



## Ministry Report January 2021

Happy New Year and welcome to the first ministry report of 2021, though admittedly there is not much to report that is substantially different to the last few reports.

### Online Ministry

Following our online Christmas and Epiphany celebrations, the ministry team were grateful for feedback (overwhelmingly positive) for the services we offered. Many of the team have worked hard at adjusting liturgy, choosing and preparing appropriate music, seeking to offer something of our usual Christmas celebrations. The Online Pageant put together by Ruth and the Advent Sequence and Christmas Carols by David and the Choir were particularly well done and very much appreciated. Our Christmas Zoom services and Livestreamed Midnight Mass also had a number of hardworking and thoughtful contributors, including Bill and our Liturgy Group. Special mention must go to David Stratkauskas and Karen Coverett for all they have done and continue to do in making our online worship work so well, we couldn't do what we do without them.

### The Grounds

Garside signs have been contacted and are preparing layouts for signage for the Garden on the North Side of the Church and Memorial Garden, those designs will be passed on to property for their approval when they are received. I have contacted Steve Woolrich to ask for further conversation as to what he could offer us in the way of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) consulting, and to make a proposal. Joan Huzar did consult with a Landscaping Contractor regarding opening up the grounds, but that is on hold.

For those who do not know, I received communication from the Court Board that no changes to the Garden would be supported without fencing, so we have found ourselves at an impasse and no further work has been undertaken.

### Annual Meetings

We will hear more about our own Parish Annual Meeting at our PC (Commonly called Vestry), but the summary is that the Synod Office has pointed to a regulation in Canons that will allow us to meet virtually for our forthcoming Annual Meeting, though we will have to investigate ways in which we can undertake voting,

This year the Court Board Annual Meeting will take place separately from our Parish AGM, and as such I would encourage all Parishioners, especially those of us on Parish Council, to attend that meeting even though it will take place separately. More details will be coming soon.

### Week of Prayer For Christian Unity

In years past we have engaged in a variety of ways in this important week, which is taking place now. 18-25 January, this year we have decided that it will be the theme for all of our daily prayers shared at noon via our Website, please watch, and please pray for the Church.



*The Anglican Church of*  
**St John The Divine**



**Keeping up communication**

My previous surveys of whether people would like more times to connect virtually had little response, if you have any ideas of what we might do, please do contact me directly. We don't know what the Province will say about physical gathering in February, but it is likely that virtual connection will be our main way of connecting for the coming months, I would encourage us to be creative about what we might do.

With thanks for our partnership in the Gospel,

**Alastair**