regular rental use, Edna has arranged for Robin, a local friend of the church, to clean and do general maintenance.

We had been reminded that to 'health and safety' is an issue for each and every one of us.

In October Len organised a Health and Safety Day specifically for the church grounds.

We concentrated on cutting down the briars and laurel bushes that were overhanging the footpath along the back of church, and which were making a 'hiding' area. This had been started on the Ride and Stride day but there was still plenty to do.

Crushed stone and bitumen was used to 'lift' the car park where a step had been created at the edge of the driveway. A road roller had been hired for the work and was used to level the car park and the join. On the H&S day Mike and Lal took turns to drive it back and forth, and one day during the following week Dave and Len finished off the work. The roller was then used to reduce the bumpiness of the grass at the South side of church to help make it easier when mowing up and down.

Throughout the year Dave has been in charge of mowing the grass at the front and back of church; Edna has often been on hand to clear up the cuttings. Len has been tackling the hedges so that church can be seen from the Estate, and to make the twitchel appear less oppressive. Herma has cleared the patch of garden under the West window.

We are grateful to all those people who have been able to help keep the church and grounds safe and tidy, and apologise for not mentioning everyone by name.

As ever, any help offered with gardening and maintenance will always be accepted gratefully.

Scilla

## PCC Report 2018

The PCC has met 8 times since the last APCM, with Ruth continuing to chair and myself taking the minutes. We have not continued with open meetings this year.

Your current PCC are:

Ruth Young (Chair & Electoral Roll Officer)  
Dave Morris (Treasurer)  
Scilla Kirke (Warden)  
Pete Bruce  
Elaine Hinchliffe (Reader)  
Len Kirke (Health & Safety Officer)  
Edna Carlile (Centre bookings)  
Herma Clemmings (Reader)  
Sue Hillier (Secretary)  
Johnathen Lundie

Since the APCM we have continued to meet regularly to oversee the work of the Church and its finances. We spend time planning and reviewing the services and other activities. We reflect on our policies in light of changing legislation, guidance and ensure everyone has access to relevant training for roles undertaken at Church. This year we reached the milestone of our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary so special events were planned to mark this occasion. We have continued to be updated about the developments at Trinity Church, and have enjoyed teaching and sharing fellowship with Richard as our Priest in Charge, and others, like the College ordinands.

The PCC would once again like to thank all those who organise and run the activities and special services; it would not be possible for St Barnabas to have such a varied programme without members of the congregation getting involved. We appreciate your prayers as we consider what our priorities should be & make decisions about how we do Church and make our services and activities welcoming and accessible to all those in the parish.

This year we are all hugely encouraged by the money raised so far for our Flush Fund project to install toilets at the back of Church.

**Sue Hillier**

## **Electoral Roll Report 2018**

There has been a complete electoral roll revision this year, so everyone has had to re-register. A question I was often asked was 'Why be on the roll and what is it for?' The answer that the Church of England gives is about being entitled to vote at the APCM and to stand for election to the PCC but for me the reasons to be on the roll are firstly to declare to the rest of the diocese that I am part of the St Barnabas, Lenton Abbey family and secondly to help us get past the magic number of 31. Once we get past this number we can have a second deanery synod representative. As a small church without a fulltime vicar we need to be as visible as possible within the deanery and diocese and 2 synod representatives makes this easier to achieve. So I thank you for filling in the form and adding your name to the list

Until the list is finally updated the number on the new roll is not known but the list will be displayed at the back of church

***Ruth***

## The St. Barnabas Discussion Group

We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday evening at 7.45pm to discuss church drainage, plumbing and electricity, the new toilet fund, the state of the roof and whether we'll ever afford a vicar.

When time permits, discussion lapses into other important matters. Over the past year, these have included the opportunities Lent affords, the meaning of Ash Wednesday, Christianity's horrible history, Easter and the metaphors and personal truths it generates, success both worldly and unworldly, miracles and the supernatural and Why be a Christian. These topics are pursued and debated both on a mind-first intellectual level and via personal, heart-felt emotional and spiritual experiences. The chosen themes lead us through such worlds of thought as the dichotomy of faith and works, salvation and despair, sin and repentance. Discussion is free and far-ranging. We hope not to be limited by dogmas or preoccupations, though these may become material for debate.

Usually the group leader proposes the principal topic either in advance by email or at the beginning of the discussion. (Sometimes, however, the discussion is entirely ad-hoc.) She opens the meeting with a prayer for guidance by the Holy Spirit.

Currently, we are working through the Lord's prayer. Our most recent discussion focussed on the line, 'Give us this day our daily bread.' We asked ourselves whether Jesus was speaking about eating literal food, fulfilling spiritual needs, or both.

We began by reading the passage in Matthew 6 that includes the exhortation of Jesus: "Therefore, take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? Or What shall we drink, or Wherewithall shall we be clothed? ... for your Heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

We discussed the challenges we face when we try to take these words literally and whether anyone in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (and perhaps at any time in history) actually does. We asked how possible it is to wait humbly for God to supply our daily needs. How does this waiting apply to the tasks of everyday living including balancing income against expenditure, working with the urgent problems of our neighbours and relatives and, of course, taking no thought for the church plumbing of tomorrow?

At the end of the meeting we often enter into more personal concerns, prayers for specific needs, and conclude with the Lord's prayer.

*Paul Stilwell*

## Sunday Fun Club - 2018

It continues to be a great privilege to work with our children and young people here at St Barnabas. It has been fantastic having some new faces join us during 2018 - Calvin, Caleb and Clement, Michael with his new baby brother Gabriel, and David has joined his big sister and brother, Thandi and Devon! These, along with the Rochas (Cristianno, Leonardo, Estella and Marcello), the Bruces (Ethan, Caleb and Anna), Jason, and the occasional other visitors, make up a great and growing family of kids! And of course we were really sad to see Moyo leave us at the end of October - she was always such happy and fun addition to the group and we miss her! Tahlia continues to be a great assistant leader, supporting the youngest members of the group.

We have continued to broadly follow the Scripture Union programme and the knowledge of the group never ceases to amaze us! As ever the sessions have been full of games, quizzes, stories, drama and craft activities - all great fun! Some of the topics we have covered this year have been "Meeting Jesus", "Isaac and our faithful God", "Jacob", "Jesus shows God's love", "Joshua", "Adventures with God", "God's champions", "Jesus the healer", and "Creation". We now have a noticeboard where we display the work from each week's session. We have also started to keep a weekly register of attendance and the children can choose a little prize from a box of goodies after every 5<sup>th</sup> attendance.

Once again, during the Lenton Abbey Fun Day we offered craft activities - making pictures using paint and salad spinners again in church and there was a lovely atmosphere and a good number of people dropped by (until the England world cup match started!).

We are very grateful to all the leaders who contribute to Fun Club and make it a very happy place - Caroline, Edna, Sue, Joan, Pete, Caitlin and Tahlia. Our children and young people are fantastic and I'm sure we would all agree that they enrich our church life, not only during their feedback at the end of the service, but generally in their enthusiasm towards St Barnabas.

Pete Bruce

February 2019

## **Prayer Ministry Report 2019**

We have a commitment to prayer at St Barnabas. For this reason, the prayer ministry team continues to offer prayer, where possible, each Sunday after the service. We log the numbers of people who come for prayer for themselves or others. The numbers are very encouraging, with almost every week at least one person coming for prayer, 35 in total last year. The prayer team also usually pray for each other when we are on duty or any situation that concerns us. All prayer ministry is in confidence. Team members feel encouraged and privileged that it continues to be used, it appears to be meeting a need and answers to prayer are often conveyed back to us.

We are always looking for training events and these will be taken up as a refresher or training for anyone who may be considering joining the prayer team. Kath and Ann attended Safeguarding Training last year and would really recommend it to others.

Last year the Prayer team organised and lead the Good Friday evening service.

The team continues to support each other, and we have met together for fellowship and hope that this will happen during the coming year. The team is small and therefore a few times this year we have not, unfortunately, had sufficient people available to cover prayer after the service. We would encourage anyone to explore whether or not they would like to join the team, if this is something you would like to further discuss or you have any questions please speak to any team member.

Members of the prayer team are Elaine Hinchliffe, Herma Clemmings, Kath Walker, Ann Lowe and Dave Morris

### **Prayer Ministry Team**

## ***Safeguarding Report for St Barnabas, Lenton Abbey 2018***

Every day our news reports are filled with stories about people doing unspeakable things to other people and it can leave us feeling quite helpless and ineffective. They also tend to leave us feeling that these things happen to other people in other circumstances - the people we know would never do such things.

However, since I have been at St Barnabas, this congregation has included victims, survivors and perpetrators of various kinds of abuse and we have welcomed them all because they are all God's children. When we know that a person is involved in such a situation we can get help to manage and support them appropriately; but we don't always know, we have to be aware of the possibilities.

The first step to that end is to inform yourself of what sort of behaviours can be harmful to another person, be they a child or adult. It might sound obvious but it is very easy to close your eyes to things you do not want to think about. I would therefore like to thank every member of this congregation who has taken the time and trouble to do some of the safeguarding training that the church now makes available - from the online module which can be accessed on the Diocesan website to the training events held around the Diocese.

We are also required to have policies and procedures in place; these are reviewed regularly and you can see them in the folder labelled Safeguarding which is kept at the back of the church. We are required to follow clear procedures when recruiting workers to lead and work with children and vulnerable adults and those people will also have undergone checks to ensure they have no convictions which would make them unsuitable for such a role.

If you notice anything which doesn't feel quite right, which might mean someone is at risk, please talk to one of us in complete confidence. It may be that someone else has already raised a concern about the same thing and it would help give a better picture of what is happening. It may be something very small, something that just makes you feel uneasy - I know from my own experience that it is a lot easier to spot something in a church you are visiting where you can observe more objectively; in your own church you are surrounded by friends and you want to see the best in them. The Diocesan advisor is on hand if we need further advice.

Elaine Hinchliffe

## **Nottingham South Deanery 2018 Annual Report**

This year we have said goodbye to Rev'd Stephen Morris and welcomed Rev'd Maureen Collins (St Ann with Emmanuel), Rev'd Tom Gillum (St Mary in the Lace Market, after a pastoral reorganisation scheme led to its reinstatement as a parish separate from that of St Peter's and All Saints), Rev'd James Pacey (St John's, Carrington) and Fr Ian McCormack (Nottingham St George). We also welcomed curates Rev'd George White (Trinity) and Mike Forsyth (Chilwell with Inham Nook) to the Deanery.

We also celebrate the fact that four of the five Readers licensed in the Diocese were from our Deanery (Alistair Langton from St Mary's Attenborough, Susi Artis from St John's, Carrington, David Ducker from St Michael's, Bramcote and Jem Bloomfield from St John's, Beeston). Additionally, Revd Rob Wiggins (St John's, Beeston) and Revd Denise Watkinson (St Stephen's, Hyson Green) finished their curacies and Revd Kirstine Buchan (St John's, Beeston) was ordained as priest.

The Deanery Leadership Team has continued to meet during the year to plan Synod and other Deanery events. Rev'd Clive Burrows has joined the Team. Rev'd Naomi Hill is stepping back temporarily while she works as a Vocations Advisor based at Jubilee House in the interim before the new Diocesan Director of Ordinands arrives.

We held three synods during the year: 6 February, 28 June and 13 November 2018 concentrating on growing disciples wider, younger and deeper.

In February we visited Holy Trinity in Lenton and looked at growing disciples wider. We shared stories from around the Deanery and thought about how we can move from "contact nurture commitment growth". We ended by praying for Lenton and for each other.

In June we were at St Mary's, Wollaton Park looking at growing disciples younger. We were joined by a representative from the Younger Leadership College who spoke about the YLC formation group, Angela Brymer (one of the Diocesan Youth Advisers) and Rev'd Annabel Copeland (Chaplain at Blue Coat Academy) who spoke about the ways we can support youth work in schools. It was a great Synod with a lot of energy! We also swore in some churchwardens from Nottingham North and South Deaneries.

In November we went to St Cyprian's, Sneinton and thought about growing disciples deeper. We offered the opportunity to visit two short workshops from the three listed below:

- How to launch and run a nurture course
- How to facilitate good groups
- Tools for personal spiritual growth

The synods in 2019 are designed to maximise the impact of the One Life Mission with the Archbishop of York and the Northern Bishops in September. Our February synod, held at St Michael and All Angels Bramcote, focused on how the church can equip its people to talk with those they do not know.

We also introduced a Deanery Pilgrimage in September where members of the Deanery travelled from Nottingham to Southwell by foot, car, train and bicycle ending at the Minster for refreshments and a short act of worship. The Pilgrimage was a blessing to all who attended, particularly the opportunity to share what we

had experienced during the journey. We hope to hold another Pilgrimage in June 2019.

The deanery has again paid a large percentage of its giving for ministry allocation (85.3% in 2018, compared to 89.0% in 2017). Every parish is to be thanked for their faithfulness in paying for the ministry received in this deanery and for contributing to the consultation on giving held during this year. The Deanery has followed the diocese in its new emphasis on understanding giving for ministry in the context of ministry costs (see the diocesan booklet Ministry Costs 2018). This year the diocese changed its method of apportioning deanery share, with the effect that Nottingham South will be asked to maintain the giving it achieved in 2017. However, the diocese now depends on 100% of allocated share being achieved.

Steve Silvester  
Area Dean

Sarah Holt  
Lay Chair