

# PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL REPORT for 2017

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**This report has been printed in monochrome to save valuable parish funds. A copy will be on our website.**

**We would welcome your comments/feedback please.**

**From all of us at The Parish of Three Saints we wish to say  
a very huge, warm thank you to you all for giving of your  
time and talents**

***These include;-***

***Churchwardens***

***Stewards/Welcomers***

***Readers***

***Chalice Assistants***

***Scripture Readers***

***Intercessors***

***Refreshment Providers***

***Fundraisers***

***Bell Ringers***

***Group Helpers***

***Flower Arrangers***

***Church openers/closers***

***Cleaners***

***Brass Cleaners***

***Clock Winders***

***Churchyard Grounds supporters***

***Coffee Morning helpers***



**We are very fortunate to have so many wonderful people  
that we cannot name you all, but together you combine to  
keep our three churches, office and grounds ship-shape  
and make our sacred spaces welcoming, friendly and  
inspiring.**

**If you feel that you can give some of your time, however  
small, or talents and you wish to be a part of our Church  
Family please contact any of the Church Wardens or  
Church Office.**

## 2017 REVIEW

## INTRODUCTION



This last year 'The Parish of Three Saints' desire to serve our community has grown. We took on a new commitment of developing a Pastoral Ministry with a team of pastoral assistants, trained by the Diocese, who would have a twofold *keep-an-eye-on* focus: inward towards the Church family and outward towards those in the wider community.

Our partnership with our three schools has deepened, with our three buildings being enthusiastically used more as places of learning (acting as classrooms) and worship. Messy Church (a nationwide concept), embedded itself during the year (its second year), with its base in St Mary's Church, as a fun place to learn about and worship God. There is more about each of these later in the review.

I know that as a Church Family, what we do grows out of our worship and prayer.

Our relationship with God finds its quality and is revealed by the way it transforms us to be more generous and inspired to live out God's love in our lives, whether at home, work, leisure or whatever we are doing.

So, it is very important that we help each other keep our priority for God. Our inspiration to serve must stay rooted in a healthy and joyful relationship with the God who loves us - and not simply be a frenetic attempt to prove ourselves worthwhile. We serve because we are valued - not in order to become valuable. That is definitely not what God wants.

As you read this celebration of our Church-life in 2017, I hope you enjoy it and it inspires you to discover your place in the heart of God and encourage you to join in our service of God's world.

**Reverend Simon Lewis**

# Celebrating the year:

A summary of what the church has achieved as a whole, throughout the year

## CHURCH LIFE

Being with God in worship is central to our life as a Church (a body of Christians together) and as individual Christians.

Worship is the heart of our life as a Church - and as human beings. We offer three regular acts of worship on Sundays: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer style), The Parish Eucharist (Common Worship style) and once a month Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer style). We gather together during these as a community to receive God's life through word and sacrament. I want you to realise and perhaps be amazed by, how many people contribute to our worship - welcoming, reading, decorating, offering refreshments, music making, presiding, praying and more before the day to make it run smoothly.

Hospitality and a good welcome bring people back wanting more of the same. We have a great team of people who greet the congregation at the door, hand out worship booklets and our Sunday Link, give a smile and say welcome, organise the offertory and do lots behind the scene to help make worship happen. Part of our role of hospitality and welcome is to look out for newcomers and help them feel they have come into an inclusive Christian Church family.

After worship we provide a pleasant atmosphere for people to chat and share. We rely on the commitment of this team and the more people there are who volunteer the easier it is.

So please ask yourself if you too could be part of this team. If so please speak to one of our churchwardens.

**Reverend Simon Lewis**

## GROWING

### Film Forum

We watched and discussed two films during the year, 'Life of Pi' and 'Noah'. Both stimulated thought and encouraged deep and meaningful discussion. The conversations I had over the following weeks indicated a lot of contemplation was going on about how we see ourselves and our relationship with God, who God is, and our attitude to the earth we are intimately involved with.

### Confirmation

In Wells Cathedral, on Saturday 4 November, six members of our Church Family were confirmed by our Bishop, and one was also Baptised. It was a very moving and spiritual time of worship which enabled all being confirmed to stand tall and confirm their relationship with our God.

### Emmaus

Seeking and exploring the basics of the Christian faith has been at the heart of our growing and nurturing people's relationship with God. This year saw the start of another Emmaus group held on a Wednesday afternoon. And this coming year (2018) another new Emmaus group will start on Thursday afternoons. The Emmaus on Monday group has been discovering the essence of what life is, how we survive or not as human beings, and the potential of discovering a mystery called God, all while living on an island.

Learning is at the heart of being a disciple. Disciples of Jesus were learning about God through Jesus. Are you making that effort, or do you think you know God already and have no need to grow your relationship with God? I would suggest that that is never the case with anyone. And I would encourage all people of faith to continue growing their faith. Find an opportunity to do so as soon as possible.

**Reverend Simon Lewis**



## REACHING OUT

### RE-PITCHING OUR TENT (RPOT), BUILDING PROJECT

In August this year we had an 'official' visit from the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) a group of experts in the fields of all things church buildings, church grounds and conservation, who advise and give guidance. They are led by our Archdeacon. They came to listen to the RPOT Steering Team give a presentation about the project. We will then receive from them a letter offering us advice about how we can improve, what to avoid, and how best to move forward with our project.

The presentation given included how the project came about and why we need to make our three buildings fit-for-purpose for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This in essence is about them not becoming museum pieces, but living places of worship and community activity, so that God's mission in this parish can continue properly. Included in the presentation were drawings from our architect (his first ideas of how we might transform the buildings) and the issue of future financing for the sustainability of each building (there is a very high cost to maintaining the three buildings over the next 10, 15, 25, 50, 100 years). The presentation made clear that this project is not about now, but about **legacy** - and we do not want to ruin our buildings for future generations.

The DAC's response to this presentation will be in the form of a letter and will be received early in 2018.



**NB.** Because we are writing this review of 2017 in March 2018, I want to take this opportunity to report on the letter received from the DAC last January (2018). The letter, which was presented to the PCC in February, encouraged and advised us to write a detailed *Business Plan* (articulating the potential business opportunities there are for each of our three church buildings), and a *Statement of Need* (which clearly states why there is a need for transforming our buildings and what that need is founded upon, so that they are fit for purpose for the 21st century). Alongside these two important documents is a third, a *Statement of Significance* (which speaks about each building's significance as a place, in terms of the sum of each one's cultural and natural heritage values).

As a result of the DAC's advice, the Steering Team has organised for a Business Plan and Statement of Need to be written; the Statement of Significance is already done. Collated together as the evidence for our mission project, in due course, and under the guidance of the RPOT Steering Team (which includes our architect), the PCC will, with prayer, present and demonstrate the projects viability to the DAC. They will in turn assess further the potential success of our vision for our three buildings: their aim is to advise and guide, and help us to succeed, if the case we make is God's will. With their further advice, the PCC, with lots of prayer and God's guidance, will decide how to proceed in coming to the single solution of how we transform our church buildings for God's mission for the future.

Please continue or start to pray for this project, asking for God's guidance on what the parish needs, and not what you might want.

This is a collaborative venture: the Christian community is far, far bigger than any one person and one church building.

**Reverend Simon Lewis**

## **PASTORAL CARE TEAM 2017**

It has been an exciting year for the Pastoral Care Team (PCT) as we have been looking at re- working pastoral care in the parish.

The PCT are mindful that it is the responsibility of everyone to provide pastoral care to one another. At times those who need support and care are helped by someone listening more deeply to their worries and concerns. The PCT have been developing their listening skills in response to God's will for our Parish and wider community.

### **The Commissioning of Lay Pastoral Assistants**

In April 8 members of the team completed a Diocesan Lay Pastoral Assistants Course. It was particularly helpful and interesting to meet with people from local churches, learning and sharing together as we responded to God's call to bring His will to our Parish and local communities.

In June the team were commissioned by the Archdeacon Anne Gell at a Commissioning service at West Huntspill church.



### **Team Members**

The Pastoral Care Team champion is Anthony Barkle and co-champion is Ginnie Soffe.

Members of the team are:-

Dot Coles, Tim and Jane Hannah, Margaret Smith, Gwen Hatton and Carla Searle

The PCT meet bi-monthly at Ginnie's home for prayer, preparation for pastoral ministry, sharing of ideas and experiences, and training.

If you would like further information about the Team or would like to request a visit please contact the parish office, and a member of the team will be happy to contact you.

## **Support Groups**

**Pastoral Care Support Groups** have continued to meet monthly.

**The Bereavement Group** meet in an informal environment with lovely homemade cakes and a welcome cup of tea. This gives people the opportunity to chat and share their experiences in a safe non- threatening way in as much or as little as they feel comfortable.

**The Alzheimer's and Dementia Carers Group** meet at the home of one of the leaders. The village agent Kim Wilcox attends when she can. Her welcome input provides very useful and helpful information about support available for carers in the area.

The group is very well attended and provides carers with much needed emotional and practical support. One of its leaders has had to withdraw for work reasons. Her help was greatly appreciated and is missed.

**The Comfort Group** is available for those with a long term and /or life- threatening illness. The parish was very sad to say farewell to one of the group's founding members and leader after a long journey with cancer. Her commitment and dedication in trusting God to provide for people to meet in a supportive way continues to be the group's focus.

**The Prayer Group** continues to meet and has been joined by 3 new members. As a Healthy Church we aim for prayer to be central to our Christian life. In confidence the group pray for those who are sick and in need.

Each church building has a prayer corner and a prayer pyramid system is in place.

At the start of each week members of the Church Family are encouraged to pray for a street and group of people within the Parish. This is a new development, the details of which appear on the link each Sunday.

The prayer group is fortunate to have the Reverend Stanley Price, who administers communion at some meetings.

**The Toddler Group** is a joint venture between The Parish of Three Saints and the Brent Knoll Methodist church. The group has been running and well supported for over 20 years. Currently there are parents, grandparents, carers and child minders who enjoy the busy informal, supportive atmosphere of the group, as well as the toddlers aged a few weeks to 4 years old who have a great time.

## **Information Leaflets**

Over the last year the team have revisited and revamped leaflets which give information about the different pastoral care groups, activities and of the work the team are involved in to support those in need

An operational policy is being devised and a leaflet explaining the role of the team has been produced.

These can be obtained in any church building or at the church office in East Brent.



## **The life of The Parish of Three Saints**



### **The Listening Project**

This year members on the church electoral roll will have the opportunity to be visited and listened to by people from the PCT and PCC. This is to help people explore their Church life and areas of faith in a non- judgmental warm friendly, facilitative way. The aim of the project is to continue to ensure we grow and develop as a healthy church that takes its relationship with God seriously. We work and pray that, as a pastoral team, we seek to be God's presence in our neighbourhood to the very best of our ability.

In September we were very privileged to welcome a speaker from the Samaritans who gave us some very valuable information about the work the Samaritans do as well as help us reflect and develop our listening skills.

### **Pastoral Visiting**

A register of people who can volunteer their time has been put together alongside the practical help they are able to offer.

Members of the team continue to visit people in their homes, visiting the lonely, housebound, families new to the Parish and the bereaved.

The PCT liaise closely with the Parish Reader Nikki and Priest -in- Charge Simon and with PCC members and teams.



### **Bring and Share Lunch**

In July we hosted a bring and share lunch at the wonderful setting of Woodlands House. This was a great opportunity to get to know members of the church family and all people on the church electoral roll were invited. We had an introduction activity and celebrity quiz. The seated shared meal was well received and enjoyed, and the lunch helped us all deepen our relationship with each other. God's presence was warmly and lovingly felt at each table with us.



### **The Lights of Love Service**

The PCT arranged The Lights of Love annual service in November.

This was well supported and provided a supportive time of reflection, sharing, celebration and hope for those grieving for loved ones.

## All-Sorts Choir

Since the choir started in September 2015 we have had various Musical Directors who have instilled in us the need to stretch ourselves, learn from others and just enjoy singing and having a good time.

Josh Burns joined us as Musical Director from February 2017 after completing a Music degree at Bristol University in 2016. This has provided the choir with the confidence to sing harmonies, sing his compilations and even sing a cappella.

Whilst numbers in the choir fluctuate, on average we have 16 attending each week at our Thursday rehearsals. We would like to increase this number and are looking at ways to engage with the community in 2018.

In 2017 we had a concert in July and then sang on various occasions throughout October to December, finishing with the Carols for Christmas in St Mary's on the 17<sup>th</sup> December.

We received positive feedback and want to build on this during 2018.

We continue to build on our vision of All-Sorts being for everyone, with different abilities, different ages, whilst learning different music but all growing together, having fun and singing.

If you would like to join the choir, get us to sing for you or learn more about us please contact **Sue Toon on 01278 760753**.

We are always happy for others to join us on Thursday evenings from 19.30 at St Mary's Church, East Brent.



## Toddlers

The Toddler group is ecumenically run between The Parish of Three Saints and The Methodist Church and continues to be held in Brent Knoll at The Methodist Church every Tuesday during term time. We have families from the surrounding area including Berrow, Brent Knoll, Burnham, East Brent, Highbridge, Lympsham, Mark, Rooksbridge, Wedmore and Weston. The children range in age from a few weeks to about three years old. We have a lovely mix of mums, dads, aunts, grandparents and childminders.

It is a very friendly and inclusive group where many long standing friendships are made between both adults and children. We hope to provide support especially to first time parents and those new to the area. We have lots of toys, colouring, painting, play dough and of course, lots of fun.

We have received regular visits from Simon, our Priest, and Steve, the Methodist minister in particular at Easter, on the summer outing and at the Christmas party.

We really enjoyed Simon's guitar playing and Steve's action prayers.

We took part in the Brent Knoll Scarecrow Festival last September when the theme was 'Jobs and Occupations' and our entry was 'The Tooth Fairy'!

We also celebrated 'Children in Need' in November and were able to make our annual donation to the appeal.

It is a great joy to serve at Toddlers and may God continue to guide us in this.

**Jane Hannah and Margaret Smith**





## **Messy Church**

Messy Church is a wonderful place of play and learning for children and their parents and guardians together.

They share being creative in making something relevant to the theme for the week; enjoy a yummy tea; hear the stories from the Bible and share what they have learnt from their activities so they may reflect together at home.

They are able to enjoy church as a happy, lively and inviting place to be comfortable, learn and grow.

The feedback is very positive with the adults saying they enjoy hearing the stories from the Bible in a simple, understandable format.

We meet alternate Fridays in term time (check the leaflet or Church Office noticeboard for dates)

We are always happy for more helpers to support our team on this Godly adventure

**Nikki Burns**

**Reader**



## **Bellringers**

### **About the bells**

All three towers in the Parish of Three Saints have six bells, though their tone and characteristics are very different. St Michael's bells at Brent Knoll, are heavy and majestic (tenor 21cwt) and ringers come from all over the country to ring them. St Mary's, East Brent, are lighter (tenor 16cwt) and can be rung more quickly which makes them sound bright; while St Christopher's bells at Lymsham are lighter still (tenor 11cwt) and produce a higher-pitched merry sound.

Tower Captains:

- St Christopher's church: Mrs Vivian Freeman / 01934 750034
- St Mary's church: Mr Melvyn Freeman / 01278 641214





### **Deanery Synod**

The Axbridge Deanery Synod, met 4 times during 2017. Synod is attended by the Deanery Clergy and elected Lay representatives from the Deanery member Parishes. During 2017 our Parish Lay representatives were Maxine Bashford & Judith Giorgetti.

Presentations and discussions at our meetings covered:

In February at Easton Reverend Simon Bale and Reverend Sharon Eldergill ambassadors for Inclusive Church Bath & Wells gave a very interesting presentation on inclusivity within the Church

The May meeting was held at Wedmore Village Hall where Synod members enjoyed a meal prepared and served by the Deanery clergy and a thought provoking entertaining presentation on evangelism from Reverend Tim Gibson a theologian and motor journalist

The July meeting was held at St. John's in Highbridge. The majority of the meeting was given to discussion of the Deanery Mission Plan and an update from Reverend Jonathan Philpott on work with lay ministries

The last meeting of the year was held at Mark Church in October where the Archdeacon of Wells gave a presentation entitled "This is my story, this is my song"

All are welcome to attend the 2018 Synod meetings, the next will be as follows:

7 p.m. Wednesday 6th June 2018 at Draycott Church, School Lane. Draycott, BS27 3SD

With Very Rev John Davies, Dean of Wells Cathedral, speaking on making use of worship buildings for mission

**Maxine Bashford**

## **St Christopher's Annual Church Wardens' Report**

In January Lympsham First School held their Christingle service in the church, with teachers and quite a few parents. The school still use the church on a regular basis. They also have their leavers service in church.

The Lent courses were well attended again everyone seems to enjoy and learn. Thank you to those who provide breakfast .

Another very successful 'Night on the Tiles' was enjoyed by those that attended.

The community café in the pavilion has taken off , with people from church and village coming together.

Nikki took the Remembrance service at St Christopher's this year .

Our crib service held on Christmas Eve at 5.30 p.m. was again a great success, very well attended. Thank you to everyone who took part and for all the hard work that has gone into putting on the event.

It is a privilege to serve the Lord in our journey together.

Thanks to Simon for his work in our parish. I would also like to thank the Stewards, those that provide refreshments, all the ladies and gentlemen who clean the church, flower arrangers, bell ringers and Greta for playing the organ: she will be sadly missed by us all now she has retired.

**Gwen Hatton**

**Church Warden**



## **St Mary's Annual Church Wardens' Report**

Our God is a Great Big God and the work we undertake is carried out with joy because of our love for Him. We are glad to say that it's been another active year. Many thanks are due to our enthusiastic Priest in Charge.

Maintenance to the church has continued throughout 2017 e.g. power washing the gates, a solution of Wet and Forget sprayed on the path to the church for safety reasons, roof repairs, drain pipes cleared, two finials replaced, porch display board repaired, weather cock re-gilded and the air terminal replaced.

This year St. Mary's was inspected by Revd. Richard Neill, Assistant Rural Dean, and he was delighted to find that most requirements expected by the Diocese were in place.

We would like to extend our appreciative thanks to our Parish Administrator, Carole Carter, who keeps us informed of all aspects of church life.

A special mention to our Churchyard Team, who toil away and keep us looking awesomely smart. Thanks to our Flower Arranging Team who beautifully adorn our sacred space. We have Church Openers, Closers and Clock Winders among our many dedicated friends of St. Mary's, plus our very own Bob Harris, our Wheelie bin mover. Thanks to our Cleaning Team too – although we could do with more..... and to our reliable bell ringers who call us to worship. We are very pleased that we have so many devoted helpers: it would be extremely difficult without them all.

**Kathryn Quinnell/Christine Hussey**

**Church Wardens**



## **St Michael's Annual Church Wardens' Report**

Once again we reflect on the last year and we thank Reverend Simon Lewis and the worship team for leading us through the year with a variety of services.

In January we held an Epiphany Feast in the church, a fun time for all ages ending in a short service and refreshments served by Girls Just Wanna Have Fun.

Throughout the year we have had visiting bell ringers ringing, as well as our usual team.

We also hosted the local Guides Service for World Thinking Day, and it was nice to see the church packed with parents and youngsters.

We are very grateful for the annual Churchyard clean up held annually in February and for the difference a day makes to the area around the church and for all the people who supply and serve lunch to the volunteers.

We hosted the Lent Course and also the Holy Week and Easter services. The Church was beautifully decorated and admired by those at the services and visitors for Easter teas.

Again we held the Emmaus group and Film Forums at the Methodist Church and are grateful for the use of the church.

Ascension Day saw an early morning service on the Knoll followed by breakfast.

At Pentecost a festival of Koinonia was held at Woodlands House where we were joined by friends from the Methodists.

The Lights of Love service was held at St Michael's a chance to remember love ones through meditation and praise.

In September the Guides organised a village scarecrow trail and a cartwheeling verger could be found in St Michael's (depicting verger after last Royal wedding) for which we were highly commended and, outside the Methodist church, the Toddler Group entered a Tooth Fairy who came 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was nice to see visitors to the church.

The Brent Knoll Churches' Toddler Group continues to be a witness in the community led by members of both our church and the Methodists.

The Harvest service was followed by lunch at Woodlands House and again we thank the flower arrangers for the beautifully decorated church.

The Remembrance Service was led by the British Legion chaplain and well attended; the poppies added poignancy to the occasion.

The school has continued to visit the church regularly and held a number of services through the year. The church was packed for two Nativity Services.

As usual we hosted the Christmas Eve communion; it was wonderful to have a candlelit service.





We would like to thank all the ministry team, organists, readers, servers and intercessors that have all helped us progress on our church journey.

The fund raising group continues to organise events to raise much needed funds for which we are very grateful.

The church is in a relatively good condition, thanks to those who continue to maintain it, although we still have a shortage of brass cleaners and cleaners.

Thanks to our stewards and refreshment providers, bell ringers and flower arrangers who have helped us to be a welcoming church. If anyone else is able to join the stewards or refreshments rota, it would be a great help.

In closing we again pray and trust that, as we continue to journey, you will continue to give your support to the ministry team and Simon and continue to help us to grow and shine in our village.

**Frances James/Mike Smith**

**Churchwardens**

## **Financial Review of 2017**

Firstly, may I thank the Finance Team for their support during this year. In particular, may I thank Robin Leveridge for his advice, guidance and support as Donation and Banking Co-ordinator. Also, my appreciation to Carole Carter, our Administrator, for keeping me on track, as usual.

You will be aware we manage our finances through two funds. Our Church Life fund, which contributes to God's mission and ministry across our Parish, and our Heritage Fund, which manages our three church buildings, as Heritage Assets, for the whole neighbourhood. Charts showing the breakdown of the Receipts and Payments for these two funds follow this report and the full breakdown is available on our website or from Church Office.

Our Church Life fund had a surplus of £1,547. This surplus was only achieved thanks to the very generous offer from St Christopher's fundraising team to share the surplus from its very successful Ball. Without this donation we would have had a significant deficit of c£3,500. We do continue to struggle with only 60% of our Church Family donating regularly via standing order. Income from Parochial Fees - Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms - continue to provide a valuable source of income.

Our Heritage Fund has been greatly boosted by a significant legacy for St. Christopher's Church. It would be wonderful to be confident similar legacies are being planned, not only to support the church buildings, but also the wider mission and ministry of the Parish. In addition, to the figures shown, St Michael's also benefits from a Unit Trust investment valued around £30,000.

Although we ended 2017 with a small trading surplus, after allowing for the legacy, raising sufficient monies continues to be a challenge. Our Church Life Fund should, mainly, be funded through the Church Families tithing, or sometimes referred to as 'sacrificial giving', but more work needs to be done to ensure we all reward God for his love.

Income to the Heritage Fund is generously supported through fund raising activities across the Parish. Each church building has a small fundraising team (please see their separate reviews) who work extremely hard to ensure the buildings can be retained at the heart of our communities. The breakdown of fundraising is also shown.

We enter 2018 with a high degree of optimism. We pray that our Church Family will continue to give generously to support God's mission and ministry.

We pray the next steps of Re-Pitching Our Tent can be implemented and all can enjoy its positive impact on our wonderful buildings.

**Jim Hanmer**

**Treasurer**

# The Parish of Three Saints

## Church Life - Receipts & Payments

Year Ending 31st December 2017

		<b>2017</b>		<b>2016</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>
Planned Giving		23823		27414
Collections		2584		3231
Other giving & Donations		366		2214
Legacies		0		0
Gift Aid		8151		7406
Grants		615		168
Fund Raising		9433		5878
Parochial Fees		8835		7044
Other		315		0
<b>Total</b>		<b>54122</b>		<b>53355</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>
Parish Share		34055		34928
Salaries		7261		6184
Clergy & Reader Expenses		2356		1804
Administration		3420		3140
Church Running Expenses		3747		2041
RPOT		968		877
Mission		383		242
Music		181		184
Sundries		203		66
<b>Total</b>		<b>52575</b>		<b>49465</b>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>		<b>1547</b>		<b>3890</b>
<b>Opening Bank Balance</b>		<b>13504</b>		
<b>Closing Bank Balance</b>		<b>15052</b>		

The Parish of Three Saints									
Heritage Receipts & Payments									
Year ending 31st December 2017									
	St Christopher's		St Mary's		St Michael's		Totals		
							2017		2016
							Totals		Totals
<b>RECEIPTS</b>									
	£		£		£		£		£
Collections & Other Giving	1792		1254		1715		4761		6424
Gift Aid	23		50		80		153		154
Friends	175		60		1005		1240		1124
Grants & Donations	2134		2205		750		5089		4783
Legacies	51000		0		2000		53000		0
Interest	0		0		1318		1318		1314
Fundraising Events	23162		5519		3102		31783		11067
Other	227		0		0		227		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>78513</b>		<b>9088</b>		<b>9970</b>		<b>97571</b>		<b>24866</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>							£		£
Legacy Expenditure	0		0		0		0		2760
H&L	798		2595		1891		5283		6471
Quinquennial Work	0		3690		0		3690		149
Church Running Expenses	2426		1378		2510		6314		2868
Cost of Fundraising	7363		224		0		7587		250
Fundraising Donation to Church Life	7197		1379		868		9443		0
Minor Repairs	583		594		145		1322		8394
Sundries/Grant expenditure	397		141		60		599		320
Churchyard Mtce	1992		1440		0		3432		2629
Quinquennial Report	763		0		0		763		789
Donations	150		0		0		150		300
RPOT	0		0		0		0		2687
Major Repairs	392						392		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>22061</b>		<b>11440</b>		<b>5473</b>		<b>38975</b>		<b>27617</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over payments</b>	<b>56452</b>		<b>-2353</b>		<b>4497</b>		<b>58596</b>		<b>-2751</b>
<b>Opening Bank Balance</b>	<b>16150</b>		<b>22986</b>		<b>8761</b>		<b>47896</b>		
<b>Closing Bank Balance</b>	<b>72602</b>		<b>20633</b>		<b>13258</b>		<b>106493</b>		

Fundraising for 2017									
Event	St Christopher		St Mary		St Michael		Total		Church Life
	Income	Costs	Income	Costs	Income	Costs	Gross	Net	Share
Night on the Tiles	15593	5514					15593	10079	4915
Open Gardens	2377	1603					2377	774	
Church Fetes	4854	246	2497	206	700		8051	7599	3930
Quiz			2174				2174	2174	
Coffee Mornings	338		341				679	679	
Epiphany					384		384	384	163
Film Night					60		60	60	
Easter Teas					242		242	242	
Summer Teas			191		380		571	571	
Village Fete					487		487	487	143
Schubert					284		284	284	
Christmas Fayre					565		565	565	282
Table Top Sale			164				164	164	
Soup & Sing			151	18			151	133	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23162</b>	<b>7363</b>	<b>5518</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>3102</b>		<b>31782</b>	<b>24195</b>	<b>9433</b>



## The Parish of Three Saints

### Combined Figures

Year Ending 31st December 2017

		2017				2017	2016
RECEIPTS		Church Life		Heritage		Total	Total
		£		£		£	£
Planned Giving		23823		4761		28584	33838
Collections		2584		0		2584	3231
Other giving & Donations		366		1240		1606	3338
Legacies		0		53000		53000	0
Gift Aid		8151		153		8304	7560
Grants		615		5089		5704	4951
Fund Raising		9433		31783		41216	16945
Parochial Fees		8739		0		8739	7044
Other		315		1545		1860	1314
<b>Total</b>		<b>54026</b>		<b>97571</b>		<b>151597</b>	<b>78221</b>
PAYMENTS		£		£		£	£
Parish Share		34055		0		34055	34928
Administration		13037		0		13037	11128
Church Running Expenses		3747		11597		15344	11380
RPOT		968		0		968	3564
Mission		383		0		383	242
Sundries		384		599		983	570
Churchyard Mtce		0		3432		3432	2629
Quinquennial Work		0		3690		3690	149
Major Repairs		0		392		392	0
Cost of Fundraising		0		7587		7587	250
Fundraising Donation to Church Life		0		9443		9443	0
Minor Repairs		0		1322		1322	8394
Quinquennial Report		0		763		763	789
Donations		0		150		150	300
Legacy Expenditure		0		0		0	2760
<b>Total</b>		<b>52575</b>		<b>38975</b>		<b>91550</b>	<b>77083</b>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>		<b>1451</b>		<b>58596</b>		<b>60047</b>	<b>1138</b>
<b>Opening Bank Balance</b>		<b>13600</b>		<b>47896</b>		<b>61496</b>	
<b>Current Bank Balance</b>		<b>15052</b>		<b>106493</b>		<b>121545</b>	

## **St Christopher's Church, Lympsham, Fundraising Report**

2017 was another good year for the fundraising team with our usual events. supplemented by the extremely successful, second 'Night on the Tiles' Ball. Thank you to all members of the committee and others who have helped us this year.

On 21st April 2017, we held the second 'Night on the Tiles Ball' at Batch Country House Hotel. 276 people attended, seated at 27 tables and the night was a huge success, with a three-course dinner, raffle, auction and the Lipinski band playing until well after midnight with minibus transport home offered for a donation. Thanks are due to all who generously donated raffle and auction prizes and sponsored the tables.

The event raised £9,825.65, which by prior agreement was split equally between the Parish and St Christopher's Church.

I am very grateful to the committee for all their hard work in putting on this event – John and Lucy Teteris, Victoria Daintree, Gwen Hatton, Lisa Counsell, Carole Carter, Karen Brenner (co-opted for this event) and Rosemary Carr. We are also grateful to James and Anna Brown who agreed to host the event for us, so soon after the death of James's parents, and for generously donating £1,000 to the event.

The fete took place on 1 July and was as successful as ever. We raised £4,623, another record, exceeding our record for the previous year. As always, the weather was good and we had a really good turn-out. The classic cars seem to be a major attraction on their own now and this old-fashioned village fete remains one of the highlights of village life. Thanks, as always, to all who helped but especially to Rosemary and Andy Carr who lead the organising committee.

We also held the Open Gardens in the gardens of the Manor and Church Farm, in aid, principally, of the National Gardens Scheme, which raises millions each year for a basket of nursing and cancer-related charities. The success of the event is very weather dependent and we were lucky to have pretty good weather on both days this year. 321 people came to visit, including a very boisterous coach-load from Surrey! 90% of the proceeds of our plant stall and our tea and cakes stall goes to the church and this year, we raised just over £800 for the Church (and a little over £1,500 for the NGS).

Thanks especially to Kim King and Lisa Counsell for taking charge of the cake and tea stall, to Victoria Daintree and Ros Dark for providing so many of the cakes and all who helped man the gate and yet again, to Marcus Hatton, who donated a fantastic array of plants and flowers which helped boost the profits.

I should personally like to thank Graeme Hale, our gardener, for the work he puts in to the garden in June to get everything ready for both events.

As usual, Gwen had her coffee morning on the first Tuesday of December. The event was very well attended, despite being in competition with LEBEs café in the pavilion on that day. Gwen raised over £320, yet another amazing effort.

### **What is planned for the future?**

Next we have the following events planned at the moment:

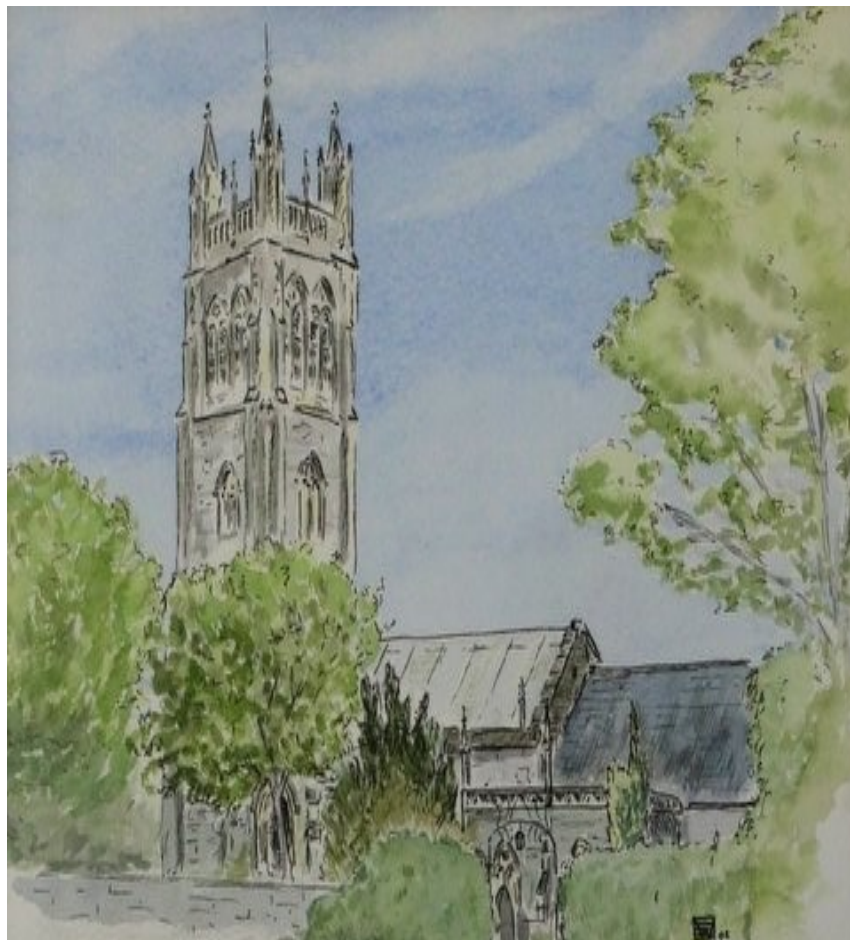
**NGS Open Gardens in the Manor Garden and Church Farm 23/24 June 2018**

**Church Fete in Manor Garden 30 June 2018**

**Gwen's coffee morning – December 2018**

**James Counsell**

**December 2017**



## **St Mary's Church, East Brent, Fundraising Report**

We were sorry to see Kathy decide to step down as Chair and member of the fundraising team. We recognised her great contribution to fundraising over many years & knew she would be much missed. We were all delighted that Kathy & Yvonne continued with their very popular monthly pub quizzes at the Brent Knoll Inn.

The fund-raising team have worked together all year to put together a range of events not only to raise much needed funds but to encourage sociable community involvement.

In April we held a table top sale in the village hall – the available tables went very quickly. We offered refreshments and held a small raffle. The event was well publicised but attendance was a little disappointing. We raised in the region of £160.

Members of our committee were pleased to support the May Fair held in Brent Knoll Village Hall, running stalls and providing the hampers for the event.

Our July fete was yet again a well supported resounding success, with the fun dog show bringing lots of lovely dogs & their owners to the fete. We raised more than £2,500. Many villagers and people from further away enjoyed a very pleasant sunny afternoon with a great range of stalls and delicious afternoon teas.

In September Carole & Della's Afternoon Tea in Carole's garden raised £191 – a lovely social afternoon in a beautiful setting.

Our October Soup & Sing with the Community Choir was another lovely evening where we enjoyed some delicious soups & a great sing-a-long. The evening raised £156.

In November Christine & Claire arranged a fabulous Christmas Coffee Morning at Christine's house: super cakes and a fantastic bring and buy together with the raffle raised an amazing £350.10

We have a number of events planned for 2018 including an open gardens event and a Christmas Tree festival - we look forward to your continued support.

**Maxine Bashford**

### **St Mary's Church Monthly Pub Quizzes**

Since starting this Pub Quiz in June 2011 we have raised £9,074.75 plus £2,194.35 in 2017.

Generally about 30 people support this monthly event at The Brent Knoll Inn in East Brent.

It has paid for a new lightning conductor, gilding the cockerel, light sensors to light up the path to church and a lantern on the church gate and several repair tasks.

We would like to point out, sincerely, that we can only do this with the regular support you give us, so thank you for all you do, not only coming and participating but giving raffle prizes as well!

**Yvonne Claridge & Kathy Quinnell**



## **St Michael's Church, Brent Knoll, Fundraising Report**

The St Michael's Fundraising Committee has met on two occasions in 2017 and has organised three significant events. In our role as Heritage Fundraisers we have also looked ahead and submitted some budget proposals for 2018. After discussion with the Treasurer these have been approved.

In May we held our Spring Fair. Our plan was to hold the event in the open air at Ivyclad Hall. There was to be a jazz band, stalls, refreshment, a dog show and croquet on the lawn. Sadly the weather intervened and it was decided to switch the event to the Parish Hall in the week before the event. This meant the loss of the dog show but the band played in the hall where the stalls had been put. Margaret and Mike Smith organised the event and must be thanked wholeheartedly for their hard work, especially for coping with the shift to the new venue.

Brian Freestone and John Page combined again at the end of September to give us a presentation entitled Unfinished Business with Schubert. Brian provided the background to the composer's life and music, and John provided the soundtrack and video clips. It was a splendid evening that was made more enjoyable by the presence of a piano and two pianists, who gave us live performances of some of Schubert's piano music. With Eddie Fuller and Bob Filmer behind the bar and the delicious spread provided by Rosemary Keele and Sally Wingate in the interval, this was aa outstanding occasion.

Finally our Christmas Fair repeated the success of 2016, with the significant difference that the boilers were working and we were in the church! The St Mary's Handbell Ringers provided a wonderful background to the opening. The church had been decorated for the occasion by local church members and was a magnificent setting for the sale of festive goods. Refreshment was provided by local church volunteers and included some warming soup and rolls as lunch time approached. Thanks are due to Rosemary Keele for her valiant cooking efforts. Two choirs sang carols during the morning: the Brent Knoll School choir and the local All Sorts Community choir. Thank you to all who made this event a memorable occasion.

Some of the other events that we have taken part in were: our usual Easter Teas at St Michael's, held on Easter Sunday and Monday, at the Village Fete we had our usual cake and plant stalls and this year we added a hoopla stall to the entertainment, during August we opened the church for teas and were rewarded by very reasonable attendances which we felt justified the effort put in to the four Sundays.

**Ged Keele**

## **Report from the Friends Team the Parish of Three Saints**

St Michael's continues to be the only church in the Parish that has developed significant local support through a Friends organisation. This report is therefore restricted to what has happened in Brent Knoll during 2017.

For many years Sue Boss has organised an annual churchyard clean up in February. This is the time when we have an opportunity to clear up and burn the dead wood that has accumulated, cut back encroaching brambles and weed flower beds. The reward for this work is hot soup and rolls for lunch. This year we made a special point of clearing back ivy from the wall along Church Lane in preparation for removing some coping tiles that had been infiltrated by the ivy. We also cleared a space on the north bank which has been earmarked as an area to encourage wild flowers. In the spring a dozen wildflower species were introduced as grown plants to this area. They all flowered in the summer and we hope they will continue to thrive in years to come.

Later in the year two Friends turned into builders and replaced the tiles with concrete coping slabs that matched the rest of the wall. It was hard work and our initial efforts were not very successful because someone disturbed the slabs before the mortar had set. Our second attempt was more successful. This exercise saved the Parish £300!

Our Annual Meeting was held in July and Ged Keele provided the centrepiece of the evening with a presentation entitled a Short History of our Local Churches. This summarised key developments in church history from Norman times to the present. The talk was illustrated by slides of local architectural features and furnishings in St Michael's, St Mary's and St Christopher's churches.

Ged Keele also worked with the British Legion branch on an event to remember the battle of Passchendaele. He set up a poster exhibition in St Michael's that portrayed the battle and various aspects of WW1. The exhibition opened with a coffee morning during which there was a presentation on the war poet Siegfried Sassoon and readings of his poetry.

**Ged Keele**  
**Friends Co-ordinator**



## **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

### **Buildings and Grounds Team Report**

We are extremely grateful for all the voluntary work done in and around all the Parish churches and grounds. Thank you to all the volunteers who give their time and talents to care for the church buildings, graves and grounds and keep them looking in such good order.

I would like to thank the Building and Grounds Committee who have worked hard and had a successful year.

In anticipation of Re-Pitching our Tent impacting upon all our buildings the PCC took the decision only to carry out urgent Health & Safety issues and essential routine maintenance during 2017.

In addition, we were made aware of a serious issue with the east boundary wall between St Christopher's and Church Farm in Lympsham. The roots of the large trees and a build up of debris has caused the wall to fracture; investigation work has been undertaken to improve the trees and repair the wall, which will be completed in 2018.

**Philippe Giorgetti**

**Buildings and Grounds Coordinator**



## Safeguarding Report 2017

Our main aim, because we are all God's children, is to provide a safe environment especially in each of our churches, but also in our communities. This is our witness where we live.

As your Safeguarding Officer I attended a training day course in September to update my information at the Old Deanery, in Wells. As a follow up, Maxine Bashford and I produced a draft Parish Safeguarding Policy using a Diocesan outline document. This will be distributed after being adopted at the January 2018 PCC Meeting.

All the Lay Pastoral Assistants have completed their course, their DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) forms, which have been checked plus their online Safeguarding Basic Awareness test. They have all received confirmatory certificates for this.

Anthony Barkle has kindly put together a Safeguarding display in each church. If you need any help in this area please feel free to contact me on 01278 760031.

**Kathy Quinnell**



# Administration, Structure and Data

## Administrative information

### Geographically the Parish of Three Saints:

- is constituted of the following villages, Brent Knoll, East Brent, Eastertown, Edingworth, Lympsham and Rooksbridge in Somerset;
- has three parish church buildings St Michael's church in Brent Knoll, St Mary the Blessed Virgin church, East Brent and St Christopher's church Lympsham;
- is in the Diocese of Bath & Wells, a member of the Church of England.

### Correspondence address

The Church Office,  
Church Road,  
East Brent,  
Somerset  
TA9 4HZ

office.tpots@gmail.com      01278 769082

### Parish Staff

*Incumbent (Priest-in-Charge)*

The Reverend Simon Lewis

*Churchwardens*

*St Michael's church, Brent Knoll* Miss Frances James  
Mr Mike Smith

*St Mary the Blessed Virgin church, East Brent* Mrs Kathryn Quinnell  
Mrs Christine Hussey

*St Christopher's church, Lympsham* Mrs Gwen Hatton

*Reader*

Mrs Nikki Burns

*Parish Administrator*

Mrs Carole Carter

*PCC Treasurer*

Mr Jim Hanmer

*PCC Secretary*

Mrs Carole Carter

*Organists*

Mrs Greta Plank assisted by Pauline Chadwick

*Safe Guarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Officer*

Mrs Kathryn Quinnell

### External Organisations

*Inspecting Architect:*

Mr George Chedburn  
Chedburn Design & Conservation,  
Bath Brewery, Toll Bridge Road,  
Bath, BA1 7DE

*Financial Organisations specific to the Parish:*

#### CHURCH LIFE

CAF Bank Ltd

25 Kings Hill Avenue,  
Kings Hill, West Malling,  
Kent, ME19 4JQ

CCLA

Senator House,  
85 Queen Victoria Street,  
London, EC4V 4ET

#### HERITAGE LIFE

Friends of St Christopher

Friends of St Mary

Friends of St Michael

Friends of St Michaels Trust

CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Ave,  
Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent,  
CAF Bank Ltd 25Kings Hill Ave,  
Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Ave,  
Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent

Santander, Bootle, Merseyside



*Independent Examiner* Mr Paul McClean, Brent Knoll

## **Charity Commission**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity *excepted* from registration with the Charity Commission.

### **PCC Membership**

<b><i>Ex-officio</i></b>		<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>
<b><i>Incumbent</i></b>	The Reverend Simon Lewis	<b>Chairperson</b>	Leaving April 2018
<b><i>Churchwardens</i></b>			
<b><i>Brent Knoll</i></b>	Miss Frances James		Annual until 2018
	Mr Mike Smith		Annual until 2018
<b><i>East Brent</i></b>	Mrs Kathryn Quinnell		Annual until 2018
	Mrs Christine Hussey		Annual until 2020
<b><i>Lympsham</i></b>	Mrs Gwen Hatton		Annual until 2018
<b><i>Reader</i></b>	Mrs Nikki Burns		Continuous
<b><i>Deanery Synod Representative</i></b>	Mrs Maxine Bashford		3 year term / 2020
	Mrs Judith Giorgetti		3 year term / 2020
<b><i>Elected</i></b>			
	Mrs Dot Coles		3 year term / 2020
	Mr Ged Keele		3 year term / 2020
	Mrs Della Brewer		1 year term / 2018
	Mr Nick Bashford		1 year term / 2019
	Mr Tim Hannah		2 year term / 2019
	Mr Jim Hanmer	<b>Treasurer</b>	2 year term / 2019
	Mr Anthony Barkle		3 year term / 2020
	Mrs Barbara Foti		3 year term / 2020
	Mr Philippe Giorgetti		3 year term / 2020
	Mrs Sarah McClean		3 year term / 2020
	Mrs Ginnie Soffe		3 year term / 2020
	Mrs Sally Wingate		3 year term / 2020
<b><i>Co-opted</i></b>			
	Mrs Carole Carter	Parish Administrator & PCC Secretary	Annual
	Mrs Margaret Smith	Electoral Roll Officer	Annual
	Mr Robin Leveridge	Donations Co-ordinator	Annual

## Structure, governance and management

- The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.
- Each elected PCC member is encouraged to be a member of one of the PCC Teams. Ex-officio members (excluding Deanery Synod Representatives) may sit on any Team.
- Non-PCC members invited to join PCC Teams are co-opted members. They are invited to join because of the gifts and expertise they have. Their term on a Team might be short-term (for example, the duration of a particular project) or long-term.

## Objectives and activities

- The Parish of Three Saints PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, The Reverend Simon Lewis, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical (as expressed in the *Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 No.3 4 and 5 Eliz 2*).
- It also has maintenance responsibilities for the three church buildings, St Christopher, Lympsham, St Mary the Blessed Virgin, East Brent and St Michael, Brent Knoll, and for the Church Office in East Brent.

### Changes to the Electoral Roll in 2017:

The Electoral Roll at the end of the 2016	=	141
Deletions (including due to death)	=	9
Additions	=	8
Total at the end of 2017	=	<b>140</b>

### Church attendance for the main festivals (NR = Not recorded)

FESTIVAL		2015	2016	2017
Mothering Sunday		9	30	37
Palm Sunday		36	44	43
Easter Sunday		102	128	119
Harvest Festival		48	37	38
Remembrance Services	(St Christopher's Church)	38	32	34
	(East Brent Memorial)	9	13	27
	(St Michael's church)			
Lights of Love (All Souls)		23	36	31
Crib Services	(St Mary's church)	81	128	)
	(St Christopher's church)	225	215	) 441
First Communion of Christmas			85	)
Christmas Thanksgiving		160	56	)

### Number of Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals for the Parish

	St Christopher	St Mary	St Michael	Parish Total
<b>Baptisms</b>	6	2	13	21
<b>Weddings</b>	4	1	4	9
<b>Funerals</b>	5	6	8	19
<b>Burial of Ashes</b>	4	1	3	8
<b>Crematorium</b>	4	2	5	11

# Our Parish: Who's Who

## Worship Team

**Priest-in-Charge**      Reverend Simon Lewis

**Reader:**                Nikki Burns

## PCC Teams

### Worship and Liturgy

Simon Lewis, Nikki Burns

### Prayer

Gwen Hatton, Pauline Chadwick, Viv Freeman, Eva & Stanley Price, Kathryn Quinnell

### Mission and Evangelism

Simon Lewis

### Pastoral Care Team

Anthony Barkle, Ginnie Soffe,

Dot Coles, Tim and Jane Hannah, Margaret Smith, Gwen Hatton, Carla Searle

### Buildings and Grounds

Phil Giorgetti, Mike Smith, Gwen Hatton, Kathryn Quinnell, Chris Hussey

### Friends

Simon Lewis, Ged Keele

### Stewardship

Nick Bashford

### Church Life Fundraising

**St Christopher's:** James Counsell, Rosemary Carr, Lisa Counsell, Karen Brenner (Ball)  
Victoria Daintree, Gwen Hatton, Lucy & John Teteris, Carole Carter

**St Mary's:** Maxine Bashford, Christine Hussey, Claire Lewis, Della Brewer,  
Helen Broderick, Dot Coles, Beverley Lloyd-Jones and Carole Carter

**St Michael's:** Ged Keele, Mike Smith, Sally Wingate, Margaret Smith, Rosemary Keele

**Finance:** Robin Leveridge, Nick Bashford, Jim Hanmer, Ged Keele, Simon Lewis, Carole Carter

**Deanery Synod:** Maxine Bashford, Judith Giorgetti

**Organist:** Greta Plank, supported by Pauline Chadwick (Greta retired in December 2017)

**Website [www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk](http://www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk)**

**Church Office, Church Road, East Brent, Somerset, TA9 4HZ**

**01278 769082    [office.tpots@gmail.com](mailto:office.tpots@gmail.com)**