

Mission Action Plan

St Leonard's Church Streatham

Our Vision:



'Faith, Hope and Love in the heart of Streatham'

Our Priorities:

'Following Jesus in loving God and neighbour'

We express this specifically:

- **In worship**
- **In our relationships**
- **In our concern for others**

Our Mission Action Plan:

At our Parish Vision Day in June 2018, we identified the priorities that we would make our focus for action over the **next three years.**

Our priorities for action fall under three main headings:

1. Worship

‘We want our worship to be accessible, welcoming and inclusive of all’.

Actions taken 2018 - 2019

- Improvements to worship space – new chairs Dec 2018
- Installation of ramp to chancel –Summer 2018
- Replaced Sound System – Autumn 2018
- Improvement to heating - Autumn 2018
- New Website with guidelines for enquirers and new worshippers Summer 2018
- Joined Inclusive church - Jan 2018

‘We want to express our gratitude to God by offering the best of who we are and the gifts we have in our worship’.

Actions 2018 - 2019

- New informal singing offered after Sunday 10am Eucharist Feb 2018
- Inviting instrumentalists to play at 10am Eucharist & Taizé services - Ongoing
- Encouraging children to sing specific pieces at services. – Ongoing
- Recruitment of new intercessors and training – planned for spring/ summer 2019
- Introduced – ‘Come and Sing’ intergenerational weekday singing open to all.

‘We want to hear what God is saying to us and be open and responsive’.

Actions 2018 - 2019

- Worship Audit during Feb 2019 – collated results in March 2019 – small working party collated results.
- Implementation of responses to be explored April – August. Adopting any changes Sept 2019.

2. Those who are especially vulnerable

‘We want to ensure that those who are vulnerable among us, both close at hand and in the wider world, are noticed and supported’.

‘We want the vulnerable in our community to experience God’s love through us’.

Actions 2018 – 2019

Through our partnership with Streatham Senior Connections we have:

- Hosted ‘Holiday at Home’ to help reduce loneliness and isolation among vulnerable elderly people in Streatham. Funded has been offered for 2019 Holiday at Home.
- Offered Mindful Movement Classes for older people providing exercise, mindfulness and friendship to older people. 25+ in attendance.
- Collected and distributed gifts for families in Streatham in economic difficulty, to give to their families without cost at Christmas time.

- Through our Freedom Club we have provided friendship, outings, worship and activities for the older members of the church and their guests regularly throughout the year. Christmas Party attracting 70+ people.
- Our Pastoral support group has ensured that vulnerable members of the church have been visited and supported in times of need or sickness.
- We collected gifts for the Homeless at Christmas.
- Ongoing support of the local food bank and Spires Centre for the homeless. Introduction of Spires Collection box in narthex.
- Through the provision of a grant from the Henry Smith fund we have supported several families in specific financial need in practical ways.
- New Year 2019 – Guest speakers from X2 of our link Charities: 1. CEO Spires Centre. 2. Fr Mike Todd, The Children's Society.
- Raised funds for Bishops Lent Appeal and Christian Aid Disaster Fund/ Week.

3. Future Generations

'We want to ensure that local children and young people receive from us the nurture and care they need to grow in faith, hope and love'.

'We want to share the story of God's love with the children in our community and beyond'.

'We want to strengthen our relationship with our church school and other schools in our neighbourhood'.

Actions 2018 – 2019

- Open the Book team visits our church school throughout the year bring Bible stories to life for the children. Integrated some OTB into our All Age Worship.
- Toddler Church is held every Monday morning and has grown in number by 30% in 2018 and four baptisms have happened as a result of Toddler Church contact.
- 5 School Governors are regular worshippers at St Leonard's.
- We have conducted 9 baptisms of babies and children in 2018.
- We prepared 8 children to receive first Holy Communion Easter 2018. Preparing 4 for 2019.
- We prepared 4 young people for Confirmation Autumn 2018. Preparing 3 adults for baptism 2019.
- Our Sunday School numbers have grown, and we have responded by moving to two aged group related classes – 4-9 & 9+. (Our numbers of registered children have doubled in the last 16 months).
- There is energy to start a Youth Group on Friday evenings. Planning is in process.
- We have 7 + children attending Taizé service and include them in worship though playing instruments and reading/ prayers.
- Spring 2019 we are building a purpose built creche for U4's in our North Porch to provide for the needs of our youngest members and their families.
- Brownies / Guides are now attending at Harvest, Mothering Sunday and Pentecost. They participate fully in worship and their families attend with them.

- Family Bonfire event – In November we hosted a community event which attracted large numbers of people from the Parish, including lots of families. It was a great 'first contact' event at which many who came had not been inside St Leonard's before.

Looking ahead

Parish Vision Day 2019

On **July 20th** we shall review our MAP at our Parish Vision day using the celebrate, review, discern & plan process. From there we will continue to develop the priorities we have set in place for the year ahead. We are, of course open to hearing the prompting of the Holy Spirit to embrace new or fresh priorities and so we shall be praying!

