

St Clement's Church King Square

Parish of St Clement with St Barnabas and St Matthew, Finsbury

Mission Action Plan 2016-20

Following Christ, loving one another, caring for Finsbury

Vision

As a Christian community we believe God, who made all things, loves every person and has shown us the depth and breadth of that love in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. This is the Gospel message inherited by all Christians at their baptism. As Christians we are called, as individuals and as a church community, to witness to the message of that love in word and deed through following Christ in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. We believe ourselves especially called to bring that witness to those living and working in our parish.

Activities and Objectives

Worship

Central to the life of our parish, we recognise the importance of our worshipping God together, marking the church year and providing services to those who come to us at special times in their lives for baptism, marriage or funeral. We welcome everyone regardless of background, appearance or faith to our services. Our worship should be of the highest standard, edifying but accessible, familiar but challenging, using the best of our liturgical and musical resources.

Over the next five years we will continue to develop musical and liturgical traditions in the following ways:

We will continue to provide a warm and practical welcome to worshippers.

We will find new times of day and days of the week to provide worship and prayer, particularly for those unable to join Sunday worship.

We will explore the use of special services and celebrations to invite others to join our worship.

We will identify and integrate new hymnody into worship.



OBJECTIVES

New worshippers attracted [through special services and an additional weekly service]

New worshippers feel truly welcomed [by trained welcomers/sidespeople.]

Community



Essential to our mission is our relationship with our neighbours and all who live and work in our parish. In bringing God's love to those around us we need both to disseminate knowledge of who we are and what we do as a church and to find ways outside church of meeting with and witnessing to those around us, with a particular care for the poor and vulnerable.

Over the next five years we will develop and deepen our links with the local community in the following ways:

We develop and keep up-to-date our parish website.

We will find new ways of raising the church's profile in the local community through special events and advertising, particularly in the new housing being planned for the parish in the next 5 years.

We will continue to develop a closer relationship with St Luke's Centre and other local community anchors.

We will evolve new ways of supporting the poor and vulnerable in this neighbourhood, continuing to supply and fund the work of the Dunloe Centre at St Saviour's Priory

OBJECTIVES:

More people know who we are and what we do [through a new website with double the hit rate of 2015.]

More people feel close to St Clements [through contacts in every block and development in the parish.]

Building

St Clement's Church is a heavy burden but an indispensable tool to the church's mission, as well as remaining a historic and important part of the local built environment. The use of the church and St Clement's Hall on Central Street by others is essential to the parish's financial wellbeing as well as its ongoing potential as a focus of mission, worship and outreach.

Over the next 5 years we will develop St Clement's assets in the following ways:

We will investigate the development opportunities for St Clement's Hall site.
 In concert with this we will plan a significant upgrade the church's own kitchen and WC facilities and ensure a step-free access point.
 We will develop a long-term fundraising and income-generating plan.
 We will seek the best value for energy supplies and other parish expenses.
 We will make the building more friendly and accessible to outside organisations.



OBJECTIVES:

- A viable, mission-oriented redevelopment plan for the St Clement's Hall site.**
- Renewed services in the church building.**
- A plan for long-term financial security.**

Children



Young people are not the "church of tomorrow", but the church of today and already comprise around 20-25% of the Sunday congregation. Continuing to welcome them, with their parents and carers, and giving them the opportunity to worship and pray as well as to learn the Christian faith, is a top priority. We recognize the importance of keeping our children safe from harm in church. Over the next five years to ensure the welcome for and the spiritual nurturing of local children in the following ways:

- We will continue to support Sister Pam and St Clement's Kids' Club
- We will develop an even closer relationship with St Luke's Primary School.
- We will develop activities and identify roles which encourage teenagers to stay in church.
- We will maintain the highest standards of child protection according to the Parish Safeguarding

Policy, and following diocesan and national church guidance.

OBJECTIVES:

- Current Kids' Club members still present and active in church [through supporting their participation more widely in the life of the church]**
- A continuing influx of Nursery/Reception age children [through promoting our work and providing a welcome for families]**

Leadership

Church leadership is shared between the incumbent, churchwardens and the PCC. However, we recognise that every member of the church community lay and ordained, male and female, old and young, have a role and a responsibility to work together. The nurturing and deployment of gifts, abilities and experience is essential to the thriving of the individual and the church as a whole. It recognises God's call to every Christian.

Over the next five years we will grow the lay leadership of the parish in the following ways:

- We will identify future leaders of children's work.
- We will identify gifts and talents among members of the congregation and ensure they can contribute to the life and worship of the whole church.
- We will provide a Christian nurture courses to help people grow and deepen their faith, and their confidence in witnessing to the faith.
- We will discover and nurture vocations to lay or ordained leadership.

OBJECTIVES:

- Two trained Kids' Club leaders**
- Church members provided with greater confidence and knowledge of their faith [through an annual Confirmation/Christian Nurture Course]**



Working with Other Churches and Faiths

St Clement's is part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church which is the Body of Christ. And while, as a parish of the Diocese of London, it looks to work especially with our fellow parishes in the neighbourhood, it also recognises other churches and their ministries in this part of London. It also has a responsibility to encourage the unity of the Church, and also to work in partnership with other faith groups in serving the whole population.

Over the next five years we will build more effective relationship with fellow Christians and those of other faiths living locally in the following ways:

- We will continue and deepen relationships with neighbouring parishes, especially St Giles, Cripplegate and other City Churches, Our Most Holy Redeemer Clerkenwell and St Mark's Myddelton Square, and with the Inspire Church congregation currently worshipping at Barbican Thistle Hotel.
- We will build strong links with other parishes in Clerkenwell and the rest of the Deanery of Islington.
- We will work in ecumenical partnership, where useful, with other Christians, especially Wesley's Chapel and St Mary, Moorfields.
- We will find ways of increasing mutual knowledge and trust with other faith groups living and worshipping locally, especially the Muslim community.

OBJECTIVES:

- Established relationships with local Muslims**
- New partnerships with other Christians working locally**