

2021

Annual Report

PARISH OF KILLAY



St Hilary's Church, Killay



St Martin's Church, Dunvant

A family, rooted in Christ, committed to transforming lives by:
Gathering as God's People - Growing more like Jesus - Going out in the power of the Spirit

Parish of Killay - St Hilary's Church and St Martin's Church

The following were appointed to serve the Parish of Killay as Wardens and as Parochial Church Councillors from April 2021



Diocesan Vision Prayer

Father, we hold before you our family in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon and we open our hearts and minds to your Spirit: Bless us as we gather in your name;

Guide us as we grow into the likeness of your Son; Lead us by your Spirit to go out and make disciples of others. God of our journeying, be our way and our truth and our life; our beginning and our end. We pray through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Reverend Canon Phillip Gwynn, BA, MA, DPS, Cert. Theol. (*Surrogate*)

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Parish Officers

Parish Vicar's Warden

Marian Williams

Parish Peoples Warden

Simon Gwynn

Vicar's Sub Warden (St Martin's)

Roger Draisey

Peoples Sub Warden (St Martin's)

Susan Dimblebee

Parish Treasurer

Ken Ellis

Assistant Treasurer

Alan Pickard and Dianne Holohan

PCC Secretary

Marian Williams

Parochial Church Councillors

Christine Allen-Partington

Sandra Banks

Sheila Betts

Alan Clewett

Margaret Draisey

Nansi Evans

Eileen Fletcher

Diane Holohan

Julia Lambert

Alan Pickard

Mike Powell

Angela Reed

Barbara Roberts

Colin Williams

Parochial Officers

Gift Aid Officer

Geraldine Rees

Safeguarding Officer

Catherine Swain

Children's Ministry

Sian Gwynn

Parish Magazine Editor

Roger Rees

Parish Centre Booking Secretary

Diane Holohan

Synod, Elected Member

Supplemental Member

Eileen Nielsen

Lay Representative on Diocesan Conference

Dr. James Proudfoot

Vicar's Report

CHANGE - both personally and parochially

The purpose of this Annual Report, is to reflect on the year past. The Covid pandemic has changed how we live our lives. It has been another start/stop year. A year beginning with closed churches and online worship only. It was very pleasing to open churches and worship together once again, face to face, in the buildings that we love, at Easter. There had to be mitigations put in place, how we received Communion, where we sat – can we sing/can't we sing? There are still some people who remain anxious about returning to church, in the light of the current Covid variant. My guess is that by the time you read this, there will be a different variant on the scene. But in all these difficulties, there is one constant – God. Whatever life throws at us, God is always by our side. In this difficult year, God has been there too!

It has been a year of struggling to keep up with fast changing Covid regulations, both from the Welsh Government and these would then be interpreted by the Church-in-Wales. An important part of parish life, is visiting people in their homes. This has not been possible again, this year. For me, home visits are an essential part of being a parish priest, something I have sorely missed. Telephone conversations and Zoom calls are not quite the same.

We have had an Autumn Fayre and a very successful Harvest Supper, with the Ukulele Band at the Uplands Rugby Club. My thanks to the Mission & Outreach Sub-committee and Social & Fundraising Sub-committee. We also produced and distributed Christmas cards to all on the Electoral Roll (as we were also able to do with



Easter cards). Thanks must go to Murray Davies for his photography of the nativity window, and to Roger Rees for gluing (electronically of course), the two separate parts of the window, and arranging to have them printed. Both of the events above, occurred prior to the return to Level 2 Covid restrictions, with two metre distancing. Sadly, the small (but perfectly formed) community church of St.Martin's in Dunvant, due to its size and structure, has not been possible to open, with the 2m rule. The church was closed for approx. 18 months at the first Lockdown, then opened for a few months, only to sadly close again on Christmas Day.

As Christmas was approaching, and a decision made to only reintroduce singing in a limited way, we began to think about carol singing. A brave decision was taken to gather outside St.Hilary's church, around the Christmas tree. We were blessed with a bright starry night (very biblical!), there was a full moon, and we were joined by Cllr Mary Jones and her husband - Mary being Lord Mayor this year. Approx 70 people gathered, and others joined us as they were drawn to the singing as they passed by. Indeed one gentleman came along to Midnight Mass following his enjoyment of belting out well known carols. The choir sang,



and there was mulled wine and a collection of mince pies made by church members. Thank you to all who made this such a memorable event.

This year has also seen comprehensive structural reports of the condition of our two church buildings. These reports, normally carried out every five years, were put off due to Covid. These comprehensive documents, will now need to be scrutinised by the Churchwardens and members of the new PCC in due course.

I would like to thank Simon and Marian, my Churchwardens (*Sue and Roger, Sub-wardens at St.Martin's*) for their loyal support in difficult times. I thank each member of the PCC and all church officers. It is not possible for me to thank everyone individually, so please accept my thanks for YOUR part in helping to keep our churches and their services running. Let's hope that St.Martin's is able to re-open soon.

I thank Sian for her constant support and encouragement. Although I am the one who is ordained, we have the luxury to work well together as a team (*mostly!*). Little did I know

back in 1987, when we, as a family moved into what was then St.Michael's Theological College in Cardiff, the many different facets of ministry that I was to explore over the coming decades. It has, at times, been something of a rollercoaster journey.

This year, my life will be changing quite dramatically, as I plan to retire from full-time stipendiary ministry at Easter. Sian and I will leave the Parish to move to a very different situation, in the Swansea Valley. Please pray for us, as we make this huge change in our personal and family life – as we will continue to pray for you, the many friends we have made in Killay and Dunvant over the past six years.

The year ahead for you as a church will be difficult, working through an interregnum, but be assured that you will be guided by the Area Dean, Canon Peter Brooks and the Clyne Trinity Ministry Area Leader and Vicar of Sketty, Revd. Robert Davies-Hannen.

With every blessing for the road ahead.

Your Friend and Vicar

Canon Phil

Churchwardens' Annual Report

We were optimistic as we approached 2021 because the lockdown had almost ended and families were hoping to gather together to celebrate Christmas. However, as soon as Christmas was over, we entered another full lockdown due to the new Covid Delta variant which was upon us. Once again churches had to close, certainly not the new year of hope to which we had aspired. Throughout January, February and March, all our services were live streamed, though it was very strange sitting in an almost empty church with Canon Phillip, Sian, Simon in the vestry operating the IT and me. You must have grown very tired of seeing and hearing Sian and me, reading on alternate weeks. A very special thank you to Canon Phillip for continuing to hold services in church in what must have been a very difficult way. Thanks also for all his support and friendship during the past year.

As Easter approached, restrictions were lifted slightly, and Church-in-Wales guidance stated that whether we opened for Easter was the decision of the PCC. We decided to reopen on Palm Sunday, though without the traditional procession into church and the singing. This year, Canon Phillip decided to produce an Easter card which we delivered to everyone on the Electoral Roll. Small palm crosses which were blessed in church the previous week were included in the envelopes. This proved to be popular from the positive comments we received. Many parishioners commented that they preferred the pocket or handbag sized palm crosses. Easter Day saw a full church and Parish Centre; provision had been made to use the Minor Hall as well if this

was needed. Thanks to the Dimblebees, the Powells, the Draiseys and Sian for all their help moving chairs. Special thanks to Mike and Sylvia Powell who have continued to do this to help me every week.

At the beginning of June, it was possible to join together for coffee, though this had to be outside, so was weather dependent. Thanks must be given to Sylvia Powell for organising this for us every week. The choir was allowed to sing, but also outside and maintaining social distancing. Many of our parishioners had received their vaccines and more new words entered Sunday vocabulary over coffee – Pfizer, Oxford AstraZeneca, Moderna, lateral flow tests etc. Another milestone was reached in June, the Thursday morning Eucharist returned, much to the delight of all the regular worshippers. Thanks to Mike Powell for coming along for several weeks to show me what needed to be done.

Throughout the summer, some of our external hirers returned to the Parish Centre. Diane Holohan contacted the group leaders, met and discussed risk assessments with them, collected copies of their insurance certificates, issued keys and completed all the necessary paperwork. In the Autumn, our Church groups returned, all risk assessments completed, signed and filed in the office. Thanks to Welsh Blood increasing their bookings during the lock downs, this enabled us to cope with the loss of income.

Our successful Autumn Fayre in the church grounds attracted passers-by, enabling us to raise much needed funds. Our Harvest Supper was another successful evening with the Swansea u3a Ukulele Big Band. We received a grant from the



Harvest Supper held at Uplands RFC



Autumn Fayre

Coop and Babs Roberts' Smarties initiative raised over £1000. More details of these events are in the PCC report. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way and especially to the organisers for all their time, energy and hard work.

We hoped to host The Gwalia Singers in December, but unfortunately had to cancel due to the severity of the Omicron variant. The Carols round the Christmas tree event was a great success and hopefully something to continue. The church and windowsills were decorated for Christmas and a Parish Christmas card was produced and distributed as part of outreach. Our midnight service on Christmas Eve was popular and it was good to see people who returned to church for the first time that evening.

We need to express our thanks to all those who work tirelessly behind the scenes throughout the year to ensure that everything runs smoothly. Geraldine Rees collates all the envelopes and completes the Gift Aid returns. Thanks to Roger Rees who continues to produce our Parish magazine so expertly, and to all those involved

with the collection of advertising revenue and distribution. Sylvia Powell compiles the rotas for readers, sidespersons and coffee, Mike Powell prepares for all the church services in his role as Sacristan and prepares the Eucharistic Assistant rotas. Catherine Swain has taken responsibility for the Electoral Roll in addition to Safeguarding. Diane Holohan is very busy as Parish Centre Booking Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, working closely with Ken Ellis. Alan Clewett our Health and Safety Officer and all the men who keep the church grounds so well-maintained – Roy Chapman, Murray Davies, Ian Dimblebee, Nigel Fletcher and Roger Draisey. Eileen Nielsen and Val Beynon for all the work they do behind the scenes, especially at weddings and funerals. If we have forgotten anybody, please accept our apologies.



Marian Williams and Simon Gwynn

Report from Minutes of Parochial Church Council



A welcome return to church

Once again, this year did not go as we had hoped. We found ourselves in another lockdown which lasted until Palm Sunday. The Annual Vestry meeting had to be held as a Podcast once again, due to circumstances and restrictions imposed by the Church-in-Wales. This year, PCC sub-committees were held using Zoom until July when we were excited to be able to hold our first socially distanced meeting of the new PCC in Church.

There were no new members of the PCC this year, but in October we were all shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the sudden death of

Christine Allen-Partington. Chris was a valued and long-standing member of the PCC, who also represented the Parish of Killay as a Supplemental Member of the Synod.

There have been three face to face meetings of the full PCC, together with a mixture of Zoom and face to face meetings of all the sub-committees.

Ken Ellis, our Treasurer led the Zoom meeting of the Finance sub-committee. There has been an inevitable reduction in income due to church buildings being closed. The variation in income and substantial expenditure on the new heating

systems had made it extremely difficult to set a budget. Discussions focused on the Parish Share because although the Diocese gave a discount this year, this did not compensate for the total amount of lost income. Added to this was the lack of our usual fundraising events. It was agreed that Gift Direct should be publicised in addition to payment by Standing Orders or BACS and contactless payments. The cost of banking had been increased by CAF, and although it was agreed by the PCC that we should approach other banks, this proved to be impossible due to us not being permitted to open new business accounts with them. All PCC meetings include a financial update. I should like to express my thanks to Ken Ellis, Alan Pickard our previous Assistant Treasurer and Diane Holohan who has been brave enough to become our new Assistant Treasurer this year.

The Fabric sub-committee held Zoom meetings which concentrated initially upon heating. Due to the severe weather in January, large shards of stone fell from the church roof. We needed to employ a specialist stonemason to carry out this work. The work was completed eventually though not as soon as was agreed. The Quinquennial inspection was held in March, the findings and recommendations of which will be discussed by the incoming PCC. We were fortunate that the inspector was qualified to inspect the stonework repairs for us. Our thanks must be given to Alan Clewett who carried out his role as Health and Safety Officer with meticulous attention to detail, which is always evident in his paperwork, so much so that the inspector commented upon it. Simon Gwynn accompanied

the inspector during his visit. Once again, a tree in the car park caused a problem as it was leaning at a dangerous angle. This tree was removed, there being no preservation order on it, so permission was not needed, and it was agreed to remove the hedge at a later date.

The Parish Centre Management Group met in the summer to discuss the implementation of the new pricing structure which had been postponed initially until Easter but extended until September. All external groups had returned except one and the Church groups returned in September or October. This group also discussed the proposed work needed to upgrade the Minor Hall in consultation with the Fabric sub-committee. Diane Holohan deserves recognition for the tireless way in which she met various hirers at this time and collected all the paperwork required.

The Mission and Outreach sub-committee met regularly on Zoom and was instrumental in the return of the paper Newsletter, the delivery of Easter cards and palm crosses. A second outdoor gathering was planned but had to be cancelled due to inclement weather and limited interest from parishioners at this time. The Parish Christmas card was well-received, and the Carols under the Stars event was very successful, particularly so because we were led by our choristers, joined by The Lord Mayor of the City and County of Swansea, Councillor Mary Jones and her Consort, by members of Siloam, neighbours and passers-by, the mulled wine and mince pies being an added attraction. Certainly, an event to be repeated.



Community Grant from the Coop of £400



Repair work to the Bathstone

The Social and Fundraising sub-committee chaired by Mike Powell met face to face on five occasions. Thanks to their hard work, energy and determination to raise much needed funds, the magnificent total of £3,565.86 was raised in a few months. The Autumn Fayre organised so ably by Sue Dimblebee and Angela Reed, plus willing volunteers and visitors on the day was a huge success making £1,635.06, being visible from the road made a tremendous difference. The Harvest Supper with the u3a Ukulele Big Band drew a crowd and was an extremely enjoyable and financially successful evening which raised £510. We received a Community Grant from the Coop of £400 and the Smarties initiative led by Babs Roberts realised £1,020.80. We had hoped that the Gwalia Singers would give a Christmas Concert, but due to the severity of the Omicron variant, this event had to be cancelled, though thanks to the generosity of parishioners who donated their ticket money, a further £216 was

raised making a grand total of £3,781.86. Although the concert had to be cancelled, I must express my personal thanks to Mike and Sylvia Powell and Alan Clewett for everything they did beforehand in very difficult circumstances trying to make it happen.

2021 ended more positively than it began, and we hope that we see continued improvement in 2022. A huge thank you to Canon Phillip Gwynn for chairing our PCC meetings so ably and keeping us on task, and to Simon Gwynn, Ken Ellis and Mike Powell who do the same in the sub-committees. Finally, my thanks to all members of the PCC, including the co-opted members whose expertise we rely upon. They are a willing band of volunteers and friends who work tirelessly together for us all throughout the year, certainly Our Good and Faithful Servants.

Marian Williams
PCC Secretary

St Martin's Church

September 19th saw St.Martin's reopen after Covid, Lockdown. Canon Phil officiated at our well attended morning Eucharist. We warmly welcomed Milly our new young organist for the first time, who played admirably. We enjoyed our coffee and biscuits and a catch up of all things good and celebrated two Birthdays Joyce Hoskins and Elaine Graves. Sadly Canon Phil announced that our 8 am service the first Eucharist in the month would no longer take place.

Remembrance Sunday.

This saw our congregation bring poppies with them and before our service they orderly stepped forward one by one to the altar rail where Simon Davies who was officiating held out a wreath and the congregation carefully placed their poppies into the wreath. When everyone had placed their poppies and returned to their seats Simon gently laid the wreath at the foot of the altar, this was St. Martin's act of remembrance to honour all who had given their lives in two world wars for our freedom.

Christmas Morning

With St Martin's looking its very festive best 16 communicants and a guest organist Julia Lambert one of our regular worshipers, stepped up to play Christmas melodies and carols for our service, led by Canon Phil, our joyful service was somewhat saddened by Canon Phil announcing that because of the new Covid strain, Omicron, St Martin's would have to close until the 2 metre rule and social distancing is relaxed once again. Between Christmas and new year we were saddened to



Harvest Festival



St.Martin's act of Remembrance

hear of the death of Mr Ken Peebles and just a few days later Mrs Eileen Parsons who were both good servants in St. Martin's. At time of writing we are hoping to return to St. Martin's in the very near future.

Roger Draisey & Sue Dimblebee
Sub Wardens

Ladies Guild Report

Following a break of nearly 20 months due to Covid, Ladies Guild was finally able to resume on 13th October 2021.

We were pleased to welcome Canon Philip to our first meeting, he began by reading the parable of the "The Good Samaritan", he discussed it and the actions of the three men who passed by, ending with a challenge to each of us to consider how we would act in a similar situation. Quite a provoking thought on which to end our first meeting.

Sadly, due to covid restrictions, it was difficult to arrange speakers, so the following week Murray Davies was "encouraged" to come along and give one of his holiday slide shows. This one began with visits to Egypt, Petra in Jordan, Andre Rieu in Amsterdam and ended with a large tombstone in Edinburgh engraved with the name Murray!

On 27th October we held a "Members Own" evening which took the form of a quiz with the secretary Pam Davies asking the questions. It was a fun evening with winning teams captained by Marian Williams and Angela Reed. Unfortunately the following week's meeting had to be cancelled as one of the members present on 27th had contracted the virus. Fortunately she is now fully recovered.

Greater Gower Deanery Synod and the Diocesan Conference

Due to covid regulations there has been no meetings this year.



Lunch at Norton House

Our first meeting in November, was a talk by Andrew Jones, Director of White Rock Events, a charity fundraiser who with his cycling friends has raised in excess of £100,000 for SAAFA.

Our meetings on 17th and 24th November were musical evenings: Babs Roberts talking about the life and times of Ivor Novello and recordings of his many compositions and Rev. Ian Drew-Jones with his choice of "Desert Island Discs"

On 1st December, Mrs Paddy Bradbury came to tell us about her walk for charity along the Great Wall of China several years ago. The hotels en route were basic, to say the least, and the packed lunches unappetising!

Our final meeting of 2021 was lunch at Norton House.

This is our final report with Canon Philip Gwynn as incumbent, so we would like to wish him and Sian our very best wishes on his retirement and good wishes to them and the family for the future.

Pam Davies, Secretary

Parish Choir

What a strange year this has been in so many ways. During the first few months we were not allowed to attend church, but modern technology and Simon Gwynn came to the rescue and many people were able to access St. Hilary's via their computers and tablets. Then in March we were finally allowed into church — masked, sanitised and socially distanced — just in time for Easter! But no choir.

Then in June we had permission to sing again. So after the service, Huw Thomas and the choir assembled on the grass outside the church hall. While the congregation enjoyed tea and coffee (no biscuits), Huw played the electronic organ and we sang "Love divine" and "Guide me O thou Great Redeemer". It was so lovely to be singing again and some of the congregation joined in! We were able to repeat this performance during the rest of June as we were lucky with the weather. Finally in July we were allowed back into the choir stalls — masked, sanitised, socially distanced and limited to 9 choir members and we had to robe in the minor hall. The congregation was not allowed to sing. In July we were once again robing in the choir vestry. The congregation was not allowed to sing because the infection numbers were too high in Swansea.

September and October were very sad months for the choir. Our numbers were reduced due to different circumstances. Graham Trew and Wendy John have retired and Diane Lewis now attends St. Mary's church. We miss them so much.

At the beginning of October we were all stunned and devastated by the sudden tragic and totally unexpected death of our dear friend Chris

Allen. Chris was a faithful and totally committed church and choir member. She is sorely missed by the choir and congregation.

On Tuesday November 2nd we said an emotional farewell to Chris. In the celebration of her life we sang two of her favourite hymns --- "Calon Lan" and "Make me a channel of your peace". The service ended with the Nunc Dimittis.

In October the congregation was allowed to sing once again but only wearing a mask and very quietly!

October 24th was a lay-led service focussing on Climate Change. Marian Williams introduced the choir to a new hymn --- "When your Father made the world" by Ann Conlon and music by Andrew Moore. We were so pleased that Marian joined us to sing the hymn: (prospective choir member?) in the united service on October 31st, we were pleased to welcome Margaret Draissey from St. Martin's. We hope this will be the first of many visits!

Another lockdown in December meant restrictions once again. Our annual Carol Service was held in the car park. The choir sang "Gabriel's Message", which is a Basque carol, a lovely version of "I saw 3 ships" arranged by Malcolm Archer and "The Infant King", which is an old Basque Noel.

In January, high Covid numbers meant a return to robing in the minor hall, masks, sanitising social distancing, a limit of 9 choir members and no coffee!

Looking to the future, we are really in need of more choir members. This is not an onerous commitment. Just come and sing when you can. PLEASE come and join us.

You will be made very welcome.

Barbara Roberts

Mothers' Union - Branch Leader's Report 2021

Theme for the year: - "Rebuilding Hope and Confidence"



In January 2021 I began my thirteenth year as Branch Leader. Initially we had 28 members, but we were joined by 12 members from the closure of Sketty Branch (St Paul's and Holy Trinity) making our membership up to 40 in total. It has been a pleasure to welcome members from Sketty.

During 2021 some of our former members died, Phyl Davies, Enid Sawday, Mary Minchella and Yvonne Garrish (a former Branch and Clyne Deanery Leader from Sketty MU). We valued their loyalty and support over many years.

Due to Covid restrictions our AGM in February was conducted by email, phone calls and letters. Thankfully the committee agreed to remain in position, and we were joined by 2 members from Sketty. Our Wave of Prayer in February was observed in our own homes. We prayed for our links with Free State South Africa, Bondo, Offa, Ogbia, Argentina and Uruguay.

In September we resumed MU meetings in our Parish Centre. A risk assessment was completed prior to meeting and all the Covid rules and regulations were adhered to. It was a pleasure to catch up on the news with other members and to enjoy the chocolates especially bought as treats for everyone to share! Our branch met six times from September to December. Barbara Rowe read some of her inspiring poems to us, Marian Williams delighted us with a talk about teaching in a church school. Mike Powell gave us an enlightening talk about music and prayer and Bob Mapp showed us some very interesting views of

old Swansea. Andrew Jones gave a very thought provoking talk on the A-Z of remembrance and our last meeting was part of an Andre Rieu DVD of Christmas music shown by Alan Pickard. We ended the afternoon with mince pies, shortbread, and chocolates etc.

At our Church Autumn Fair, we sold donated goods and raised £172.20 for Parish funds. Thanks to Sue Mapp and Barbara Rowe who helped me. There were two deanery meetings held in Penllergaer Parish Hall attended by Alan, Sandra and myself. Sally Freedman, MU Diocesan President, ended her term of office in December 2021 and is to be followed by Ruth Roberts in January 2022.

We paid Ken Ellis, the Church Treasurer £50 towards the cost of hall hire and we would like to thank him for his thorough inspection of our MU accounts. Another thank you goes to Diane Holohan for being so helpful with hall hire arrangements. Thank you, Sandra, for arranging our speakers, Sue Mapp and the committee for refreshments, Gwynneth Prestwood for being responsible for diaries, cards and Action and Outreach boxes and Pat Stratton for visiting or phoning former or housebound members. We couldn't function without a treasurer – so a big thank you to Alan and Enid Rotheram his assistant.

This year we congratulated Denise Rogers on 50 years MU membership. Celebrating 65 years of marriage were Margaret and Bill Massey, and

Mary and Haydn Osborne also Pat and Hugh Stratton who celebrated their Diamond Anniversary.

I was so pleased that we were able to donate £132.70 to our MU Diocesan Treasurer for Women's Safe Houses. This was added to by a member who donated a further £25 to this much needed cause.

During a very difficult year I have tried to keep in touch with members by phone, email or letters. Thank you to Canon Phillip for his constant support and we wish both Sian and him a happy retirement. Thanks to our Churchwardens Marian and Simon for everything they do and have done for all of us.

Who knows what the next year will bring? We can only hope that 2022 will be a better year for everyone but we should all "count our blessings" and realise how fortunate we are.

Please be aware that 2022 meetings will not begin until after Easter providing the Covid risk is reduced!

Carole Pickard, Branch Leader



Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Mothers' Union is available on "Facebook" also the "Daily Hope" phonenumber is free and available 24 hours a day on 08008048044 where you can listen to MU Mid-day Prayers, hymns etc.

Carole Pickard, Branch Leader



Lay Worship Leaders

Once again 2021 was a Year affected by Covid. St Martin's Church in Dunvant had to remain closed until September 19th and this enabled the Vicar to be present at All Souls and St Hilary's every week.

Then in October, the Lay Led Worship resumed, which was gratefully received.

Thanks must be given to all members of the team, Ken Ellis, Babs Roberts, Simon Davies, Gareth Lewis, Mike Powell and Sian Gwynn for their time and innovation when preparing for the services.

Sian Gwynn



Christingle and Crib Service held at All Souls Church

Working with Young People

Unfortunately, there is little to report once again this year with regard to Young People of the Parish.

We held a combined Christingle and Crib Service on Christmas Eve, at All Souls which was well attended and everyone enjoyed. The service was led by Simon Gwynn and Simon Davies which, as they say, was very 'Down with the Kids' and at the end they both received a spontaneous round of applause.

Callum Powell read the Gospel reading on the Sunday before Christmas at St Hilary's, which as usual was exceptional, it is such a joy to hear Callum read.

Eleri Gwynn, has taken on the unofficial role of Gel monitor at St Hilary's and I know every one enjoys seeing her on Sunday morning as she reminds them of their own Grandchildren.

This is my last report for the Parishes of Killay and Tycoch as the Vicar and I move to pastures new. I have thoroughly enjoyed the past 45 years working with young people in the Diocese. It gives me great pleasure when I bump into people in the streets and they say, "Oh remember when!" I am sure the Church will move forward with new generations and new vision but we must allow this to happen even when it seems to be unusual to us.

Sian Gwynn



St Hilary's Bowls Club

(Short mat, indoor bowls)

We meet each Friday between 7 - 10 pm, during term time, in the main hall of the Parish Centre. I should say those days / times refer to normal times. However, the last two years have been anything but normal with a number of lockdowns when all Parish Centre activities were cancelled due to the pandemic. However, we did manage to get eleven sessions in between October- December 2021, although attendances were down on previous years as many members were cautious about mixing with others . 'Brownie points' go to Eric Thomas and Marian Williams for 100% attendance. What was very noticeable during the Christmas

term in the hall was the warmth coming from the newly installed gas heating. In previous years we literally had to keep our topcoats on to keep warm! Indeed freezers like Margaret and Sandra knew their prayers had been answered! We had some socially distanced birthday parties but no banquets as we previously enjoyed. There are currently 22 members on the books but we haven't used our two mats for a very long time. Indeed we haven't got enough bowls if everyone turned up on the same night! However if you are interested in joining you could come along to see what goes on and your name could go on our waiting list.

In Memoriam. We were

saddened with the sudden passing of dear member, Chris Allen in the Christmas term of 2021. She was a keen bowler and became a good player during the time she was a member. Many of our group attended her memorial service at St Hilary and the 'wake' held in the Parish Centre. Her family were overwhelmed with the 'banquet' prepared by our ladies and the love shown to Chris. RIP.

So it was a case of stop, start, stop, start year....but hopefully the pandemic will be over in 2022God willing.

Mike Powell (Chairman)

Gill Genco (Secretary / Treasurer)

Marian Williams

(Acting Secretary / Treasurer during Gill's enforced absence)

Music Society

After many months of lockdown and strict Covid regulations, October finally saw the welcome return of the Music Society. Our new venue is the Minor Hall in the Parish Centre thus releasing the main hall for ballet classes.

For this happy meeting we had a wonderful attendance to hear the "Desert Island Discs" chosen by Margaret Williams, a faithful member of St. Martin's church.

In November, Huw Thomas, our organist in St. Hilary's, gave a superb organ recital in the church,

ably assisted by Janey.

The December meeting was an early celebration of Christmas with musical contributions by members followed by festive refreshments.

Then another serious wave of infection forced the cancellation of our annual January celebration lunch.

Hopefully we will resume our intended programme in February.

We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7.30 in the Parish Centre minor hall. All welcome!

Barbara Roberts

Killay and District Lunch Club

The Lunch Club has not been able to meet since the first "lockdown" owing to COVID restrictions. The Chairman and Secretary have kept in touch with most of the members through Birthday Cards and phone calls.

As we were unable to have our usual Christmas Dinner this year we had a trial lunch club just before Christmas with all the new safety covid rules. None of the cooks wish to return to lunch club so we decided to have a fish and chip meal and decorated the tables for Christmas. Sylvia kindly decorated the hall and put the trees up on the stage so it all looked very nice. While Kay went to get our meal Teresa did a Christmas quiz. We also had a raffle. It was lovely to see everybody meeting up with their friends and enjoying themselves.

As we now have no cooks we have decided to hold lunch club the first Wednesday of every month and have a fish and chip meal. Everybody seemed happy with this arrangement as they do look forward to meeting up with their friends. As the hall is already booked up for March our next meeting will be 6 April - we will phone everybody before this date to let them know what we have planned.

We still have a waiting list to join lunch club but do not have any vacancies at the moment whilst restrictions are in place and no cooks.

*Teresa Garner (Mrs)
Secretary*



In Memoriam

We should like to remember the following members of our Church who we have lost this year.

MARY MINCHELLA
MADGE ELLIS
REVEREND ROY BLEWETT PRIEST
CHRISTINE ALLEN-PARTINGTON
BRYAN SMALE
GLEN GWILYM
DAVID VAUGHAN
KENNETH PEEBLES
EILEEN PARSONS

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Envelope and Gift Aid Scheme

I have recently taken over as Envelope & Gift Aid Officer from Alan Pickard. He gave me a lot of guidance and support during the transition period and I now feel I can competently carry on his good work. Thank you, Alan, for being so patient and helpful.

I am responsible for recording all contributions by envelope or standing orders direct to the Parish. There are currently 46 people using envelopes and 11 people who pay by standing order. 35 people currently make

payments by the Direct Giving Scheme which goes straight to the Church in Wales where Gift Aid is claimed automatically and credited to our account on a monthly basis. At the end of each quarter, I submit our claim for Gift Aid in respect of all tax paying contributors. We can also claim a smaller proportion of Gift Aid for non tax payers and cash collections which all helps to pay our way.

If you no longer pay tax due to a change in circumstances, please contact me so I can remove you from my

Gift Aid claim.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support. If anyone wishes to join the Envelope Scheme or make payments by Standing Order, please contact me.

Card payments can now be accepted and, if you would like to join the Direct Giving Scheme, application forms can be obtained from Simon Gwynn.

Geraldine Rees

Envelope & Gift Aid Officer

(Tel: 01792 207916)



Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is a list of names and addresses of the lay people of the parish, who are aged 16 and over.

The Church in Wales requires a new Roll to be compiled every 5 years. This should have been done in 2020 but due to the Covid Pandemic an extension period was allowed. Due to the efficiency of Alan Pickard, the Electoral Roll Officer at the time, the application forms for the Parish of Killay Electoral Roll were issued and returned by Church Members before this was

announced. We therefore managed to update our Roll in 2020. This list had 134 names on it.

To bring our Electoral Roll in line with the other parishes, the process has been repeated in 2022. Forms were made available at the beginning of January and the closing date for applications was 28 February. The updated Electoral Roll for 2022 has 117 names.

Catherine Swain

Safeguarding Officer

Accounts for the Parish of Killay For the Year ending 31st December 2021

This year the accounts show a surplus of £29,000 compared with a deficit last year of just over £39,000. Two major factors for this seemingly large turnaround of fortune were the cost of major projects undertaken last year and our small contribution to the Parish Share this year. In January, we knew that our Parish Share for 2021 was £58,378 but that we had overpaid in 2020 by £5,538 because of grants from the Diocese. During 2021, we received further grants towards the Share of £19,848, which meant that we only had to find £33,070 this year.

Two other factors that should be noted is the large increase in money raised through the hiring out of the Parish Centre and the increase in Fundraising. The first is caused by above average usage by the Welsh Blood Service coupled with the payment for outstanding invoices. The second is through parishioners' enthusiasm to get going again as Covid regulations relax.

The closing balance across all accounts was £116,510 and is divided in the following way:

	Current Account	Gold Account
Restricted	£3,456	£16,331
Unrestricted	£25,513	£71,210

The Restricted Funds are divided as follows:

St Hilary's Building and Fabric	£1,046
St Martin's Building and Fabric	£2,952
Parish Centre	£1,951
Graveyard and Grounds	£13,107
Altar Flowers	£233
Miscellaneous	£492

I want to thank Mr Alan Pickard for his continued support and to welcome and thank Mrs. Diane Holohan for her assistance with the accounts. Recognition must also be given to Mrs Geraldine Rees and Miss Marian Williams. Geraldine has worked diligently in the background to ensure that the Parish gets from HMRC every penny that it is entitled to receive. Marian has added Finance to her many church activities! Her help and assistance is gratefully received and appreciated.

My thanks also go to the Independent Examiner, Mr David Jenkins of the Parish of Tycoch. The time he gives so freely to carry out a meticulous scrutiny of the accounts is also greatly appreciated.

Ken Ellis

Parish Treasurer

Parish of Killay Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ending 31 December 2021

	THIS YEAR 2021		LAST YEAR 2020	
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£
Direct Giving				
i. Planned Giving	47,638		48,968	
ii. Open Plate	1,655	49,293	518	49,486
Indirect Giving				
HMRC Charities		12,431		13,568
Special Collections				
World Church and other Good Causes		0		668
Magazine				
Advertising and Sales		172		1,898
Money Raising				
Fetes, Raffles, Outings, Socials, Fund Raising Group Events (incl. Monthly Draw) and Sponsors		3,900		1,349
Exceptional Income				
Legacies & In Memoriam	248		243	
Donations and Gifts	1,412		9,315	
Other including Grants, Insurance Claims and Loans	9,880	11,540	15,020	24,578
Other Income				
Funerals and Burials - Restricted		6,457		3,701
Funerals - Unrestricted	664		468	
Weddings/Baptisms	720	1,384	300	768
Photocopying, Flowers etc..		640		596
Bank Interest		9		90
Parish Centre Income				
Letting and Heating Tokens		12,504		4,470
TOTAL RECEIPTS		98,330		101,172

	THIS YEAR 2021		LAST YEAR 2020	
PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£
Mission and Outreach				
Local	2,107		1,114	
World	0	2,107	0	1,114
Maintenance of the Ministry				
Parish Share and Locums		33,090		69,317
Maintenance of the Churches				
Heat, Light, Water and Insurance	3,990		4,871	
Maintenance and Repairs (incl. Grounds)	5,375	9,365	6,465	11,326
Maintenance of Services				
Altar Requisites, Organist, Choir, Organ		3,715		2,298
Parochial Expenses of Clergy				
Travel, Books, Courses, Vicarage incl. Telephone (Proportion)		1,075		1,110
General Parish Expenses				
Stationery, Printing, Photocopying, Postage and Office Sundries		814		1,077
Cost of Money Raising		858		855
Parish Centre Outgoings				
Heat, Light, Water, Insurance, Maintenance, Cleaning & Sundries		7,796		11,129
Exceptional Costs		10,506		42,300
TOTAL PAYMENTS		69,326		140,526
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		29,004		(39,354)
1 st January 2021 Bank Balances	87,511		126,894	
1 st January 2021 Cash Balances	105		76	
		87,616		126,970
31 st December 2021 Bank Balances	116,510		87,511	
31 st December 2021 Cash Balances	110		105	
		116,620		87,616



**Annual Report
for the year of our Lord 2021**

www.parishofkillay.co.uk