

Mission Action Plan for Chalfont St Giles Parish Church 2021 for the duration of the vacancy and beyond:



As we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic and face a double vacancy across the benefice it is difficult to make defined plans. However, it is clear that navigating our way through the recovery process with uncertain timings, adjusting to what we have learned from the previous year especially as regards use of technology, adjusting our working practices across the benefice and seeking to make the most of the opportunities for spiritual growth that have arisen will give us plenty of challenges during the period of vacancy which we see both as a period of recovery and healing following the pandemic and a time with potential for growth.

We have shaped our plans under the three headings used in previous plans; aware more than ever of the need to be **Contemplative** (in prayerful reliance upon God's grace), **Compassionate** (the motivation of kindness and love to serve all people) and **Courageous** (showing a Christ-like discipleship which makes a difference in this world)

AIMS During the vacancy	Specific	Measurable	What 'good' looks like
SPIRITUAL GROWTH - growth in our life with God individually and together	<p>Re-establish and strengthen links among existing members of our congregation for the purpose of mutual support and spiritual growth.</p> <p>Respond pastorally to the losses suffered within our congregation over the pandemic</p> <p>Develop our shared working practices across the Benefice</p>	<p>Grow the number of small groups meeting together for mutual support, prayer and Bible study</p> <p>Plan and carry out celebrations of life in various forms and memorial services for those people we have lost during the pandemic.</p> <p>Develop team work and 'all member ministry' across the benefice sharing our resources for mutual benefit</p>	<p>All church members supported and encouraged in faith by a small group who knows them well.</p> <p>A Congregation who has had time to heal and feels well supported</p> <p>A well-functioning church benefice family with all members using their gifts and no 'burn-out'</p>
GROWTH IN DISCIPLESHIP – offering a place for people to grow in faith	Reach out to our online congregation and make new connections	<p>To form links with new members of our online congregation who we do not yet know using responses and information from the Diocese 'Come and See' resources.</p> <p>Maintain our contact with families through our 'faith at home' material as well as through live church</p> <p>Maintain our on-line services each week even when the church re-opens</p>	Members of our church family who cannot attend church in person feel included in church life and nourished in their faith.

<p>GROWTH IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - growth in our community actions and activities</p>	<p>Respond pastorally to the losses suffered in our wider community</p> <p>Build on community links we have built over the pandemic.</p>	<p>Offer means of bringing the village together to grieve and celebrate what we have experienced over the past year.</p>	<p>More members of the community discovering in our church and churchyard a place for refreshment/healing and spiritual engagement.</p>
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<p>IDEAS Beyond the vacancy</p>			
<p>SPIRITUAL GROWTH – growth in our life with God individually and together</p>	<p>Family and Children’s work - Develop our family work and children’s work.</p>	<p>We have advertised for a family’s worker and still aspire to employ a gifted person to focus on building faith in families in the village.</p>	
<p>GROWTH IN DISCIPLESHIP – offering a place for people to grow in faith</p>	<p>Website - Develop our church website and communication.</p>	<p>We would like to use the potential of the web site more fully, particularly as our on-line provision has become so central in the past year.</p>	
<p>GROWTH IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – growth in our community actions and activities</p>	<p>Churchyard – Refine churchyard management for benefit of church and community.</p> <p>Reading room - Refurbish Reading Room for benefit of church and community.</p>	<p>We have started the process of planning for a memorial garden as part of our churchyard.</p> <p>The Reading Room on the High Street is an amazing asset but is in need of some re-furnishment to make it a place of hospitality for the community.</p>	