

PCC Report 2021

Services

Because of the Coronavirus pandemic and a lockdown at the beginning of the year, a reduced number of services were held in church during 2021. These took place from May onwards. During the lockdown, Rev'd Paula held weekly online services on Sunday morning and details of the Diocese Church at Home services were advertised so that people could attend on line if they chose to. The church remained locked from the start of the lockdown in January until services resumed in May. It was then open every day again.

Our Village worship service continued to be the best attended of our services and numbers attending remained fairly stable although still lower than prior to the pandemic. This was despite the fact that refreshments were only provided again in the Autumn. Those who did attend were pleased to have the opportunity to chat over a cup of coffee and a croissant again. Thanks to all who helped with these services; to the planning team, who chose hymns and readings; to the readers and to the PCC who worked together to ensure the services could be carried out safely.

The Harvest Festival service was held on a Sunday morning instead of Saturday evening as had previously been the case. It was followed with home made cakes, tea and coffee and a decent number attended (18 adults and four children). This was in place of a harvest supper, as it was deemed too soon to hold a supper as cases of the corona virus were still quite high in numbers. The Remembrance Day service went ahead with the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in attendance. The Scouts etc. processed through the village first and led the congregation into the churchyard. The service took place outside to enable social distancing and was led by Rev'd Paula.

It was clear that the normal carol service would not be able to go ahead again in 2021 so Christmas carols were sung in Main Street outside the village hall. The hall and pathway to the church were decorated with fairy lights and lanterns, and the church was decorated with flowers. People were encouraged to go and have a look at them. Mulled wine and warm mince pies were served, and despite being a foggy, damp evening, quite a good number came along to sing (32 adults and 8 children). The Christmas Day service was held in Water Stratford this year so Turweston did not have another service until the new year.

The Holy Communion services that were held continued to have a small but committed congregation. Children are always welcomed at these services. The cup continued not to be shared and just the wafer was provided.

Fund Raising and Finances

Because of the pandemic, no fund raising was able to take place. This, together with the reduction in collections during services, had a significant negative effect on church funds (see finance report for full details).

Flowers and Cleaning

Many thanks go to all the people on the flower rota who keep the Church looking so nice. A particular thank you is extended for the lovely arrangements produced at Christmas. The church now has a cleaner again and a very big thank you is extended to the Friends of

Turweston Church for funding this. A particular thank you goes to Penny Kirkland for organizing both the cleaner and the flowers.

From the registers

During the year one funeral with burial, one graveside funeral and burial and one memorial service was held. There were no baptisms or weddings.

Margaret Tilley
Churchwarden