



ALL HALLOWS CHURCH, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK

PARISH PROFILE - SPRING 2023

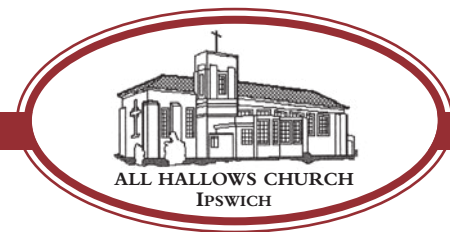
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Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Hebrews 10: 23-24



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to All Hallows!

You have caught us at an exciting time.

We currently have a congregation of around 25, but we have **a big vision, a big parish and a big God.**

Recently God has blessed us with the funds (from the national church and the local 'Inspiring Ipswich' Initiative) to appoint a full-time Priest-in-Charge after the forthcoming retirement in July of our current half-time Priest. It will be a fixed term post for five years, but if all goes well, we hope it will be extended.

The funding requires us to look for someone who is currently a Curate, and we very much look forward to being the 'first position of responsibility' for you if you join us, and if you do, we promise to welcome and support you to the hilt!

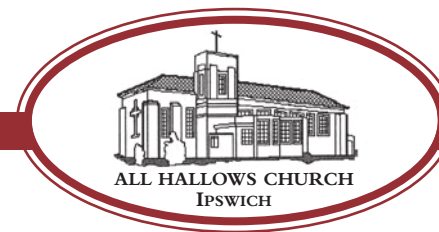
Our diocesan vision is to 'Grow in God' which involves growing deeper, younger and in number and influence in our local community. Over the last five years we, at All Hallows, have been focusing on deepening our prayer life (growing deeper) and reaching out to our local community through a 'Top Up Shop' (growing in influence). Now, building on this work, we would like to grow numerically and younger so that God's love can be made known even more widely across our parish. We really want to grow!

Although we are but one parish, we are part of an inspiring and energetic deanery where there is much good will towards our parish and where we are regularly prayed for. We have deanery conferences, workshops, 'Growing Leaders' groups, missional leaders' lunches, prayer gatherings, socials and lots more. There are also a number of people who we can call upon who will help us with our outreach, with our finances, with our communications. In recent years, one of the deanery's Pioneer Developers has been helping us reach out to an area of recent residential development in the parish and there is much more which could happen there.



It is also an exciting time to join the deanery chapter with a new Area Dean and Leadership Team. In addition, good things are happening ecumenically in Ipswich with 'Together for Ipswich', a new collaboration of over 80 churches in the town.

We hope you will find all the information you need in this Parish Profile to decide whether to explore this opportunity further. But, if you can, please come for a drive or walk around our parish and do pop in and say hello! We'll be praying for you.



ABOUT US

We are a committed congregation who are passionate about sharing God's love in our community here in the south-east of Ipswich, the county town of Suffolk.

Though the congregation enjoy fairly traditional worship with a mix of some Catholic and Evangelical practices, we would value having someone who could develop a range of services through the week in order to reach out to a wider demographic.

We have a Sunday morning congregation, an online presence, and a physical presence through the week, notably through our 'Top Up Shop,' (www.ipswichtopupshops.co.uk) and in our ministry with the local schools.

We may be small but we are:

- Friendly, faithful and loyal
- Welcoming of all
- Keen to love and serve our local community
- Keen to grow younger and grow numerically
- Growing in faith and prayer
- Flexible and open to change, not afraid to try new things
- Blessed with a mix of skills and get on well together. We all play our part

If you join us as our new minister/priest you can expect that:

- We will pray for you and support you in your ministry
- We will care for you and welcome you into our family of faith in this place
- We will respond to your call to us as partners in God's mission in this place
- We will laugh with you, cry with you, and at times argue with you and frustrate you!
- We will offer practical, faithful support in administration, and in care for our building and grounds and
- We will do this because we are passionate about this church, our community and its people, and because we believe and trust that we are fulfilling God's command



Where are we online?

Web: allhallowschurchipswich.myfreesites.net/

A Church Near You: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2046/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/All-Hallows-Church-Ipswich-103137065668380/

“For I know the plans I have for you”, declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29: 11



ABOUT YOU

Are you innovative, excited by change and new ideas, prepared to take risks, but also prayerful, missional, compassionate and prepared to listen?

We are looking for a full-time priest-in-charge (who is currently a curate) able to lead us in our outreach, who is a team player, has a good sense of humour and wants to walk alongside us while we discern God's plans for our church and implement them.

Our challenges include our historic low parish share contribution and small Sunday morning congregation, which we are praying will grow.

We would love someone who is:

- Prayerful with spiritual depth to help us continually grow deeper with God
- Ready and able to engage and connect with people of every generation, level of faith and gifting, and have a genuine commitment to the wellbeing of the whole church.
- Ambitious for God's presence and ready to discern God's vision for His people here, with us, and pursue that with courage and love
- Keen to know Jesus for all that He is, and can help people learn how to hold onto His Word and the guidance and strength of His Spirit
- Positive about our desire to develop a mixed ecology (traditional and contemporary congregations)
- Someone with a heart for mission and evangelism
- Passionate about social justice and community engagement, particularly to build on our Top Up Shop ministry
- A team-player who is good at encouraging others
- Good at advocating for the weakest, will inspire the strongest, and will care for all those in-between, in the grace and love of God.

And who is able to:

- Preach and teach well, remaining faithful to the Bible while applying it to today's context
- Be enthusiastic about Inspiring Ipswich and its activities to grow and nurture new disciples
- Be entrepreneurial and able to help us turn around our finances so that we may reach out in the future
- Help us develop our vision and deepen our faith
- Be sensitive to the mix of musical and worship styles
- Help us make disciple-making disciples and reach out to children and their families



“The LORD bless you, and keep you, the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

Numbers 6: 24-26



ALL HALLOWS CHURCH
IPSWICH

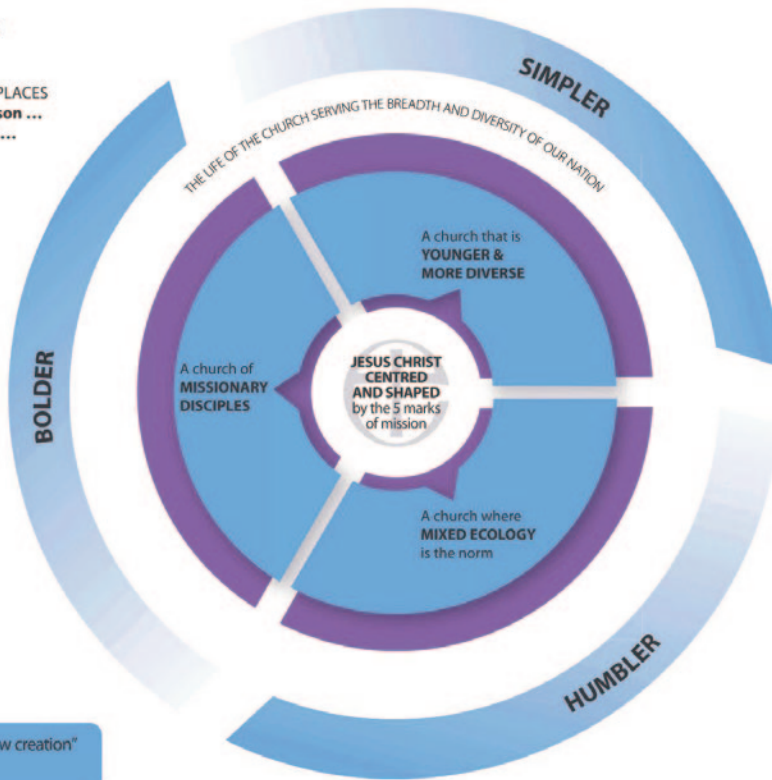
OUR VISION

We are a church who support the national Church of England vision and strategy:

We long to see a Church for the whole nation which is Jesus Christ-centred and shaped by the five marks of mission; a Church that is simpler, humbler and bolder.

A VISION FOR THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN THE 2020s

A CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE IN ALL PLACES
... a Christian vision for every person ...
... a Christian vision for the world ...



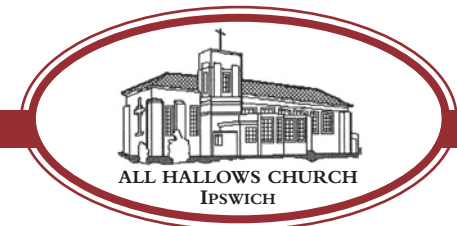
"If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation"
(2 Corinthians 5:17)



We value our traditional style of worship but at the same time long to see new people coming to faith and recognise we may need a new pattern of worship across the week that makes room for both, so that there is something for those who prefer either traditional or contemporary styles.

We have a vision for a ten-fold increase in worshippers at All Hallows and, following the serious impact of the pandemic, we are already seeing God's hand at work in bringing new people into our worshipping community to build and strengthen us.

We would love to see our church bursting to the seams and for the whole parish to know how much they are loved by God.



OUR MISSION

We strongly believe that God is calling us to grow as a church community.

We want to be prepared for His call to action, particularly in these difficult times.

We long to serve our community with love and confidence.

As part of the Inspiring Ipswich Initiative, we have adopted exciting and ambitious plans for growth over the next five years.

We expectantly pray that more people will come to know Jesus so that they may invite Him into their hearts.



Our immediate priorities in our Parish Plan are to:

GROW YOUNGER:

By December 2024 to have further developed engagement with children and young people providing stepping-stones into faith by:

- a) Using creative arts to engage with young people in partnership with Christian Youth Ministries (CYM), through detached youth work and mentoring, and teaching sessions at Ipswich Academy.
- b) Nurture the faith of children and their families through a parent and toddler group and planned school time activities with children from Pipers Vale School with invitations to family services.
- c) Contribute to the spiritual development of children through involvement as governors at Morland Primary School. Lead worship weekly and run an after-school club.

GROW IN DEPTH:

By December 2024 for church members to have deepened our knowledge of God and our relationship with Christ by:

- a) Increased involvement in prayer, Bible study, acts of worship and personal devotion with the Ministry Team.
- b) Taking opportunities to attend study groups and learn about spiritual disciplines.
- c) Continued use of the Parish Prayer diary.
- d) Engagement in mission opportunities in the community e.g. through Top Up shop, activity groups, prayer walks.

GROW IN INFLUENCE:

By December 2024 to have increased the extent and depth of the engagement between church and community by:

- a) Strengthening the links with partner voluntary and statutory agencies to e.g. address food poverty and the cost of living crisis.
- b) Broader engagement with staff, families and children through work in schools.
- c) Continued ministry through Top Up Shop, building stepping-stones to prayer and faith.



OUR PRAYER

Prayer has become increasingly important to us over the last five years and usually six of us meet to pray via Zoom each Wednesday morning. This provides a devotional opportunity to openly reflect on God's word, to share our praises, thanks and concerns, and to lift our intercessory prayers up to Him.

Many people use the prayer stand to pray when they come into the church. In addition, we sometimes prayer-walk around the Parish and we have a Parish Prayer Diary.

Prayer is the foundation of life at All Hallows and there is an unwavering trust in the expectation that God will answer our prayers and provide for our needs.

As we have said, our vision is to see many more people worshipping regularly with us and we long for everyone in the parish to know the love of God.

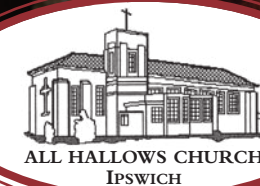
The Inspiring Ipswich Prayer, which hundreds of us regularly pray, has been adapted for our church:



*God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions
And power to our witness.
Help your Church here at All Hallows
To grow leaders, to grow younger,
To grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you
And in service to our local community.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen*

*"Then you will call on me and
come and pray to me, and I will
listen to you. You will seek me
and find me when you seek me
with all your heart."*

Jeremiah 29: 12-13



OUR WORSHIP

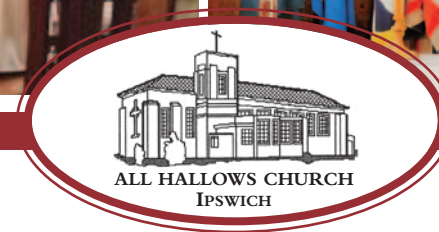
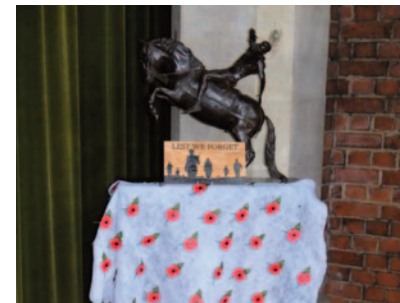
The worship at All Hallows currently centres on the 10.30am Sunday Eucharist which is attended faithfully by members of the congregation, 90% of whom attend every week. Those who do not take communion are well integrated into the Eucharist service, receiving a blessing and the offer of a small candle to share prayerfully with their families.

An average of 20-25 people attend our Sunday Eucharist. Our Priest is assisted by two Curates and a Server with worship normally being accompanied and led by a robed choir of about 5 with music from our splendid organ (we continue to seek to recruit a permanent organist).

Prior to the pandemic, worship was offered to anyone who could not attend the church because of mobility problems, illness, or frailty. Communion was taken to them at least once a month and more often if required. We would like to return to this as soon as possible. We have maintained contact with the care homes and sheltered housing in the parish as well as those still occupying their own homes and we see this as an activity of high priority.

Traditional Festivals of the Church's year such as Mothering Sunday, Harvest, Advent, Christmas and Easter are celebrated with thanksgiving, contemplation and joy at All Hallows. We provide a range of services from Good Friday services of reflection to lively Crib Services on Christmas Eve. The size of the congregation often doubles at these festival services and for our Service of Remembrance.

As we have already said, we would like to continue to have our traditional services (which might be described as from a central tradition with some catholic traits) but would support the new Priest-in-Charge to set up some more contemporary worship styles at other times of the week.



OUR PARISH

All Hallows Parish lies in the out-of-town south-eastern quadrant of Ipswich, the county town of Suffolk, in the diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich. It came into being in response to the rapid growth of social housing in the 1920/30s on the then outskirts of the town in part of the Gainsborough and Greenwich Wards. This development (about half of the current households) was followed by large scale post war private housing developments in the surrounding area and, more recently, the large mixed housing development (Ravenswood) on the old airfield site. Beyond the main residential areas towards the River Orwell lie commercial activities concentrated on the Cliff Quay and the Greenwich industrial areas. To the far southeast of the parish is Priory Park, a gated 100 home bungalow development, a chalet holiday park, a golf course and Orwell Country Park.

Parks

The Church, with adjacent Vicarage, is a few minutes' walk from Landseer Park, which is well served with children's play areas, plenty of green space, and the UK's longest running BMX Park, which has recently been renovated and updated.

Shops

The parish is well served by several parades of shops with local supermarkets, general stores, hardware stores, groceries, bakers, barbers, take-away restaurants, fishing bait and tackle shop etc. etc. And within 10 minutes' drive are numerous other larger shops including Waitrose and Sainsbury superstores, Aldi, Lidl, B&Q and a variety of "out of town" type retail stores.

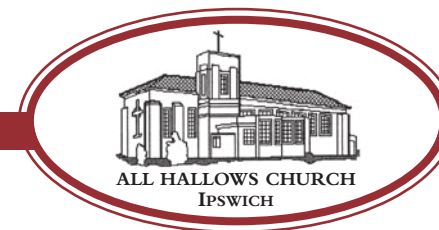
Other Amenities

Within, or very close to the parish we have a health centre connected to a GP surgery, two indoor climbing centres, a local council owned sports centre and privately owned sports and gym club, a golf course, local library, Sure Start and Childcare facility, Labour club, Conservative club, and East Ipswich Police Safer Neighbourhood Team. We are ten minutes' drive from the Ipswich Hospital site, which serves general and accident & emergency patients.

Suffolk is a popular sailing area and Ipswich has vibrant marinas in the old town port area. There are a further three marinas on the Orwell estuary heading out towards Felixstowe and Harwich. And, of course, this is the home of Ipswich Town Football Club.



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OUR COMMUNITY

Demographic

Parts of the parish, particularly around the centrally located church, are generally low income, being within the 10% of the most deprived parishes nationwide but with a high degree of resilience. The overall index of multiple deprivation covers such key areas as income, employment, health, education, skills, and training.

The population of the parish is in the region of 12,500, living in 4,850 households. Between 2001 and 2011 the population of the parish grew by 34%. Between 2011 and 2021 the population of Ipswich grew by an average of 4.8% so it is likely this number, especially with the development of the Ravenswood estate, is higher now.

The population is fairly diverse for Suffolk with some:

85% ethnic British | 4% other white | 5% African/Caribbean
5% Asian | 1% other ethnic groups

Baptisms, Wedding and Funerals

There is a very strong identification with the church by local people with a steady stream of weddings, baptisms and renewal of vows services being held here, and many funeral services take place in the church rather than just at the crematorium. During 2022, we held 4 funeral services prior to cremation or burial, 5 baptism services and 2 wedding services

Other churches

There are churches of three other denominations with buildings within the parish, Methodist, Roman Catholic and Free Evangelical. The Egyptian Coptic Church of East Anglia worships in our church on the first Saturday of each month. We are also part of 'Together for Ipswich,' a new collaboration of over 80 churches in Ipswich (www.togetherforipswich.uk) who have helped us as a town to co-ordinate our work in reaching out to Ukrainians, asylum-seekers, and with the cost-of-living crisis.



Care Homes

There are also three residential homes within the parish along with sheltered housing in the area.

Children and Families

Our church has close links with a number of youth groups including Scouts and Guides and now that pandemic restrictions are lessened, we are rebuilding our relationship with them through Parade Services.



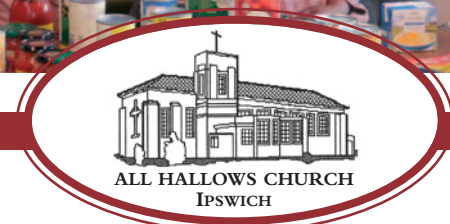
OUR TOP UP SHOP

Over the past three years it has become apparent that there is a great need for God's love to be shared with the community through the work of All Hallows. Following a successful scheme in Felixstowe, our church was chosen to pilot a similar Top Up shop scheme for Ipswich, where anyone can unconditionally fill a shopping bag for a £2 donation with foodstuffs that have been donated or granted to the scheme.

We open our church doors on a Tuesday morning and serve the needs of around 50-70 regular visitors who would otherwise struggle. We also use this activity to provide practical advice and spiritual support.

We thank God that a growing prayerful faith community of volunteers and visitors is developing in this place and one member of our PCC came to us through our Top Up Shop ministry.

Since we started, another nine churches in Ipswich have followed our lead and the network of 'Top Up Shops' (www.ipswichtopupshops.co.uk) is respected by the Council and highly valued by over 1000 customers in Ipswich who use them.



OUR SCHOOLS

There are 3 primary schools, a large secondary school, two pupil referral units and at least two nurseries within the parish, all of which have Good OFSTED ratings.

We have strong links with Morland Church of England VA Primary School where our current Priest is a Foundation Governor, and we are building a growing relationship with Piper's Vale Primary School with many church-based activities being held throughout the year. We took 'Open the Book' to these two schools prior to the pandemic, which was welcomed by the children and teachers.

This involvement between the church and schools has been very rewarding and they look to hold their Harvest Festival and Christmas Carol services at the church. The children have recently become more involved in taking part in services, by making poppies for Remembrance Sunday and Christmas Angels to decorate the Church. We continue to endeavour to forge links with Ravenswood Community Primary School.

These are feeder schools into Ipswich Academy where, in collaboration with the school Chaplain, we have been working with year groups on Christian-based music and poetry workshops.

The pupil referral units (PRUs), First Base Ipswich Academy and Alderwood Academy are across the road from the church, and we have hosted events where parents and carers are able to gather with staff and pupils with great success.

The Little Learners & Forest Learners Nursery, which sits alongside Landseer Park, has an Outstanding OFSTED rating and a good relationship has been developed with the staff with visits to the church being encouraged.

There is significant potential to develop children's and young people's activities on Sundays and other days of the week, and in the deanery we have a 'Growing Younger' team who can help with this, also the 'Elizabeth Walter Charity' who can offer financial help with getting this sort of thing off the ground.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19: 14



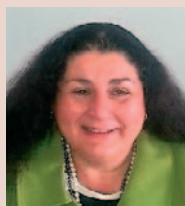
OUR MINISTRY/ LEADERSHIP TEAM

We are fortunate in that currently we have two Curates at All Hallows:



Revd Kiran Lotay

a full-time, stipendiary third-year Curate, due to be signed off in the summer of 2023.



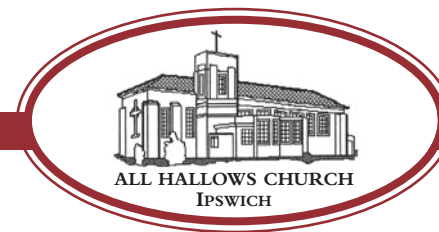
Revd Nancy Sloan-Capasso

a first year Curate, (on our Auxiliary Ordination Pathway) due to be Priested in the Summer of 2023 who offers 15 hours a week.

We also have a Churchwarden Donald Sloan who currently doubles up as our Treasurer. Our second Churchwarden post became vacant in 2022. Our strong and committed PCC of 9 members is experienced in the overseeing of the church business, including financial management, and will offer a huge amount of support and encouragement to our new priest.

Our Ministry Team currently comprises of our Priest, Curates, Churchwarden and PCC Secretary.

All Hallows Church relies on the dedication of those of its congregation who oversee so many of the day-to-day activities and duties that keep the church open for worship. This includes visiting those needing preparation for baptism, helping with confirmation groups, cleaning and flower arranging, overseeing the administration of the hall, maintaining the website, producing the weekly notice sheet, welcoming those seeking baptism, weddings, or funerals, maintaining the fabric and grounds, visiting the sick and housebound.



OUR BUILDINGS

a) The Church

Our church can accommodate nearly 250 people, is well maintained and in good condition with the Quinquennial inspection in 2017 revealing no major issues. It is well lit and heated by wall mounted electric bar heaters, and has the benefit of WiFi, a PA system with radio microphones, together with a leased state-of-the-art multifunction colour copier to print all our pew sheets and booklets.

All Hallows Church started out in what is now the church hall and was dedicated by the then bishop on 28th November 1930. The foundation stone for the church was laid on 30th September 1938, and the church was consecrated on 26th May 1939; it was built amazingly quickly to a very high standard.

It is well located on a main road, Landseer Road, through the parish and is unmissable to passers-by.

The building is an architectural classic in the Art Deco style, designed by Munro Cautley, (1876-1959) a renowned medieval historian who went on to design several churches in the area, as well as the main central lending and reference library in Ipswich.

The building is Grade II listed as an important piece of architecture in relation to the development of church buildings in Suffolk. The interior features a cinema style sloping floor, and the Art Deco theme continues in the beautiful wood veneered fittings and furniture in the sanctuary. More information and an independent assessment of the characteristics and attributes of the church building can be found on the 'About Us' tab on our web site.

The church has been used in the past as a rehearsal venue by choral and dramatic societies. There is also the potential to establish a Community Choir in the church.

Part of the grounds is set aside as a Garden of Rest for the interment of ashes and placing memorial stones. There is an informal church maintenance group that meets every week to keep the church, church hall and grounds in good order.



OUR BUILDINGS

b) The Church Hall

The Church Hall is well-maintained and well-managed. It has two halls and a large, well-equipped and maintained kitchen together with an adjoining enclosed garden. The larger hall is a popular venue for children's parties, family and other gatherings. Regular users of either of the rooms include parent & baby, fitness & exercise, physiotherapy, support groups, a lunch club, slimming group, craft group, and self-defence organisation.

The church hall is available for hire, providing a much-needed source of income. A variety of groups use the hall on a regular basis throughout the week as well as members of the public for private parties.

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. *Ephesians 2: 10*



OUR BUILDINGS

c) The Vicarage

The Vicarage is a detached property in its own grounds situated in Reynolds Road, adjacent to the church. It is in good condition and has four bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs, whilst the ground floor consists of three reception rooms, a large hallway and a sizeable well-equipped kitchen with utility room, and a downstairs cloakroom with shower.

There is a garage attached to the house and space on the front drive for around five cars. The front garden has borders adjacent to the Church Hall fence, and to the left of the front door, and there is an enclosed rear garden that backs onto the church grounds. The property is fitted with security features such as burglar alarm and security lighting.



OUR FINANCES

The latest figures for 2022 up to 30th November are given and they show a marked improvement over the previous two years in which income was decreased because of Covid-19 lockdowns. All Hallows has paid its full agreed Parish Share contribution since 2019 but has had to spend some of its reserves in order to do so and will have to increase its income going forward to cover its future Parish Share, which will be increased in phases every year over 5 years.

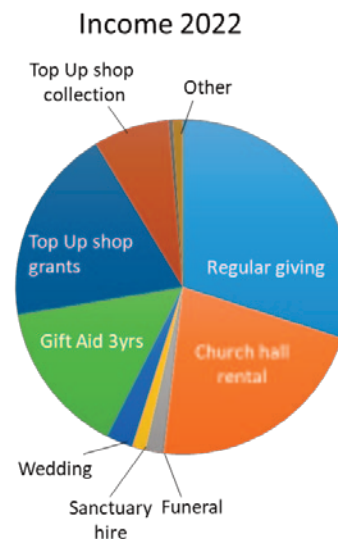
The recent pandemic has caused some reduction in membership, which has decreased the level of income. All Hallows is blessed with a healthy income from its Church Hall. We use the Parish Giving scheme and we have a contactless card terminal, as well as the traditional envelopes and standing orders.

The Top Up shop covers its costs and has received a total of £9,000 in grants during this year from the Suffolk Community Foundation and other grant-making trusts: the surplus in the Top Up shop income will be spent during the first quarter of 2023.

The Gift Aid refund covers three years of claims, next year the figure will be nearer £2,000. All Hallows has spent £8,464 on roof repairs this year leading to a high figure for maintenance.

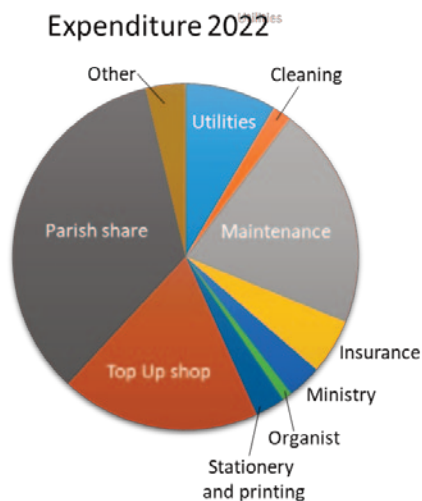
Cash reserves are around £30,000 and All Hallows also owns Church of England CLC shares and securities valued at £17,900.

Our new Priest-in-Charge will need to work with the PCC and the Archdeacon to help us raise our Parish Share by around £7k year on year over the next five years. This is a big ask but we believe God will help us to enter into entrepreneurial ventures which use all of our gifts and resources.



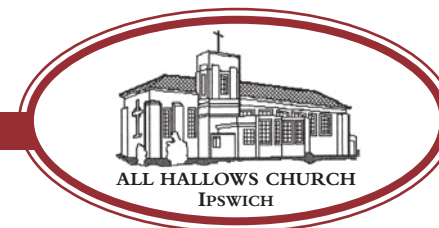
2022 income to 30/11/2022

Regular giving	14,225.00
Church hall rental	10,404.00
Funeral fees	838.00
Sanctuary hire	630.00
Wedding fees	1,216.00
Gift Aid refund (3 yrs)	7,074.00
TopUp shop grants	9,000.00
Top Up shop collection	3,491.00
Fund raising	178.00
Other income	463.00
Total	47,519.00



2022 expenditure to 30/11/2022

Utilities	4,504.00
Cleaning	915.00
Maintenance	10,983.00
Insurance	2,724.00
Ministry	1,682.00
Organist	510.00
Stationery and printing	1,460.00
Top Up Shop	9,812.00
Parish share	18,098.00
Other expenses	1,965.00
Total	52,653.00





OUR DIOCESE

The diocese covers the county of Suffolk, excluding the area around Lowestoft in the north-east, and one parish in Essex. It is a mainly rural diocese with a large number of small villages, plus market towns including Woodbridge, Halesworth, Sudbury and Beccles and the cathedral town of Bury St. Edmunds with its historic ruins of the old Abbey.

Where are we?

Ipswich is the county town with a population of about 147,000. The county embraces historic places of interest such as Sutton Hoo, culture at Snape with the famous annual Aldeburgh music festival, is on the Heritage coast and is a haven for lovers of natural history and birdlife. The busy port of Felixstowe is at the end of the A14 which runs via Cambridge to the Midlands and the A12 which gives access to London and the Norfolk Broads.

We are often known as 'the Church of England in Suffolk'.

The diocesan bishop is the Right Reverend Martin Seeley, and the suffragan bishop is the Right Reverend Dr Mike Harrison. Both work from the Bishop's House in Ipswich. They work together closely to help us shape our vision and strategy, and amongst a plethora of other tasks offer regular teaching mornings to nurture the faith of people in our congregations – and a regular Vlog which can be found on Facebook.

Who are we?

There are 3 archdeaconries and over 450 churches where visitors will find a wide range of worshipping styles, from the traditional to contemporary, as well as fresh expressions and growing numbers of 'Lightwave' groups for those who haven't connected with traditional church previously. We also work closely with our 88 Church of England primary schools. All this is, of course, supported by a small and committed diocesan staff based in the diocesan office in Ipswich.





OUR DIOCESE

Our diocesan vision is to be 'Growing in God', aiming to grow 'flourishing congregations making a difference'. This vision was accepted by Diocesan Synod in 2014 and since then we have been focusing on four key priorities:

- Growing in Depth: responding to the call of Christ in every part of our lives
- Growing in Number: drawing the contacts we have into the life of God's kingdom
- Growing in Influence: reaching beyond ourselves in our impact on the wider world
- Growing Younger; building churches whose age-range reflects our communities

Parishes are encouraged to use a simple Mission Action Planning tool to help us all to focus on these priorities and how they might be worked out in each different context. We are trusting God that this vision, underpinned by a commitment to Christian stewardship, will bear fruit as we look to the future.

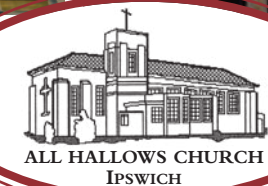
As part of this vision, in 2019 we received Strategic Development Funding for two major projects: Inspiring Ipswich, overseen by the Archdeacon of Ipswich which aims to grow the church in Ipswich through church planting and reaching out to those who live in the town, and 'Growing God in the Countryside', overseen by the Archdeacon for Rural Mission, which focusses on developing Rural Resourcing Churches and nurturing and discipling new Christians through small Lightwave groups. In 2022 we received further funding (Strategic Transitional Funding) to help embed our Growing in God vision.

We have also been part of a pilot scheme exploring how we can use our church buildings more creatively both for those who worship regularly and for the benefit of our communities and many churches have benefitted from this.

We are broadening our vision through a growing partnership with the diocese of Kagera in Tanzania, with fruitful visits and links being established.

So, in summary:

As our Growing in God vision states, we aspire to be people who know that 'God is with us, gathering us as Christ-centred communities, calling us to make Christian disciples, sending us in loving service, empowering us by the Holy Spirit'.



OUR DEANERY – INSPIRING IPSWICH

Inspiring Ipswich is an imaginative and exciting initiative of the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich. It spans seven years from early 2019 to early 2026 and during this period it seeks to strengthen the existing 24 churches within the deanery of Ipswich, helping them 'to communicate good news and make new disciples', as well as adding 25 new worshipping communities into the mix. Front and central is the overall aim of praying for and nurturing the faith of 1500 new Christians across the town.

With the help of a substantial and unprecedented grant from the Church Commissioners, and a small central Inspiring Ipswich team the project has helped most parishes in the deanery to have a Mission Accompanier to energise a local learning community. Central courses such as 'Leading your Church into Growth', 'Mission-Shaped Ministry', Evangelist training, Alpha training and the 'Growing Leaders' course are part of the offer and the support of two full-time Deanery Pioneer Developers is available for those leading fresh expressions of Church. The Deanery aims in everything to be 'relational, pastoral, missional and inspirational' and aspires to offer a good welcome and ongoing support to all its clergy, primarily through its Deanery Leadership Team, its Deanery Chaplains, clergy chapter meetings, monthly 'Missional Leaders' Lunches' and through the Archdeacon's ministry, which is focused solely on this one area. The Deanery is also highly imaginative and has recently started an 'Inspiring Angels' project and an 'Inspiring Chaplains' project.

One of the primary goals of Inspiring Ipswich is to help at least 5% of the population (around 7,500 people) enjoy an opportunity to explore faith, and our prayer is to offer Alpha or an equivalent course to over 1000 people.

Inspiring Ipswich is also helping congregations to set up new worshipping communities, such as Green Church, Wellbeing churches, Messy Church and a number of church plants such as River Church and Bridge Church.

It is an exciting and friendly deanery to be in. In short, we believe that any prospective priest in charge at All Hallows would not only find themselves warmly welcomed within the church and parish but would also find themselves at the heart of an inspiring vision and team in the deanery.



Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.
Ephesians 3: 20