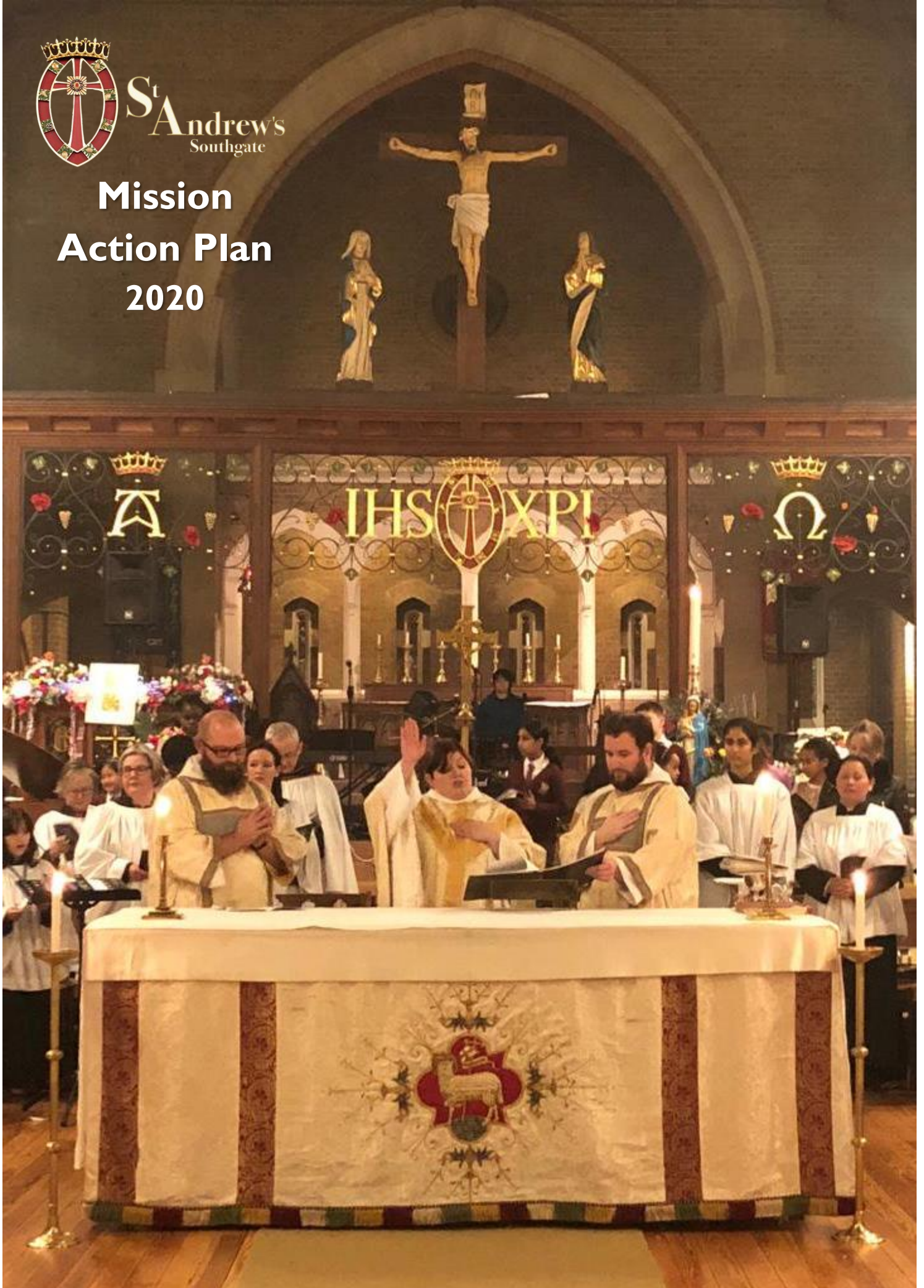




St Andrew's
Southgate

Mission Action Plan 2020



.Vicar's Foreword

I am delighted to introduce the Mission Action Plan for the coming year. It has been formulated after considerable prayer, thought and discussion. I believe it is a genuinely shared vision of what we treasure most and where we should place our energy in our mission and ministry at St Andrew' Southgate.

One of the most remarkable things about St Andrew's is the number of volunteers that give so much time and energy to the life of the church. We are proud of the huge amount of activity that happens here but we are also aware of the limits of our energy and the risks of spreading ourselves too thinly. It is very encouraging to have a MAP that focusses on resourcing, getting right, and nurturing the groups and activities we already have and in turn ensuring that our business does not distract us from the prayer, discipleship and worship which re-energising and supports us in this work.

We are also acutely aware that in a very busy community centre there can be a risk of looking inward, missing the people on the fringes and allowing those who are out of sight to become out of mind. The PCC is determined to improve communication, lay ministry and pastoral responsibility within the whole congregation to ensure that we can minister to all who come to find God through St Andrew's.

This Mission Action Plan aims to set out clearly what we hope to achieve over the next year within the context of our shared vision for St Andrew's. Input is invited and welcomed and we hope every member of the church will read this document and engage positively with what is set out in the plan. This is a working and living document and will continue to develop to meet the changing needs of the church and community as we seek to offer the unchanging good news of Jesus Christ in Southgate.

Fr Edward Turner

Summary of Profile

The Parish of St Andrew, Southgate, is situated in suburban north London, towards the end of the Piccadilly Line, which provides easy access to Central London. The adult population of the Parish is just over 9,000. It is of low deprivation. The majority live in privately owned or privately rented accommodation. Only 14% live in local authority houses or flats. Most of the parish lies within the London Borough of Enfield with part of the Parish in the London Borough of Barnet.

The population of Southgate is from a wide range of social, ethnic and economic backgrounds. According to the 2011 National Census, 54% of the population are from a non-British background, the Church Urban Fund now estimates the figure to be 56%. Only 49% of the population of the Parish declared themselves to be Christian, a decline from 58% in 2001 with 26% either not stating their religion or declaring no religion. There has been an increase in those stating "other", Islam being the most significant (15%). There are significant Greek and Cypriot communities living in the Parish. There are also two synagogues (one Liberal and one Orthodox).

The most significant poverty-related issue in this parish is the relatively high rate of lone parenthood. The next most significant issue is the relatively high rate of child poverty.

St Andrew's is sited at the top of the main shopping street and next to a large ASDA supermarket. St Andrew's prominent location attracts newcomers to the area looking for a church.

St Andrew's has a current electoral roll of 164. There is an unusually wide range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds represented in the congregation. There is also a healthy socio-economic mix. A further strength is a good gender and age balance and we have families who bring young children. Our tradition is catholic.

Welcoming

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.
Hebrews 13.2

We cherish being a welcoming and inclusive church, embracing the great diversity in our area, a place where no one should feel they are a stranger. Being an open church is very important to us and being prepared to welcome and engage with visitors whether pastorally or with practical help where possible. We are proud of our commitment to children's ministry including our children's corner, Sunday School, STAGE and LOGOS for teenagers. We endeavour to continue these activities to a high standard and keep our children's facilities well maintained and with good resources. We believe children should be an integral part of our church family not an added extra!

Over the next year we will:

- Continue to repair and smarten up our buildings and make them the best we can.
- Keep our buildings secure.
- Create a "Who's Who board".
- Improve the information around the church particularly regarding planned giving, fund raising, appeals and donations.
- Decide where to have more built-in donation boxes/electronic card readers.
- Tidy up our welcome areas and improve the information there.

Recognising the need to be safe whilst having an open church, and being welcoming to all whilst insisting on mutual respect, we will:

- Create "safe zones" in the church which are authorised people only.
- Create and display a mutual respect policy.
- Install a quick access locking system at the top of the stairs.
- Initiate a system of lanyards to denote volunteers/visitors/DBS clearance and a signing in and out system.
- Install a digital camera and affix relevant notices.

Nurturing

By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

Proverbs 24:3-4

It is important to us to have uplifting worship of a good quality at the heart of all that we do not only to bring us together as one family to worship God but also to help grow our congregation. We want fun, food and friendship to be hallmarks of our church and hospitality to be a fundamental part of our corporate life. We will continue to hold regular social and fundraising events and regularly review them. We recognise how blessed we are to have so many volunteers and we seek to take joy in each other's gifts, encouraging one another and promoting lay and ordained vocations. We will continue to run Lent Courses, the Emmaus/Confirmation Course for adults and children and lay led Bible study.

Over the next year we will:

- Focus on administration and “getting the basics done well” by increasing volunteer help and/or by using more paid staff.
- Better communicate and publicise our nurture groups and courses, putting discipleship and learning at the centre of our inward mission.
- Create a pastoral network to encourage better communication with the housebound and people on the fringe, whilst where appropriate, keeping contact with those who stop attending.
- Support the clergy more through lay lead initiatives.
- Increase commitment to stewardship
- Grow the congregation

Reaching Out

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.
Matthew 5.16

As a community we are most proud of and most energised by our outreach and social action. We feel that our work through the Winter Night Shelter speaks incredibly powerfully of the love of Jesus Christ and the dignity of every human as made in the image of God. A key part of our mission is to nurture a family of faith that is diverse, vibrant and where no one feels like they are a stranger and which reaches out to the needy and the vulnerable. We recognise that our Toddler Group is appreciated by many as a place of safety, security and acceptance. Likewise the Wednesday Tea Room has become a great resource for people to connect during the week and watch out for each other. We will ensure that both these groups continue to thrive and grow. We are also proud to host help groups like the Anxiety Group and the Memory Café.

Over the next year we will:

- Finish the Recording Studio so that we can explore how it may be a resource for engaging with teenagers.
- Refine and improve our management of the Winter Night Shelter.
- Build on all our existing groups.
- Communicate more fully with the community about groups and activities using traditional methods, but also improving our online footprint and digital effectiveness.
- Ensure that Emmaus is publicised as an explorer course for all comers.

Challenging Ourselves

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1.9

We will be willing to step out in faith and not shy away from making changes or taking calculated risks if we feel that God is calling us to something new. We will be responsive to the changing needs and situations in our society and adapt our mission and ministry if necessary to reflect this. We will be happy to experiment creatively and humbly enough to recognise when things don't work and to build constructively on failures as well as successes.

Over the next year we will:

- Create a plan for the year so everyone is aware of all events and better planning can be in place.
- Identify leaders for every project, event and activity,
- Review all events which have been done in the past.
- Consider our carbon footprint and become more ecologically friendly.
- Challenge ourselves to be relevant and address the divisions within society.
- Concentrate on the projects in hand!

Capital Vision 2020 is our collective vision for the next seven years. It was adopted by Synod in March 2013 and launched in front of 2,000 people at St Paul's Cathedral in June 2013. Capital Vision comprises three major themes. To be more **confident** in speaking and living the Gospel of Christ , more **compassionate** in serving the community with the love of God the Father and more **creative** in reaching new people and places in the power of the Spirit. It is expected that there will be a new vision for the Diocese of London soon and this MAP may be re-worked next year to fit in with this.

This Mission Action Plan was envisioned by the Parochial Church Council and compiled on its behalf in the Parish Office in December 2019 and will be reviewed at our Autumn PCC Away Day, September 2021

Vicar: Fr Edward Turner
Curate: Mthr Elizabeth Brown
Church Wardens: Janice Johnson & Pennie Bongomin
PCC Secretary: Pam Dean
Safeguarding Officer: Anne Anderson

