

**PARISH CHURCH
OF ST. LEONARD
DOWNHAM & TWISTON**



**MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
&
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**
These meetings will be held on Sunday, 24th April 2022

All Parishioners are eligible to attend and will be most welcome

**1. MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
(THE VESTRY MEETING)**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of Meeting held on 9th May 2021.
3. Election of the Church Wardens

2. ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th May 2021. (Available at the meeting)
3. To receive the Annual Report 2021 of the Parish Church (attached on the following pages)
4. To receive the Audited Accounts for the Year Ending 31st December 2021 (to be presented at the meeting)
5. Election of Two Deanery Synod Representatives (Term of 3 years 2020, 2023, 2026, etc.).
6. Election of the Members of the Parochial Church Council
7. Election of the Sides men and women
8. Chairman's Remarks
9. Any other business



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2021

Priest in Charge: The Revd Andy Froud
Hon Secretary and address for correspondence
Mr P M Naylor, Black Moss Barn, Blacko, BB9 6LE

Membership of the PCC – 2021

Ex Officio

The Lord Clitheroe – **Patron**

The Church Wardens

The Hon Ralph Assheton, Mrs Philippa McFall, Mr I Walton

The Deanery Synod Representatives (Elected at the annual meeting 2020 for three years)

Mrs Philippa McFall

Mrs Anja Wallace

Elected

The Lady Clitheroe

Mr A Herron

Mr B Lewis (Hon Treasurer)

Mrs B. Lewis

Mr. T. McLean

Mr Paul Mercer

Mr P. Naylor (Hon Secretary)

Mrs M. Roskell

Mrs K. Walmsley

Mrs A. Wallace

The P.C.C. consults together on matters of general concern and importance to the Parish. The functions of Council are to:

- Promote to the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.
- Consider matters of concern to the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest.
- Make known and put into effect the provisions of the Diocesan or Deanery synod.
- Give advice to the synods.
- Raise matters with the synod.
- Take responsibility for the financial affairs of the Church.
- Take care of the Church fabric and the Church Yard.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LEONARD

We, the Parishioners of Downham and Twiston, aim to serve God in the furtherance of His Kingdom on Earth through effective pastoral ministry

We attempt to achieve this in our contribution to the quality of life in the Parish by:
Fostering an atmosphere of warm welcome in church

Use of the liturgy, our material and human resources in a way which enables the whole community, including children, to worship Him

Showing pastoral care in our neighbourhood

Sponsorship of, and personal interest in, village activities

Showing practical concern for mission and need outside our own Parish.

Having an ever-open and well-kept Church building

The Electoral Roll of St Leonard's Church 2020/21

Membership at the end of 2020 - 35 Members

There were three members added and two who moved away

Membership at the end of 2021 - 36 Members

Electors are those qualified to attend and to vote at the Annual Parochial Church meeting where elections take place for Church Wardens, Parish Representatives for the Deanery Synod and the Parochial Church Council.

A new roll is prepared every six years. Renewals are now due in 2025, 2031, etc.

In the years between renewals, revisions are prepared for presentation in the annual report of the Parish Church.

The Business of the P.C.C.

Mr Philip Naylor Hon Secretary

Due to the restrictions in place as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic the PCC met only once in the year 2021 and that was for the annual meeting on 9th May 2021. Contact was maintained using email and telephone communications.

Ten members were elected at the annual meeting; four members sit ex-officio making fourteen members in total.

The Newsletter continues to promote the mission and activities of the Church and also provides information about the Village Hall and other local events, adding to the variety of content. The newsletter is delivered free of charge, by volunteer distributors, to almost every home in the parish, a few by post.

With regret the fundraising concert, which was beginning to be a regular, annual event, had to be cancelled in both 2020 and 2021. Arrangements have been agreed with the Lancaster Singers to transfer this concert to June 2022.

Main business items of the Council in the year 2021 were:

1. Arrangements for services, including:
 - 1.1. Continuation of special family services, including Mothering Sunday and Christingle.
 - 1.2 Arrangements for other special services, including the Assheton Sermon, given by Reverend Mark Williams, Rector of the Bowland Benefice.
2. Membership of the Wider Church through:
 - 2.1. Representation at the Whalley Deanery Synod (Virtually)
 - 2.2. Joint worship within the United Benefice,
 - 2.3 Sharing in a team ministry with Chatburn Christ Church and Clitheroe St Mary Magdalene
 - 2.4. Mission 2026
3. Maintenance and Improvement of the Fabric of the Church Building.
 - 3.1 Working through the recommendations of the Quinquennial Report
 - 3.2 Completing a technical inspection of the Bell Tower and Bells
 - 3.3 Undertaking electrical Testing
 - 3.4 Cleaning Rota
 - 3.5 St Leonard's tide Clean Up
4. Stewardship of the Finances of the church including:
 - 4.1. Scrutiny of accounts
5. Supporting the Ribble Valley Food Bank and The Children's Society.

Our Worship

The Revd Andy Froud, Priest in Charge

This has been another turbulent twelve months for our nation: in the face of the coronavirus pandemic. For the first time since 1208 church doors in England were locked. Here at St Leonard's we have continued to worship, when circumstances, government rules and health advice have allowed.

Our choir continues to provide a wonderful lead to the worship of the church, even though congregational singing is not allowed.

A special thanks to our Wardens for their extra work during this time in ensuring that we meet the often changing Covid 19 regulations. It is very much appreciated by us all.

And lastly but by no means least a thank you to the faithful who continue to worship here regularly in joyful anticipation of heaven.

Yours in Christ

Andy

The Music

Choir Mistress - Mrs Kirsteen Walmsley

The last twelve months seem to have held as many surprises as the first 12 months of lockdown. Who would have thought two years on we would only now be starting to get back to anything like normality?

Thank you so much to Di for your faithful attendance and invaluable support week after week – the choir (albeit just the two of us) would not be the same without you!

It was an absolute pleasure to have a small taste of normality and join in with Carols on the village green in December and the abridged 9 lessons and carols later that month. Hopefully 2022 will see things start to move towards/ back to normal with a few weddings booked in for the church, Hymns on the Green to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee on Sunday 5th June at 3pm and discussions around more music in church taking place.

If anyone is interested in joining the choir – you will be more than welcome at any time, please just ask!

Sidesmen and Women for the year 2021

Mrs Barbara Lewis
Mr Brian Lewis
Mrs Philippa McFall
Mr Ian Walton
Mr Alan Herron

Mr Tom Mc Lean
Mrs Eileen Parker
Mrs Anya Wallace
Mrs Kate Herron

From the Parish Registers – 2021

Holy Matrimony – 3

29th May 2021	Adam THORNBUR and Eleanor JACKSON
28th August 2021	Roy DENT and Kerry WRIGGLESWORTH
2nd Sept 2021	Alistair John FOTHREINGHAM and Rachel Emma DUTTON

Holy Baptism – 1

9th May 2021	Eira Eloise CORR
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Christian Funeral – 1

11 th Feb 2021	Kathleen BROWN
13 th April 2021	Kathrine Elizabeth SWARBRICK
August	Clifford ROBERTS

The Fabric of the Church Building

The Hon. Ralph Assheton, Church Warden

Work was undertaken to repair the wooden inner belfry louvres, in order to make them more rain and Jackdaw proof.

The sheep once more grazed the Church Yard on a number of occasions during the year, thus saving volunteer time and reducing the use of petrol.

Once again, a stalwart group helped to tidy the Church Yard for the annual St Leonard's Day tidy up. In particular the Lime tree suckers were pruned, a "Topple Test" of headstones carried out and the removal of wall growing ivy.

Jayne Feibel and Margorie Taylor have kindly taken on the daily task of unlocking the Church gate, whilst Philippa McFall has continued her daily door locking duties.

A wooden bicycle stand has been placed by the Tower. It has yet to see much use but will hopefully make cyclists feel more catered for.

The chairs in Church were kept in their "socially distanced" layout for the year, which helped to make the building feel safe for all.

The five yearly inspection of the lightening conductor was carried out and it was found to be in full working order.

Grateful thanks to all of those who have helped to keep the fabric of our beautiful building in such good order.

The Whalley Deanery Synod

Parish Representatives: Mrs Philippa McFall. Mrs Anja Wallace

The Deanery Synod Representative Philippa McFall has not attended any meetings of the Deanery Synod, which were suspended due to Covid-19 pandemic.

The Finances of the Parish Church

Hon Treasurer Mr Brian Lewis

In 2021 we saw an excellent increase in the overall income.

With over £2600 in the open collection together with £1100 from Gift Aided donations, plus £600 extra from other donations such as Weddings etc.

This made for a total increase of £4300 for the year when compared to the previous year of 2020.

Looking forward to 2022, we will face increased costs, which will include the parish share, electricity, oil, electrical testing and the quinquennial report.

With the number of Weddings in 2022 looking good, together with the forthcoming concert and the continued support of the Congregation, there is a good chance could break even.

Ringling Report

The Hon. Ralph Assheton -Tower Captain

Sadly, the combination of Covid restrictions and then the discovery of a crack in one of the bell frames meant that ringing only took place on a couple of occasions. This was however enough to demonstrate that the repairs carried out in 2020 on the bell clappers, wooden frames and bearings has made them easier to ring

The bells do feel easier to ring after the replacement of the clappers on the eve of Lockdown 1. Paul Mercer has done a fantastic job of painting all the bell frame metalwork, mending a crack in the metal frame of one bell, mending a "rope guide" on another bell and creating a new rope guide on yet another.

Parish Newsletter

The Newsletter is published by the PCC monthly and is delivered to every house in the Parish and some copies are sent further afield to friends with a continuing interest in what goes on around here.

The PCC is grateful that the Newsletter is sponsored by individual members, companies and Village Groups. It continues to advertise and report on events and items of interest as well as promoting the Mission of the Parish Church of St Leonard.