



# Holy Trinity Church, Lyonsdown Annual Reports 2022

For the May 2023 Annual Meetings

## Priest in Charge's report

Revd Canon Laura Hewitt

I was licensed as the Priest in Charge at Holy Trinity, Lyonsdown in October 2021. Over the past year things have progressed with Jenny Robinson becoming Curate, and taking a lead at Holy Trinity. The 4pm service has continued and it has been good to have a congregation start to develop. It now has between 16 and 22 people, and most of these are new people. We have developed a monthly service pattern: 1st week Communion, 2nd healing service, 3rd Celtic-style and 4th a time of sung worship and seeking the presence of God. The Retreats have continued and been well attended and received. We have had Fun Days with over 300 people from the community enjoying a bouncy castle, games, burgers and other attractions – all free, and an opportunity for us to bless the community. We held some events at Holy Trinity, including a women's cream tea and a get-together for those involved with the sung worship and tech.

We have started a Life Group at the Church, and this has run successfully, and been a place to grow as disciples. We also ran a Start Course, which is 6 free sessions designed to help anyone discover more about God, Jesus and the journey of life. A number of people came and we had some great discussions. The gardens and Church were open during the summer months every Thursday and attracted some local people, and we have started a monthly community art group for adults.

We had a great vision morning with the PCC of our sister church, St James, as we discussed how we continue to work together.

Once again, we had a wonderful Easter and Christmas with good numbers and engagement. In June we celebrated Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee with a fantastic event at Holy Trinity, joining with the other churches in the area, which hundreds attended. A tree was planted by Martin Russell (Deputy Lieutenant for Barnet), and the Ministers of the churches led a well-attended act of worship. Paul Robinson and the team did a great job of providing free burgers, face painting, a bouncy castle and other fun things. Later in the year we opened the church when Queen Elizabeth II died to mark her life of service.

We have also started going into the Cedars Nursing Home, where we do a short service for the residents there, and this is a blessing. We meet with our nursery Twinkle Stars regularly, and every Thursday Jenny meets them in the church to pray with the children as they start their day. There have been a couple of local funerals, and this has helped develop connections.

The Church has been used by some local churches for their vision days etc, and for a Walsingham Day. All well received, and opportunities are growing in the local area as connections are made. The Lyonsdown Hall (down the road) is well used and has made a profit this year as clubs have returned to their usual slots after covid.



It is good to have the foodbank opposite and we are thinking how we can work together better, as well as with the other churches in the area, particularly the Catholic and URC churches since we are near to each other.

We successfully acquired a grant for the boiler, and our thanks to Paul for all the maintenance he has done during this time. Jenny has worked hard to keep on top of all the different parts of the work. The PCC have been supportive and a blessing, and the Churchwardens and I have worked hard to get the Schools Trust working properly. This is now in a place where we can start to go forward with the Trust. Fiona Jones has been a blessing working on publicity and administration, and this has helped us to make local connections (eg. some of the people attending our monthly art group came through our advertising). Our new administrator Mark Oliver has used Holy Trinity to meet with the Ukraine refugees group regularly. A new initiative for 2023 is to start a free monthly Sunday morning community café, with an agape meal.

We have been intentional in making Holy Trinity a place of healing and a safe place for anyone to come into. There is a unique opportunity to do something different at Holy Trinity. We have talked about a vision to see Holy Trinity as an Urban Sanctuary, a place with a rhythm of prayer. As we go forward, we are seeking the Diocese as to the future of Holy Trinity, and we are putting together a possible vision.

Let us keep up the good Kingdom work and let us keep praying.

## Church Governance

**Parochial church council (PCC)** *(The PCC acts as the Standing Committee due to the small number at present)*

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with me in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, in our pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical work. PCC members give me feedback from the congregation and are actively involved with the mission and vision of Holy Trinity, as well as with crucial legal, financial, and safeguarding matters. There were five PCC meetings this year.

PCC members who served in the calendar year of 2022 were:

Revd Canon Laura Hewitt	Priest-in-Charge and Chair
Revd Jennifer Robinson	Curate from 2/7/22, Church Warden until 22/5/22 and Lay Vice-Chair until 2/7/22
Robert Bayman	Treasurer until 16/10/22, Lay Vice-Chair from 2/7/22, Church Warden, PCC Secretary and Electoral Roll Officer
Stephen Craggs	Church Warden from 22/5/22
Alison McCrory	Safeguarding Officer
Rebecca Craggs	
Fiona Jones	joined PCC 22/5/2022
Sonia Lucas	joined PCC 22/5/2022

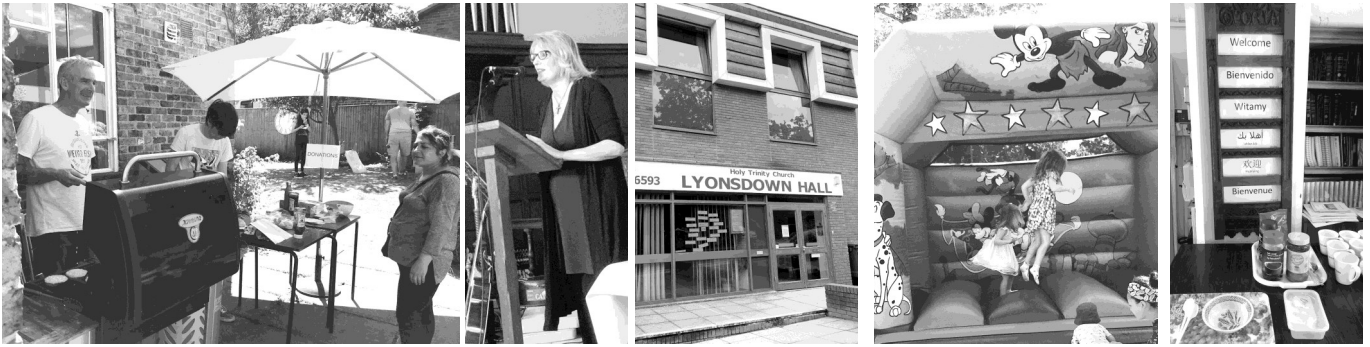
Some of the other things we talked about this year included:

- The mission and vision of Holy Trinity and how to work with St James
- How to promote the Church
- Fabric
- Parish Share

## Deanery Synod

One of the groups that brings the churches in our area together is the Deanery Synod. As Area Dean I get the privilege of chairing the meeting, and we have had some great speakers. Over the last year we have renewed our Mission Action Plan and sought to work together better as churches across the Deanery. The new Mission Action Plan includes a team to help us work as a Deanery with environmental issues and a team for youth work across the deanery (Paul is involved in this project and there was a well-attended Deanery youth event at Holy Trinity Church). Other things include creating a good Deanery website (which is now up and running) and developing relationship with other Deaneries, with the Diocese and with other parishes.

Our Diocese, St Albans, is split into areas called Deaneries, and the churches in these areas work together to build God's kingdom in their area. Each church sends representatives to attend the



Deanery Synod to discuss how this can happen. As well as this, the clergy in these Deaneries meet as a Chapter regularly to discuss how to work together, pray and support each other. The Area Dean has oversight of the Deanery. Deanery Synod provides a valuable opportunity for local churches to meet, share ideas and work together. We have two places available for Deanery Synod representatives (who are automatically on the PCC). I would like to encourage others to stand for Deanery Synod, so please talk to me if you are interested in taking on this valuable role.

### Finance

Our Treasurer, Bob, has done an excellent job, and has now handed over to Zoë Jones from St James. She is developing a finance team for Holy Trinity.

### Vocations group

With so many who are seeking vocations and training with us, we have a group to help discuss the process and pray for each other. It has been encouraging to meet with others who are stepping into new areas of ministry and exploring their vocation. These meetings are held both in Holy Trinity and St James, and include people from both parishes who are considering ministry.

### Safeguarding and First Aid

There have not been any safeguarding issues to report. Our policy is up to date and is on the Church noticeboard and website. Alison McCrory is the Safeguarding Officer.

Paul, Jenny, Mark and myself have received First Aid Training.

**To conclude:** as I said last year this really is a great opportunity to develop something new and it will be exciting to explore the things that unfold, as we seek Jesus for the future of Holy Trinity. Jenny is now the training Curate of St James and Holy Trinity, but is taking a lead in Holy Trinity. She has vision and passion for the area and for the future of Holy Trinity. Let us pray that this great work can continue and develop.

*Rev Canon Laura Hewitt (Priest in Charge, Holy Trinity Church Lyonsdown)*

## Church electoral roll report

Bob Bayman

The number recorded on the Church Electoral Roll prepared for the APCM in 2023 is 109.

The number recorded in 2022 was 106: since then 3 names have been added and none removed.

### Reference and administrative information

Holy Trinity Church Lyonsdown is situated at 18 Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet, EN5 1JE and is part of Barnet Deanery within St Albans Diocese

The correspondence address is 18 Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet, EN5 1JE

Holy Trinity Church's bank is Barclays, High Street, Barnet

The Independent Examiner is CommUNITY Barnet, SEIDs Hub, Empire Way, Wembley, HA9 0RJ (Barnet Office: Chipping Work Shop, 98 High Street, Barnet, EN5 5XQ)

Our charity registration number is: 1131088



## Work done in 2022

1. We decided not to pursue a prayer labyrinth in the garden at this time, as the grant offered did not cover the full cost and it was not a top priority. Disabled accessibility around the garden will be looked into going forward.
2. Servicing of the boiler and wall heaters.
3. Annual maintenance of fire extinguishers and preparation of Fire Risk Assessment.
4. A Faculty was not needed to fix the leak in the roof at the bottom of the bell tower. This repair is going ahead with Olseen roofers.
5. The current boiler is very old and regularly needs replacement parts. We have obtained a grant for a new boiler and have received a faculty for a like-for-like replacement. This will take place in the summer.
6. PAT testing was completed in September.
7. Clearing of drainage from the flat roof above the rooms at the back of the church. Some possible minor maintenance repairs on this area of the roof have been identified and are being looked into.

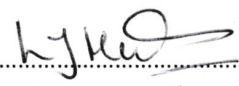
## Lyonsdown Hall work in 2022

1. The curtains were fixed, which required hiring a lift, and the broken ceiling light was made safe at the same time.
2. There have been taps mended in the upstairs toilets and downstairs kitchen.
3. A board was re-fixed to the wall in the main hall.
4. A new back door was fitted.
5. The main hall floor was re-sealed.
6. Some radiators were looked at and a small repair to a downstairs toilet.
7. A coat hook was re-fixed to the wall upstairs.
8. The fans were replaced in both boilers.
9. The floor cleaner was repaired.
10. The small flat roof above the small hall does leak in heavy rain, and needs investigating.

## Work which might be necessary for the church in 2023 includes

- The investigation of earth covering the damp course around the north side of the small hall.
- The minor repairs to the flat roof.
- Disability accessibility in the garden.
- A Quinquennial Inspection is due this year.
- Prioritise and start work recommended by the fire risk assessment.

Holy Trinity Church Lyonsdown Annual Report approved by the Trustees (PCC) on 30 April 2023 and signed on their behalf by Rev Canon Laura Hewitt (Priest in Charge and PCC Chair)

  
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14th May 2023

