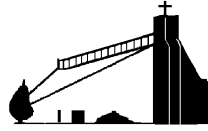


St Anne's Church, West Heath



Church Wardens' Report for 2024

2024 was another busy year for St Anne's and we welcomed new members into the congregation. The post of vicar of St Anne's, Rector of St Laurence and Oversight Minister was advertised twice but there were no suitable applicants so for a second year we continued to be in a period of interregnum (a time without our own vicar). This meant that the workload and the responsibilities continued to be demanding for the church warden.

To make sure everyone was kept well informed about what was happening at St Anne's I continued to write a monthly 'Church Warden's Update' which included photographs of events and was distributed at church and to members no longer able to get to church as well as being put on the website.

Janet stepped down as Church Warden at the end of April 2024 and for a short period Elsie Worrall took on the role until family commitments meant she had to step down.

Joan Ayre retired as a Reader during the church's birthday service in October. Bishop Michael wrote her a letter of thanks and made her a Reader Emeritus.

Chrissie Price successfully completed a course organised for the first time by Birmingham Diocese and became a Children's Worker at the end of 2024.

Janet Bradley continued to lead the Pastoral team and organised monthly team meetings to ensure that we continued to offer support to vulnerable members of the congregation throughout the year. Chrissie Price and Joan Ayre have continued to develop our links with three local care homes and continued to hold monthly services or Bible study groups in each Care Home although some visits were cancelled due to Covid.

Church Leaders' meetings were held once a month to plan and review church services and I continued to book vicars, lay preachers and readers to lead our services. We also joined other churches for some of our services e.g. Christmas Eve Communion. Thursday morning services in St. Francis Chapel became mainly morning prayer services, however with the support of visiting clergy we tried to organise a Thursday morning holy communion service once a month.

Although St Anne's became part of an Oversight Ministry group with St Laurence's, St John's, St David's and St Bartholomew's this did not really develop very much as there was no Oversight Minister to take the lead, however, the churches did share information about what was going on in their parishes.

I would like to thank the PCC who have helped me complete some of the tasks church wardens have to do. I would also like to thank everyone who volunteered in whatever capacity during 2024 as your help is really appreciated and enables St Anne's to run effectively.

Georgina Arnold
April 2025