

The Church in Wales ~ Diocese of Llandaff  
The Rectorial Benefice of Canton

# **Annual Vestry Meeting**

## **The Benefice Report**

Wednesday 26th April 2017  
7.30 pm  
St Luke's Church

# The Rectorial Benefice of Canton

## **Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

### *Description of the Benefice*

The Rectorial Benefice of Canton is in the Deanery of Cardiff and in the Diocese of Llandaff in the Church in Wales.

It consists of the Churches of St John the Evangelist in St John's Crescent CF5 1NX, St Catherine in King's Road CF11 9DE and St Luke the Evangelist in Cowbridge Road East CF5 1BE; it serves the entire district of Canton and parts of Leckwith. The total population is in the region of 28,000.

### *Objects and Constitution*

The Rectorial Benefice of Canton is part of the Diocese of Llandaff within the Church in Wales. The Church in Wales is a province of the Anglican Communion and, as such, exists to advance the Christian faith through worldwide mission. The object of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to ensure that the life and work of the Church in the Parish helps fulfil that mission, both locally and more widely.

The PCC is not a corporate body. Its composition, procedure and powers are regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales as amended from time to time by its Governing Body, set up under section 13(1) of the Welsh Church Acts 1914. Elections are held at an Annual Vestry Meeting which must take place on or before 30 April. All persons whose names are entered on the Electoral Roll are entitled to vote and stand for election. Before assuming office, every member of the Council must sign a declaration that he or she will be bound by the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales (RB) holds the land and property of the Church in Wales, including the Church buildings, their contents and the Church grounds. The RB is an exempt Charity as set up under section 13(2) of the Welsh Church Acts 1914. It acts on behalf of the Province in paying the stipends of full time clergy; and administers the Church in Wales scheme of covenanted giving.

The PCC is responsible amongst other things, for promoting the mission of the Church, managing and monitoring the parochial budget and caring for and maintaining the Church fabric and grounds. It also takes action on any other matters referred to it in accordance with the Constitution of the Church in Wales. The Council is the normal channel of communication between the parishioners and the Bishop of the Diocese.

The Benefice is a Charity, registered with the Charity Commission with the number 1131153.

## ***Ministry Leadership Team***

***Incumbent:*** The Reverend Canon Mark Preece  
Canton Rectory, 12 Thompson Avenue, Canton, CARDIFF CF5 1EY

***Team Vicar:*** The Reverend Phelim O'Hare  
Canton Vicarage, 3a Romilly Road, Canton, CARDIFF CF5 1FH

### ***Honorary Team Members (all in retirement from full-time ministry)***

The Reverend Canon Colin Wilcox, The Reverend Keith Kimber, The Reverend John Webber.

***Independent Auditor:*** Paul C Williams FCA  
Davies Williams Chartered Accountants  
21 St Andrews Crescent, CARDIFF CF10 3DB

***Architects:*** Alwyn Jones & Partners  
Y Banc, Cardiff Road, Taff's Well, CARDIFF CF15 7RA  
  
Martin J Killick, 31 Churchmead, Bassaleg, NEWPORT NP10 8NA

## ***Parish Officers***

### **The Churchwardens**

Representing St Catherine's: Hilary Westwood and David Snelson

Representing St John's: David Morgan and Martin Bickel

Representing St Luke's: Beryl Cooke and Lynda Banks

### **Parochial Church Councillors**

The Churchwardens plus.....

Martin Peters, Colin Rossiter, Joanne Barrow, Sarah Burton, Linsay Jones, Annie Harding, Paul Jones, Gareth Parsons, Christine Ward, Rocia Espinoza

### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Eucharistic Ministers are licensed by the Bishop on the Rector's recommendation, the following people are licenced to administer the Sacrament across the Benefice:

Kathryn Blake, Jennifer Evans, Cynthia Fowler, Ruth Honey, Susan Jones, Marion Milton, Diana Morgan, Sue Parsons, Martin Peters, John Plow, Michelle Preece, Lyn Rudeforth, Karen Wheeler, Hilary Westwood, Sandra Meyer, Jean Williams

## ***The Annual Benefice Report***

Annual Reports are necessarily selective. The pages that follow give an overview of life centred on our three Churches.

When analysing the life of any Parish from within, there is a risk that we can draw very easily one of two conclusions: either we can think we have everything right and need do little more than press on for another year, or we can think that nothing is really happening that is worth rejoicing over. The report presented here, certainly prevents us drawing the second of these conclusions - there is work going on in across the Benefice with which we *can* be very pleased. However, we cannot be complacent: as always there is much that can be improved and developed.

One ongoing and vital issue needs our constant attention and that is financial giving. A Stewardship campaign was launched in October 2016.

In the work that lies ahead we shall need the continued help and involvement of as many people as possible. There may well be members of our congregations who just need an invitation and some encouragement to be involved. Here is the invitation and the encouragement: the Church in Canton needs you – God is calling all of us to work together with Him and for Him, here and now!

We would like to thank Fr Keith Kimber for his help in covering . We also thank all those in appointed positions and our volunteers, particularly members of the Parochial Church Council, those who organized or helped at social activities, worked with our children, provided pastoral care to those in need, helped to maintain our physical property, and contributed to our worship.

### **Administration and structure**

The churchwardens, together with the Rector, are responsible for the operation of the parish: finance, insurance, buildings, church services, and appointments. Two wardens are appointed/elected to each church – the appointed warden is the Rector's warden; the elected warden is the People's warden. Our churchwardens are named in the Officers' list at the beginning of this report.

The wardens must strike a balance between their responsibility to maintain the buildings in a state of good repair, (a challenge with listed buildings), and addressing concerns identified in Quinquennial Inspections, but not spending large sums unnecessarily when alternative means of maintenance may be appropriate. A Fabric Report identifies work carried out later in this report.

Two major development occurred during the year; in May 2016 the PCC appointed a Benefice Co-ordinator / Administrator. Susan Jones, who had served a full six-year term as Churchwarden, was appointed to this funded role. In September the Ministry team was augmented with the arrival of two Ordinands in training from the newly formed St Padarn's Institute: Samuel Patterson and Dominic Cawdell. Within a new structure, the ordinands become junior members of the Ministry Team, serving in the Benefice for 3 days a week for 48 weeks of the year during their period of training.

### **Parish Life**

The Sunday Schools/Club continue to take place in each church, with the children also taking part in all-age worship such as Harvest, Crib Service and Mothering Sunday. Children's Areas have been created in each church which are equipped with soft toys, books, paper and pencils for use during the service.

**Messy Church** continues to flourish. The Messy Church team is made up of people from across the Benefice and members of churches across Canton. Messy Church takes place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month and continues to be one of our primary modes of outreach. It is important to

acknowledge that this is because our volunteer team give of their time to make it work. The team meets once a month to plan. Thanks to all who continue to support this, everyone seems to enjoy it!

*eXplore*, takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month at St John's Church. The worship is led through alternative means including café church, a labyrinth and a communion service based on the music and lyrics of *Hollywood movies*.. Worship sessions end with refreshments and an opportunity to chat.

**Fellowship activities** have been very successful this year, with the Mothers' Union, and new initiatives organized throughout the year, including fundraising concerts, table top sales and seasonal fairs. Youth Club continued to meet and a post-confirmation fellowship group began.

We have a legal responsibility to ensure the **Safeguarding** of children and vulnerable adults: a DBS check is required for those dealing with children or vulnerable adults, and training is offered to the responsible person. Some DBS checks were completed or renewed this year.

### **Property (Fabric) Report**

This report is based on work carried out in the three churches and touches on improvements or repairs made in 2016:

#### St Catherine's

- New power point installed in Nave;
- Hall heating repaired;
- Tree condition survey carried out, including the approved removal of 2 trees;
- Work to roof and guttering.

#### St John's

- Repairs to flat roof over office
- Spire work completed;
- 2 new window guards in place;
- Tree survey carried out.

#### St Luke's

- Heating boiler repaired – new motors and keypad;
- Served installed (*Faculty granted*);
- Replacement of halogen lighting with LED fittings;
- New wrought iron fence to rear boundary wall;
- Ground maintenance work to west of church hall;
- Radiators removed and floors/walls made good (*faculty granted*);
- Stations of the Cross re-positioned (*faculty granted*).

The Lettings of the church halls at St Catherine's and St Luke's, and the interior space at St John's continued at a very satisfactory level in 2016. The majority of rentals are long-term repeating rentals. St Catherine's hall is let out to private hirers and it is fully booked across the calendar. At St John's, Recovery Cymru and Kumon Maths have long term contracts and private hiring of the church is made by choirs and concert groups. St Luke's leases its café to Innovate Trust and Greenshoots Catering while the Hall is used by DICE, Weightwatchers, Hazel's School of Dance, the Urdd, Munda Dance, Zumba, Keep Fit, Yoga, African Drumming, Karate, Canton Townswomen's Guild,

Meditation and Richard's Ballroom Dancing School. We also let our halls for some special events, such as family and private parties, funeral receptions, seminars and training conferences.

The Serbian Orthodox Church continues its longstanding use of St Luke's for their major festivals.

St Catherine's is able to maximise the use of its well-kept grounds in its regular fund-raising activities which in 2016 included a Bonfire & Bangers evening on the eve of All Saints' Day.

St John's has maintained its successful programme of monthly lunches, table-top sales and the regular concert and recital programme.

There is an online Google calendar which is used to track all the bookings and to provide information about events and about availability of our facilities. Despite the increased lettings activity, it has been possible to accommodate all our own parish events, including fairs, parish lunches, Living Faith/Bible Study group, Messy Church, schools' concerts and other general social events.

Overall the lettings income has remained good, despite raising the hourly rate to hirers.

### **Outreach and Mission**

With outreach we extend beyond the parish to help those in need in our community and the wider world through donations of money, clothing, food and various other needed items; along with volunteering our time and offering the use of our buildings. Over the course of 2016 the Benefice has supported the food bank, Ty Bronna, the Paradise Run and the Gateway School in India, Water Aid and the Archbishop's Fund for Children. Innovate Trust which provides training opportunities for those with learning difficulties, benefits from subsidised letting for Park View Café. There are regular donations to Christian Aid.

### **Schools**

There are regular visits from primary schools to our Church buildings and the annual schools' concerts in St John's attract large audiences. Several members of our congregations serve as School Governors in Primary schools within and without the Benefice. There are particularly close links with the Bishop of Llandaff High School, a Church member is a Foundation Governor and the Rector is Chair of Governors.

### **Electoral Roll**

The number on the electoral roll of the Benefice at the time of printing this Report is 148.

### **Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings and Funerals**

We celebrate the fact that 15 children were initiated into Christ's Body through the Sacrament of **Holy Baptism**.

We celebrate the fact that the following 11 parishioners received the Sacrament of Confirmation:

We celebrate the fact that 13 new relationships have been blessed through the Sacrament of **Holy Matrimony**.

We remember those who have died and now rejoice **in God's nearer presence**, "in a greater light and upon another shore". During 2016, the Benefice clergy officiated at some 103 funerals of

Canton residents. 23 of these took place in our Church buildings and included those of faithful church members.

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council I commend this year's report to the Annual Vestry Meeting.

Canon Mark Preece  
*Rector of Canton*  
Easter 2017

***The Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC and the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016 now follow.***