



# All Saints Witley

Parish Profile

Autumn 2017



 **All Saints Witle**  
**DIocese of GUILDFORD**  
[www.allsaintswitle.org.uk](http://www.allsaintswitle.org.uk)

**SERVICES**

**Sundays 8:00am** Daily Communion  
 10:30am Holy Eucharist  
 11:30am Young People  
 11:45am All Saints  
 12:00pm All Saints (1st & 2nd)

**1st Sundays 8:00am** Daily Communion  
 11:15am All Saints Together  
 11:45am Holy Communion

The Church is open daily for private prayer.  
 For details of other services please see notices in the porch  
 and Reception. Welcome to everyone please contact the Vicar

**NOTICES**

**HAD**

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WELCOME

Welcome to the Parish Profile for All Saints, Witley. Since you are reading this, we hope that you are **considering joining us to carry out God's work in this lovely part of Surrey.**

We are a strong, supportive and established community with a clear sense of purpose and mission in ministry. Over the last couple of years we have made huge progress in developing a mission for our church. We are now beginning a vacancy period caused by the unexpected early move of our last incumbent (to fulfil a need elsewhere in the Deanery). Work on embedding the work done so far will continue during the vacancy and we are looking forward to continuing to develop the mission with our next incumbent.

We are looking for someone with energy and commitment who will share our dedication to and love **for this church, place and community and who will help, guide and lead us to fulfil God's purpose here.**

All Saints Witley PCC, Autumn 2017

Our vision is for All Saints Church, Witley to be the beating heart of a community filled with the love of God and for God.

Our mission is:

Community: to engage with the village in ways that allow people to connect with God; to listen to local needs; and to become an agent of change, particularly through hearts and minds

Church: to encourage growth through welcoming, accessible and inspirational services; to continue to preserve and enhance the church building to facilitate worship for future generations; to build on what we do well; and to promote long-term sustainable leadership

Adults: to grow and nurture mature, contemplative and active faith

Youth: to affirm, inspire and settle young people and children in their own faith.

## ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE





# THE PARISH

## ALL SAINTS WITLEY

Witley is situated 9 miles south west of Guildford, Surrey, on the southern slopes of the North Downs. This part of the county is semi-rural with pleasant undulating countryside and significant woodlands. The parish also includes the villages of Wormley and Brook and the hamlets of Sandhills and Enton.

The parish has a population of about 4,500 with wide social and demographic spectra. It has a long history of development from a Saxon settlement of around 600AD. The population of the agricultural community grew steadily until the latter part of the 19th century, when it accelerated following the coming of the railway.

Today Witley is largely a residential community with no local employers of major significance. The largest **single establishment is King Edward's School**. The majority of local job opportunities are to be found in retail outlets, offices and light industry in Godalming (4 miles NE of Witley), Haslemere (5 miles SW), Farnham (10 miles NW) and Guildford. Surrey University and the Royal Surrey County Hospital are major employers in Guildford.

Witley is served by the London to Portsmouth railway and a significant number of people commute daily to London (journey time 55 minutes). Witley station is in Wormley, approximately 1 mile from the church.

In Witley itself, currently there is a village store, hairdressing salon, newsagent, basket shop, and three public houses. The adjacent village of Milford (2 miles), which is combined with Witley as the civil parish, offers two small supermarkets, a butcher and fishmonger, a farm shop, a wine shop, a dry cleaners, a chemist, a post office, a petrol station, a restaurant and a large garden centre.

Godalming is the nearest town with large Sainsbury and Waitrose supermarkets and the usual range of high street shops. Guildford is the local shopping hub with a shopping mall (the Friary), department stores (Debenhams, M&S, and House of Fraser), a large variety of shops, and a Friday and Saturday Market.

## ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE

# ALL SAINTS WITLEY

Although the parish of Witley is spread over a considerable area, it has a good sense of identity and community spirit. Locally organised events in aid of the church or charities are well supported.

The principal focal points within the parish are the church, both church schools, the Chichester Hall (effectively the Village Hall), the Pirrie Hall in Brook, adjoining recreation grounds/playing fields, and the White Hart, Star and Dog & Pheasant public houses. Milford Golf Club and West Surrey Golf Club are close by.

Housing in Witley is of mixed stock. There are many old houses along the principal axis of the Petworth Road with infill developments of a variety of ages. There are large private developments to the north and south of Wheeler Lane dating from the 1930s to the 1980s.



*A game of cricket at  
Brook Cricket Club*

There is also a large area of local authority and housing association tenanted houses south of Wheeler Lane. Larger individual houses are to be found on the edge of Witley and in Wormley, Brook, Sandhills and Enton. More new housing is expected as part of the delivery of the Waverley Local Plan. A Witley Neighbourhood Plan is being worked on locally.

There are four schools in the parish. The Incumbent is an ex-officio Foundation Governor of Witley Church of England (Controlled) Infant School and there are two other Foundation Governors nominated by the PCC. The Vicar is also a Foundation Governor of the Chandler Church of England (Aided) Junior School (as is the Vicar of Milford) and there are three other Governors nominated by the PCC.

## ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE

# ALL SAINTS WITLEY

**King Edward's School is an independent co-educational boarding school with its own C of E chaplain. Barrow Hills School is a Roman Catholic co-educational preparatory school which became part of the King Edward's charity in 2015.**

State secondary education is provided by Rodborough School (up to 16 years of age), which is just outside the boundary of the parish. Pupils who wish to pursue A-level courses usually go on to Godalming Sixth Form College. There are several private schools in the area and a significant number of children of all ages in the parish travel to these schools.

Two of the large houses built in the area in the mid to late 19th century have become residential/nursing homes. These are Surrey Heights and Surrey Hills. There are no day centres in the parish although Surrey County Council operates The Harbour (a special needs centre) on the edge of the parish and there is a day care centre in Milford.

There is an excellent GP practice, with surgeries in both Witley and Milford. The nearest major hospital is the Royal Surrey County Hospital located in Guildford. There is a community hospital in Haslemere and a specialist rehabilitation hospital in Milford. Guildford also offers private hospital facilities: the Nuffield and Mount Alvernia.



*Witley is situated in the Surrey Hills AONB but is just 50 mins from London and has easy access to the M25*

## ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE



# THE CHURCH & THE TEAM

# ALL SAINTS WITLEY

The Parish Church of All Saints is the only church building. This is of late Saxon origin with additions in the 12th, 13th and 19th centuries. The building has Grade I listed status and has been well cared for. The fabric is in good condition, not without very considerable expenditure in recent years! A recent quinquennial inspection identified various areas of necessary work which are being taken forward.

The outstanding feature of the church is the early 12th century wall paintings on the south and west walls which have received significant conservation. The church also has an excellent three-manual Victorian Hill organ, which last received a major overhaul in 1995, and a fine ring of 8 bells, which were improved and rehung in 2000. The church is kept open for prayer and locked only at night.

There is a large churchyard which is still open for burials, and maintained by a team of volunteers from the congregation who meet monthly on Saturday mornings during the spring and summer months. It includes four full ashes plots and a fifth one which is still in use. The churchyard is a place of peace where many people go to remember their loved ones and some travel a long way on anniversaries or to seek the graves of long-dead relatives. Many long-standing Witley families have relatives buried there. This in itself is a service to the community.

There is a recently converted parish office in a self-contained building in the grounds of Witley Infant School, which is opposite the church.

There is no church hall, but as a result of a reordering in 2009 a large usable space was created in the north and south transepts, which is used for church meetings, and also for wider community use, often on a rental basis. At the same time a kitchenette and accessible toilet were created. A Pilates group meets in the church weekly, and Witley Infant School use the church for **their annual Parents' Dinner**. Other groups hire or use the space for meetings, talks and concerts.

Not having a church hall is actually an advantage, because so many events take place in the space within church, bringing more people into the building and helping them to feel comfortable there.

## ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE

# ALL SAINTS WITLEY

Large parish gatherings are held in the Chichester Hall (subject to a hire charge) or the Jubilee Hall. The Jubilee Hall is 50m from the church and is owned by the Scouts and adjacent to Witley Infant School. Its use is shared by the school and the local uniformed organisations. The church contributes to its upkeep on a regular basis at the same rate as other users and is therefore able to use it in term-time for Young Saints (Sunday school) and occasionally for other events.

## The Team

The Incumbent is assisted by the Revd Ann Fraser who was ordained (OLM) in 2007 and is now working full time for the parish with Permission to Officiate. She has been particularly involved in pastoral and educational matters in the parish and is currently Chair of Governors at the Chandler School.

Penny Osborn is the Parish Administrator with Debbie Partridge providing additional support as required. Our churchwardens are Elvie Carpenter and Brenda Rounce. We also have six Pastoral Assistants, a Diocesan Synod representative and two Deanery Synod representatives, 12 elected PCC members, a PCC Secretary (and separate Minutes Secretary), Safeguarding Officer, Tower Captain and well-populated rotas of servers, sidespeople and flower arrangers.

For services, the clergy are also assisted by six occasional preachers, including a young preacher, and more are in training. Lay people also contribute to services by acting as servers and communion assistants, reading the Old and New Testament lessons every Sunday and taking Intercessions.

It should perhaps be noted that some of the roles on this list are in fact filled by the same people wearing different hats!

The only parish employees are the Parish Administrator, Organist & Director of Music and a cleaner. The Parish Office is currently open Monday to Friday for part of each day.



*All Saints Witley's ancient wall paintings*

# ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE





SERVICES

# ALL SAINTS WITLEY

Worship is quite formal but accompanied by an informal and warm welcome. All our communion services are taken from *Common Worship, Order One*.

Children are welcome at all our **services, and a children's corner** has been created at the back of the north aisle, near the toilet and vestry where families find a welcome space and suitable toys for their small children. The use of occasional preachers alongside clergy and visiting preachers produces a range of lively and varied sermons. On the first Sunday of every month there is no Young Saints (Sunday school) and we hold a family service based on a shortened version of the normal formal structure, with a more informal talk or presentation in place of a sermon.

Centrally Eucharistic in our traditions, at Christmas time there is a crib service and a traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Ash Wednesday is celebrated and the Cross is covered at Passiontide. During Holy Week palm crosses are distributed on Palm Sunday, confession is available, Compline, Healing and Anointing services are held.

The Maundy Thursday celebration of Holy Communion includes foot washing and stripping of the altar and on Good Friday there is a solemn liturgy and Proclamation of the Cross as well as a family service.

8.00am	Holy Communion – Common Worship	Average Attendance: 20
9.45am	Sung Eucharist – Common Worship (Coffee served afterwards in church)	Average Attendance: 60
First Sunday of every month: 9.45am	All Saints Together – all age communion service	Average Attendance: 60
Termly: 5.30pm	Sung Evensong – Book of Common Prayer	Average Attendance: 25
Termly: 3.00pm	WOW – contemporary service	Average Attendance: 30
Four times a year: 3.30pm to 5.30pm	Messy Church	Average Attendance: 25-80

## ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE

## Clergy Dress

Cassock-alb, stole and chasuble are worn for Holy Communion, cassock-alb and stole for weddings and choir dress for funerals and interment of ashes. For Messy Church and other informal services the clergy and others do not robe – although they have been known to appear in strange costumes! The serving team wear white cassock-albs. At baptisms, clergy wear a cassock-alb and stole and a server also robes.

## Music

There is a strong choir and an enduring tradition of good choral music. A balance is struck between the wishes of older members of the congregation, families and children. The *Common Praise* hymnbook is used, periodically supplemented by hymns from elsewhere.

There is a strong collaborative approach, with the Director of Music working closely with the incumbent to plan the music for choral services. Choir members are fully integrated into all aspects of church life and community, and join their families and the rest of the congregation in the pews when the choir takes its annual summer break.

A church band has recently been established by members of the regular congregation, and leads the WOW contemporary services.

## Occasional Offices

### Baptism

In 2017 there have been 17 baptisms to date and there were 23 in 2016. Each child is sent an anniversary card for the first four years with details of any relevant up-coming events. This is much appreciated by the families.

Baptisms are usually held on the 4th **Sunday of the month in a 'stand-alone'** service, including two hymns, at 11.30am. We try to have only two families involved but occasionally there are three. Baptisms may take place in the 9.45 service if the parents request it. We are starting to use the alternative baptism service on some occasions.

There is an open policy for baptisms. Anyone who lives in the Parish may have their child baptised and anyone connected with the church historically or through family connections, by attending Little Saints, having been married here, or attending a local school is also welcomed.

After the date is determined for baptism, the family are visited by the priest who will carry out the baptism to go through the service, discuss the meaning of the baptismal promises and encourage them to attend Little Saints, Messy Church or Sunday services.

If an adult asks to be baptised, they are encouraged to attend a confirmation course and to be baptised and confirmed at the same time. This is not always possible or appropriate and each person is treated individually according to where they are on their Christian journey. We have had one or two adult baptisms in each of the past three years.

## Marriage

In 2017 there have been ten weddings and two wedding thanksgivings or blessings. Ten weddings are already booked for 2018 and two for 2019. Wedding preparation is done with each couple separately by the priest who will perform the ceremony.

The present practice is to meet with all the known wedding couples in January of the year they will be married and then the priest who is marrying them keeps in touch and meets with them at least twice more before the wedding rehearsal in the week before the wedding. We have an open policy for marriages, **following the House of Bishops' Guidelines.**

## Funerals

Like most parishes, there is a steady flow of funerals, both cremations and burials, before or after a service in church. To date in 2017, 1 church funeral, 4 crematorium funerals and several short services for interment of ashes in the churchyard have been held.



GROUPS, ACTIVITIES &  
EVENTS

## Choir

There is a good and enthusiastic Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) affiliated four-part mixed choir of adults, boys and girls which plays a key part in leading the sung services (with a four-part anthem being sung at Sunday Sung Eucharist most weeks). Numbers may be boosted for major festivals or special performances.

The choir is not auditioned (although previous experience is obviously valued), but is capable of undertaking some quite sophisticated music, and its repertoire includes items from a wide range of styles and periods from the 16th century to the present day, with or without organ accompaniment.

The choir meets weekly for practice on Friday evenings. Children are welcomed from about age 6 (essentially, when they can read), with their training including instruction in vocal technique, basic music reading and religious background.

**We follow the RSCM's Voice for Life** scheme. Choristers can also take RSCM Area and National awards. In 2016, we were particularly proud to have supported two children from the choir in winning cathedral choristerships (to Salisbury and Chichester). In previous years, two other choir children have also won choristerships to Guildford Cathedral.

In addition to the Sunday morning service, the choir sings Choral Evensong once a term, and frequently also sings at weddings. A high point for the choir each year is the Christmas service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

The Organist & Director of Music is assisted in the running of the **children's choir by a Junior Choir Assistant**. There is also a post-graduate student organist.



## Bell Ringers

Witley has a pleasant ring of 8 bells and a team of around 12 bellringers led by a volunteer tower captain. The bells are rung every Sunday before the 9.45am service, and for Christmas and Easter services (except for Holy Week services but including the 8.00am service on Easter morning).

There are strong and supportive links between the ringers and the church, and many of the ringers are regular or occasional churchgoers. The Witley ringers maintain good **links with other Diocesan “towers”** and regularly compete in ringing competitions with some success, although we seldom manage to beat the Cathedral ringers! Practice takes place regularly on Thursday evenings.

## The Friends of All Saints

This group was formed in 1997 with the objective of assisting the PCC in **funding “desirable” capital projects** it might otherwise not be able to afford, essential repairs and maintenance always having first call on available funds. The intention was also to encourage non-church members to take an interest in an important piece of local heritage.

Since its inauguration the group has provided for the installation of an audio loop and sound enhancement system; seat cushions for the choir pews in the chancel, contributions to the bell restoration project, the reordering of the church in 2009 and the nave redecoration in 2010.

The most recent project is changing the church lighting to LED with electronic switching, and the Friends are also supporting some of the work required as a result of the quinquennial inspection.

## Pop-up coffee

Coffee is provided at the church door on Tuesday mornings in term-time. The target audience is parents passing the door as they return from taking their children to Witley Infant School or The Chandler School, but all passers-by are welcome.

## Cameo – Come and Meet Each Other

Cameo is an informal group open to everyone which meets every Wednesday morning for fellowship and conversation over a cup of coffee or tea, then often to listen to a speaker on a wide range of topics.

## New Beginnings

The group was set up in June 2015 as the Bereavement Support Group. Members have all suffered a bereavement or are divorced. Currently there are 10 to 15 members of the group who meet monthly.

## Men's Group

An attempt has been made to start a **men's group, on the first Monday of the month at 8.30pm in The White Hart**, but this has had limited success so far.

## Women's Group

A more successful attempt to start a **women's group, on the second Monday of the month at The Star**, has seen two or three each time gathering for a drink and chat.

## Confirmation and other adult education

Over the last few years, we have prepared several candidates for confirmation, both young people and adults. The confirmation service is a Deanery event usually held in various churches round the Deanery, including ours. Preparation courses are scheduled to suit the candidates in question.

Attempts have been made to run house groups or Lent courses with limited success, largely due to busy lives and time commitments. In recent years we have run a combined **Lent course with St John's, Milford.**

## Fundraising and other events

A range of fundraising events are held throughout the year to supplement income raised through Planned Giving and collections in services.

A village fair is held every year and the church runs several stalls. This successful event provides us with both a valuable injection of funds for all the organisations involved, and an opportunity to come together as a village. The church also supports the annual Brook Fête, which has been opened by the vicar for the last two years. Quiz evenings have become a popular part of the church calendar, providing both fun and a good source of fundraising, and a Christmas fundraising event is held in church most years.

The church also has strong links with the Child of Hope charity which provides free education, healthcare and welfare to slum children in Uganda.





CHILDREN AND YOUNG  
PEOPLE

## Little Saints

Pre-schoolers and their carers meet every Friday morning in the church for tea and toast, coffee and chat, and toys, songs and stories. The adults include parents, grandparents, au pairs and child minders. A faithful band of volunteers keeps the refreshments flowing. The average attendance is 15 children and a similar number of adults.

## Young Saints – Sunday School

Young Saints is split into Infant and Junior sections led by experienced and enthusiastic leaders assisted by both adult and teenage helpers. There are 25 children on roll and attendance fluctuates from 5 to 20. They learn about the joy of Christian life through music, craft, stories, prayer and fun.

Every year they enjoy a trip to the seaside along with other members of the parish, as well as other events such as barbeques, summer and Christmas parties.

## JOODs

JOODs was formed in summer 2016 for years 4 to 8, bridging the gap between Young Saints and the Youth Group. It meets monthly in church on a Sunday afternoon. The group has been to Regents Park to see a performance of Jesus Christ Superstar, taken part in the Thy Kingdom Come Beacon Event at Guildford Cathedral and also prepared a small sketch and performed it at one of the WOW services.

The sessions are driven by the young people with emphasis on the emotions and experiences being shared through song, dance and drama. Whilst the group is small in number we hope to see this as a natural progression from Young Saints and encourage them to bring their friends along.

The aim is to form a natural bond between JOODs and the Youth Group so that together we can be a lively and active part of church family life.

# ALL SAINTS WITLEY

## Youth Group

Various attempts have been made over the years to establish a youth group, with limited success. Over the last two years we have finally made some progress in this area, with a group meeting monthly. We have struggled to get the numbers up above 6 teenagers from core church families, but otherwise it has been very successful.

In July 2016 the group spent a night camping in Sussex, and in July 2017 they ventured much further afield, with seven Witley teenagers and the incumbent joining a group from Holy Trinity church in Guildford on a volunteering visit to the Kwasa school and safe centre which provides an education for children from an informal settlement near Johannesburg.

The Witley young people participating in the visit ran a significant fundraising campaign during the months leading up to it, including a Christmas café, a saxophone concert, a swimathon and regular cake sales. A significant surplus was raised above the amount needed to cover the costs of the visit, which is to be given to the Kwasa school. There are hopes for a second joint visit to Kwasa in a few years.

The strong bond formed between members of the youth group has drawn them deeper into the life of the church, with many of them acting as servers and intercessors, and one as an occasional preacher. Two of the oldest members of the group left for university in autumn 2017, so numbers are now very low.

## Messy Church

Messy Church was established five years ago and has proved very popular. Presently there are four Saturday afternoon sessions each year attracting anything from 25-60 children and at least 15 helpers.



*The Youth Group on their camping trip to Sussex*

# ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

COMMUNITY LINKS

*[Faded text on a document pinned to the left side of the board]*



Many of the activities described previously attract members of the community who are not part of our normal Sunday congregation. As a result, we touch a huge range of people in the parish, far greater than might be expected from our average service attendance numbers.

## Links with Church Schools

The church has close links with both Witley Infant School (Voluntary Controlled) and The Chandler C of E Junior School (Voluntary Aided). The infant school has an intake of 30 pupils each year and as siblings have priority, the catchment area is often less than half a mile from the school.

**The pupils' families are thus very local to the school and therefore to the church which is opposite the school.**

**Some of our 'church' children attend state or independent schools outside the parish.** The infant school visits the church class by class each term and the vicar, Ann and others, meet them there for 30-45 minutes with a different focus each time, including a **'pretend marriage' service for Reception class.** As a result of Little Saints, many of the children and their families are known to us and consider All Saints to be their church. They happily attend Messy Church and other events, but few come on Sundays on a regular basis. Harvest and Easter services are held in church and involve the clergy.

We have recently introduced Open The Book on alternate weeks, which is very popular with the children and involves a strong team of members of the congregation.

The incumbent is an ex-officio member of the Governing Body.

The Chandler is the VA school linked to both Witley and Milford churches. The OFSTED inspection in June this **year resulted in a 'Good' judgement following judgements of 'Requires Improvement' in 2013 and 2015.** Each class visits the church once a year. Year 3 hold a mock baptism service to learn about Christian initiation.

Year 4 hold a mock wedding ceremony and this attracts quite a **few parents who attend as 'guests'.** Some interesting discussions have ensued on the meaning of the vows and marriage in general.

## ALL SAINTS WITLEY

Year 6 come in groups in the summer term after SATs and under supervision by various members of the congregation, give the church a thorough clean and tidy. They sort **out all the children's toys and books**, do high dusting, turn out and tidy boxes of service books, and clean all the kitchen cupboards and crockery.

Along with Milford parish, the clergy take an assembly every Thursday and the Baptist Church in Milford is also involved in this school. At the end of every term a communion service is held in school run by clergy from both parishes. This is held in All Saints Church (because the children **can walk there but not to St John's, Milford**) and this is a wonderful occasion with every person receiving a blessing or communion at the altar rail.

The incumbents of All Saints and of **St John's, Milford, are ex-officio** members of the Governing Body. Presently both incumbents have delegated the role at this school to retired colleagues. For Witley, the Revd Ann Fraser has replaced the incumbent as an ex-officio member for the past two years. She has been the Chair of Governors since 2015 and will continue in this role but will be a Foundation Governor from October 2017, leaving the ex-officio seat vacant for the next incumbent.

There are few families from either school who attend church regularly. Among the children on our Young Saints roll there are a variety of schools represented, state and private.

While it is good for the children to meet new friends, it is disappointing that our church schools provide so few church attenders.



*Working closely with our two church schools is a vital part of our mission.*

## ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE

## Parish Magazine

Our parish magazine is published monthly and circulated to around 300 homes in the parish at a small charge. There is a magazine editor and a team of distributors. Apart from providing information on services and church activities, the magazine includes articles on prayer and worship and other general parish news.

The popularity of the magazine is demonstrated by the fact that local shops and those providing services are keen to take advertising space. The newsletter from the Witley (Civil) Parish Council (which includes Milford) is only published annually.

## Youth Organisations

Scouts, Guides, Brownies, Cubs, Beavers and Rainbows are all represented in Witley but are not affiliated to the church. The groups attend services in church on special occasions, mainly Remembrance Sunday, and support church activities.

## Ecumenical Links

There are no other Christian churches in the parish although there is a small Gospel Hall and the Plymouth Brethren have a small centre near the recreation ground. There are good but informal links **with St John's, Milford, largely** demonstrated through shared Lent courses and Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day services, our shared support for The Chandler school, and the clergy providing cover for each other.

This summer there was a joint venture with Milford church to provide family meals during the long holiday. Although there were plenty of people willing to cook and provide lunch, the take-up was very small. This is a work in progress.

The incumbent is the Patron of **St John's, Milford and St Michael and All Angels, Thursley.**



FINANCES

The parish finances are on a sound basis as a result of prudent housekeeping. There are no endowments or investments of any significance but the church members **are just able “to pay their way”**. There is no difficulty in meeting the current Parish Share.

Following a careful review in 2015, the PCC decided to join many other parishes by using the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) as our preferred mechanism of planned giving. At this time we were also facing a significant budget deficit and so we asked the congregation to review their level of giving and preferably sign up to the PGS.

We now have 37 people giving through the PGS and a further 39 through the old method of standing order or bank transfer.

Our finances have improved significantly as a result of this project. In 2016, Gift-Aided Planned Giving rose to £66,379 – an increase of over £12,000 or 23% on 2015.

Stewardship campaigns are held regularly and we hold Gift Days each year which are usually very successful.

Although it is difficult to increase routine giving significantly, the parish has always been able to raise large sums for specific capital projects, which is fortunate as a 1,000 year old Grade I listed building soaks up money like blotting paper!

This is largely due to enthusiastic and imaginative fund raising work and the generosity of a few wealthy parishioners.

We aim for parish outward giving to home and overseas charities to be 10% of income, although in recent years this has sometimes been reduced.



# THE VICARAGE

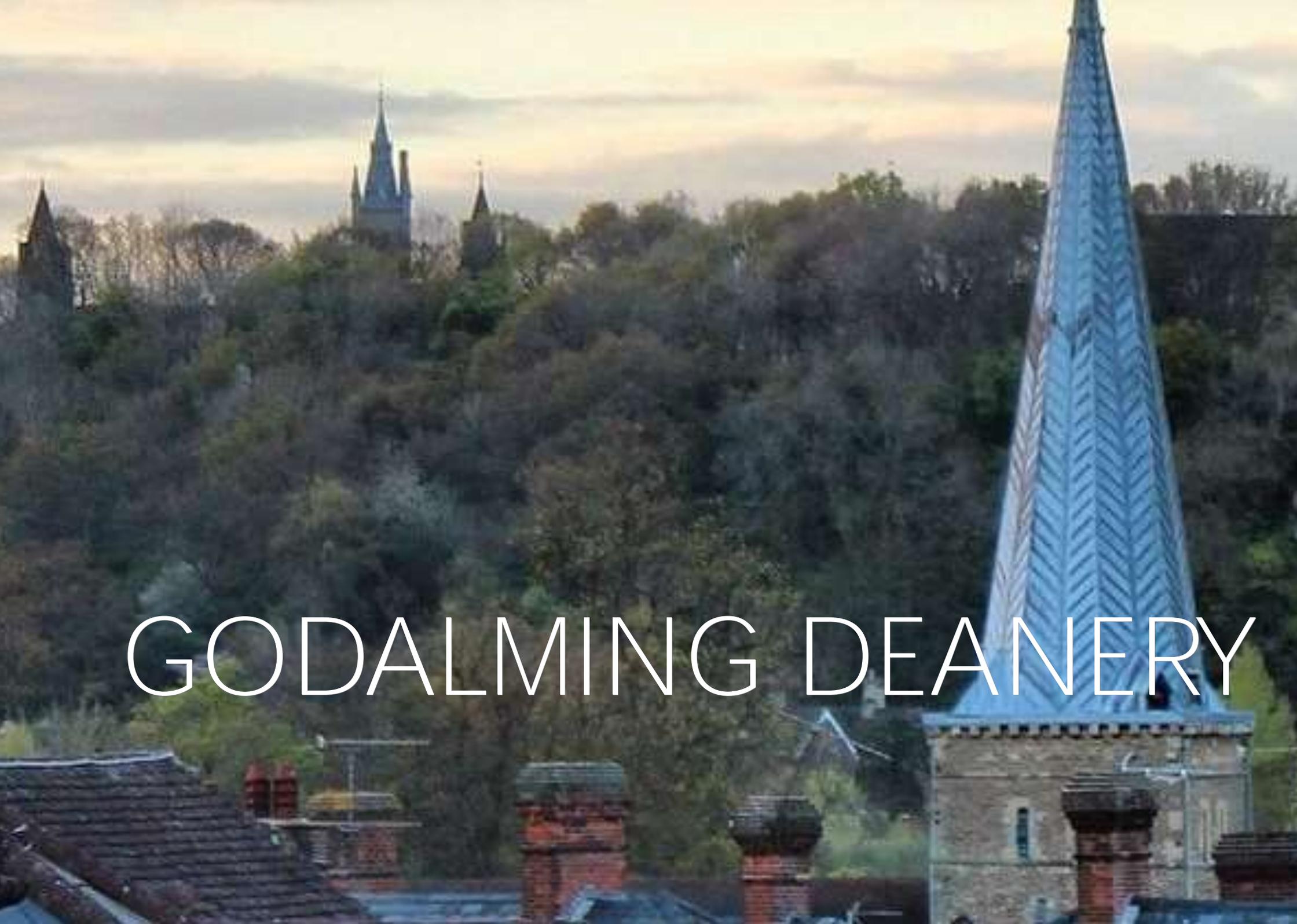
This is situated on the Petworth Road in the centre of the village, approximately a third of a mile from the church. The Vicarage is a good family house, built in 1939 and previously used by a local doctor. The accommodation downstairs comprises a large lounge, separate dining room, kitchen, utility room, cloakroom and study.

Upstairs there are four bedrooms and two bathrooms (one en suite). The house is centrally heated and recently a new kitchen and double glazed windows were installed. There is a large enclosed garden (approx. 1/3 acre) with a single garage.

The Vicarage will be inspected by the Diocese and any necessary works carried out. The parish will redecorate where necessary.



*Parish gatherings have been held in the Vicarage in the past.*

A scenic view of Godalming Deanery at dusk. The foreground is dominated by a large, blue-tiled spire with a herringbone pattern, rising from a stone building. In the background, a hill is covered in dense green trees, with several smaller spires visible against the sky. The sky is a mix of soft orange and grey, suggesting the time is either dawn or dusk. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and historic.

# GODALMING DEANERY

All Saints Witley is part of the Godalming Deanery that has a total of 15 parishes and 20 churches and supporting clergy. As well as stipendiary clergy we are blessed with some retired and some local ordained and non-stipendiary ministers as well as a variety of licensed lay members. Within the Deanery, there are many different styles of worship on offer and each church has its own tradition.

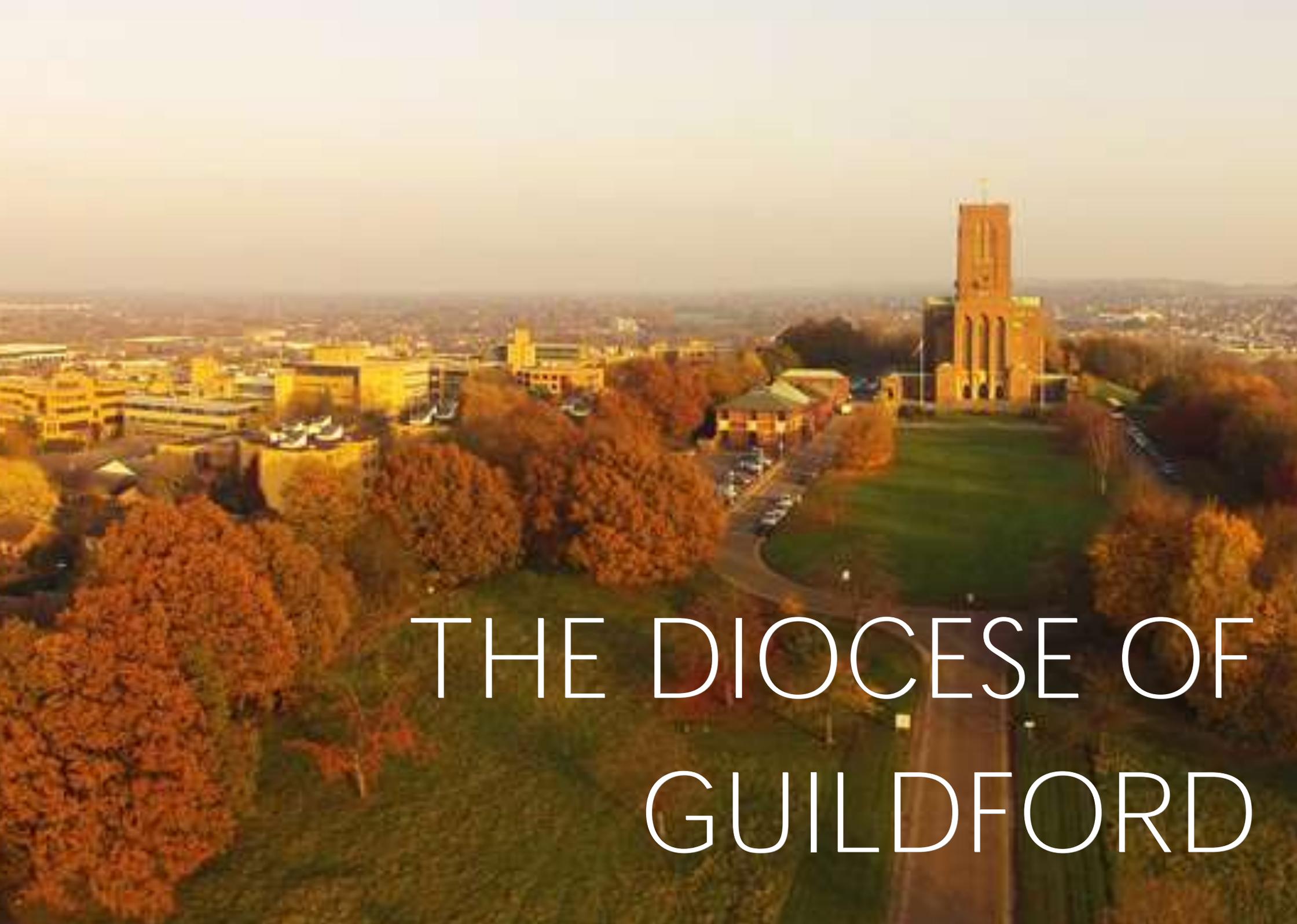
The Deanery has two major centres of community, Godalming and Haslemere. Both have superb transportation to London and the South Coast. This is one reason for this being a consistently popular area to move to.

The Clergy Chapter meets 10 times a year at lunch times. Godalming is a very mutually supportive Chapter and time is always given to discuss pressing matters from any of the parishes. We have a mix of business, invited speakers and sharing of news. Attendance is extremely good.

The Deanery Synod meets three times a year and offers a varied programme of reports from General Synod together with discussion on local issues related to the life of the churches and parishes.

It is hoped that whoever is appointed to All Saints Witley would become a regular member of Chapter and play his or her part in the Deanery.

## ALL SAINTS FOR ALL PEOPLE



THE DIOCESE OF  
GUILDFORD

*Transforming Church, Transforming Lives* is the vision and mission strategy of our Diocese. It envisages individuals and church communities open to the transforming work of **God's Spirit in their own lives, and so becoming agents of Christ's** transformation to the world around them.

*Transforming Church, Transforming Lives* communicates the essence of everything we are seeking to pray and work towards across the diocese, rather than being a separate mission project. No strategy, however well intentioned, will achieve anything of any lasting value without God at the heart of it: **'Unless the Lord builds the house, we labour in vain...'** (Psalm 127:1).

Prayer is therefore foundational to all that is envisaged – planting, watering, weeding and pruning, but always looking to God to give the growth.

*Transforming Church, Transforming Lives* is not about asking people to work harder, but to work sharper - becoming more intentional and focussed in how we pray and what we are seeking to do. At its heart lies the vision of a growing, vibrant and generous Christian movement, empowered by the Spirit and rooted in word and sacrament, which confidently proclaims and lives out the Good News of Jesus Christ across the region and beyond.

*Transforming Church, Transforming Lives:*

- Sets 12 Diocesan Goals, which together provide the framework of all our mission activities within parishes, chaplaincies, schools, the cathedral and the diocesan hub;
- Provides resources for parishes, schools, chaplaincies and the cathedral as they select the **goals to which they're** particularly committed over the coming year: these resources to include support, training, mentoring, prayer resources and grant funding through the newly established Growth Fund;
- Requires every parish to pray over its mission priorities and to produce an annual Parish Development Plan, based on a selection of the goals, to be renewed and revised in each year following.

The 12 Diocesan Goals are as follows:

1. For every parish and chaplaincy to develop an appropriate strategy for making prayerful, confident disciples in daily life
2. Together to increase the number of new Christians of all ages through persistent prayer, confident faith-sharing, life-giving worship, and the development of a hundred new worshipping communities by 2027
3. For every parish to develop a safe, attractive and spiritually-enriching **children's and youth ministry**, encouraging sharing of resources where appropriate

4. Together to increase the number of lay leaders of all ages, who are called, trained and deployed in the church and wider community

5. Together to grow the number of ordinands by 50% from 2020 and beyond

6. Together to increase the range, professionalism and spiritual fruitfulness of our partnerships with the local community, to help create a safer, stronger, fairer and more sustainable society

7. Together to grow the number and depth of our partnerships with Christian communities beyond our diocesan borders, in the holistic mission to which Jesus calls us

8. Together to improve the standards and develop the Christian distinctiveness of our church schools, wholeheartedly embracing our contribution to education across the diocese

9. For every parish to encourage an increasing number of worshipping Christians to commit to regular, proportional and sacrificial giving

10. Together to share expertise and streamline our processes so as to release fresh energy for mission

11. For every parish and chaplaincy to develop effective communications, promoting a church that is visible, attractive and accessible

12. For every parish to work towards having church buildings that are fit for purpose in supporting **today's ministry and mission.**



