

*All Saints Church, Staplehurst, Kent*  
Diocese of Canterbury

**Annual Report  
and  
Financial Statements  
of the  
Parochial Church Council**

**for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007**

*Incumbent:*  
**Revd. Gill Calver  
The New Rectory  
High Street  
Staplehurst  
TN12 OBJ**

*Bankers:*

<b>Lloyds Bank 'Woodside' Cranbrook TN17 3DJ TN17 3DJ</b>	<b>National Westminster Bank 3 High Street Maidstone ME14 1XU</b>
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*Independent Examiner:*  
**Mr. Rory Silkin  
1Vine House  
Staplehurst  
TN12 OAR**

# PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ALL SAINTS, STAPLEHURST ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2007/8

## Background

All Saints Staplehurst has the responsibility for promoting in the ecclesiastical parish of Staplehurst, the whole mission of the Church. It also has the responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the ancient Parish Church and the Parish Rooms. Since 28<sup>th</sup> August 2002 the Rev Gill Calver has been the Rector of All Saints.

## Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year, the following members served on the PCC:-

Incumbent	Rev Gill Calver
Wardens	Alaine Summers and Norman Wallis
Secretary	Sylvia Lade
Representative on Diocesan Synod	Sylvia Lade
Representatives on Deanery Synod	Val Wallis, Sylvia Lade, Kevin Fulcher, John Stewart
Elected Members	Nicholas Wells - Vice chair Patrick Harrisson, Treasurer
	Steve Bennett, Anne Brenchley, Sheila Brooker, Audrey Bullock, Sonja Drew, Paul Gammon, Jo Green, Karen Kember , Mary Shaw, Pat Sherlock, Tug Tugwell, Colin Whatmore.
Ex-officio	Lesley Whitwood - Reader
Co-Opted Member	Marion Whatmore, Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

## Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. The committees are as follows:

### *Standing Committee*

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

### *Buildings and Grounds Committee*

Attends to matters relating to buildings and fabric, the churchyard and Parish Rooms.

### *Charities Committee*

Deals with the PCC's charitable giving, both at home and overseas.

### *Deanery Group*

Meets to discuss and implement issues and directives for the Deanery Synod

### *Education Committee*

Has responsibility for the ongoing educational programme for adults and young people in the Church.

### *Finance Committee*

Oversees the general financial position by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and coordinating the review of planned giving through TRIO campaigns.

### *Magazine Committee*

Has the responsibility for the production of the monthly Parish Magazine, together with other publicity matters.

*Social Events committee*

Coordinates social events

*Social responsibility*

All matters relating to the social and community concerns of the Church.

*Churches Together in Staplehurst*

Meet to arrange service and other events held jointly with Staplehurst's other churches.

*Worship Committee*

Monitors the pattern of worship of the Church and suggests changes where appropriate.

**Church Attendance**

There are 131 people on the Church Electoral Roll and the Usual Sunday Attendance is 128 adults and 6 children.

**Review of the Year**

All Saints stands on the hill at the heart of the village of Staplehurst and continues its ministry to members of church and village.

Although having a central church tradition, we also try to provide helpful acts of worship for those used to other styles. Four times a year we celebrate a High Mass and one evening each month our praise band leads us in a very free form of worship- preceded by coffee and doughnuts.

Members of our ministry team and congregation are involved in many village clubs and associations, as well as in our school, at our residential homes, medical centre and on our Parish Council.

Our youth groups span the ages 0-30 years and are well planned by our Youth Ministry Co-ordinator, a part-time paid post, but one which easily fills rather more than an average working week.

Last year we baptised 26 babies and young people, took one thanksgiving service for the birth of a baby; 21 funerals and 9 weddings.

We have run various courses this year, including a 12 week Bible Study on Philippians (held weekly on both a morning and evening session). We have also taken a monthly slot to study "The Ten Commandments" by Joan Chittister and our lent course was led by Canon Clare Edwards from Canterbury Cathedral.

Our self-supporting and stipendiary curate left us during 2007 to run their own parishes, so it is good to see two other members starting their training last autumn as a Reader and non-Stipendiary Priest.

Last year's focus on fundraising and our Gift Day enabled us to respond to the challenges of our financial position. We continue to grapple with concerns over a predicted shortfall at the end of the coming year. Consistent generous giving by those of us, who see ourselves as members of the church, has to be the only way we can effectively continue to serve our village in the years ahead. We are determined not to become a church whose prime focus is fund-raising activity.