

**DIOCESE OF WORCESTER**

# **All Saints' Church,**

**Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove B60 1AF**



**District Profile  
2009**

**All Saints' today  
and looking to the future**

## Table of Contents

Our vision	2
Mission	2
The church buildings and grounds	3
History and development of the church	4
Scenes close to All Saints' Church	5
All Saints' worship and music	6
All Saints' special services	7
Church music	8
The current Vicar's offices	9
Personnel	9
Activities and groups	9
Other activities meeting regularly in the church hall	11
Finance: annual accounts and work to be done	12
Balance sheet	13
Stewardship and planned giving	13
Current work in hand	13
Condition of the church	14
PCC and committees	14
Housing	15
Local features	16

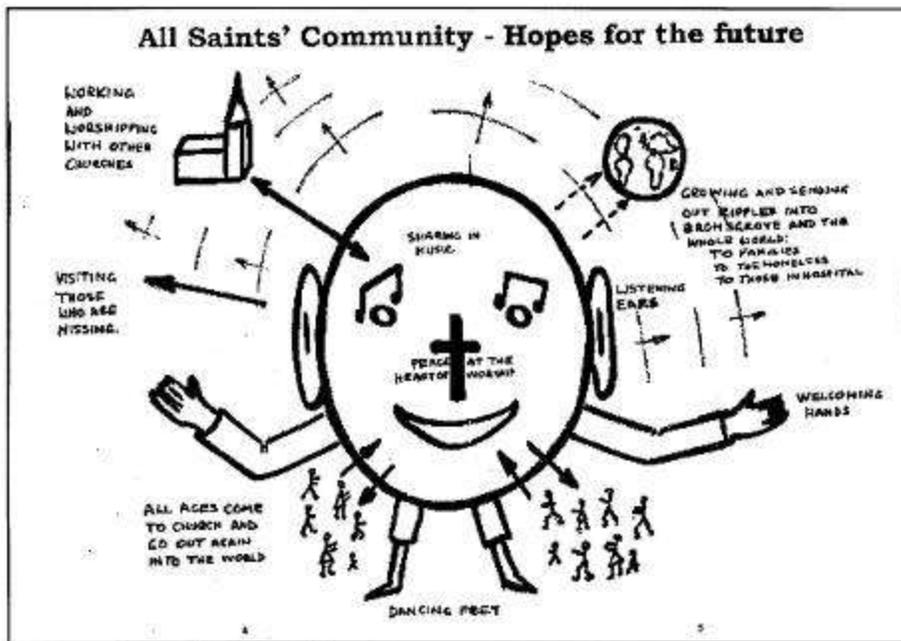
# All Saints' Church

## Our vision

Worship, especially the Eucharist will remain at the heart of the church; the congregation will also look outwards to the life of the town, the diocese, the county and overseas. We look forward to welcoming a ministry team capable of providing the necessary leadership.

Many parishioners have contributed to the worship and the leadership in the church and have made donations for the fabric. We hope to build on their work and to encourage new people to participate.

Our present congregation is both thinking and practical and enjoys being challenged. However there are quite a few elderly members and some who will be helped by compassion and comfort.



This cartoon was produced by the Parish during a Parish Development Programme some time ago but still represents the vision of All Saints' Church.

## Mission

- Build up participation in worship of all forms, including the moderately high tradition.
- Continue as a friendly and welcoming congregation.
- Involve all ages including young families and families.

## All Saints' Church

- Cooperate with other churches in Bromsgrove;
- Expand our local outreach
- Continue our overseas mission and connections.
- Increase the lay participation in the activities of the church.
- Encourage members of the congregation to participate in training opportunities and to develop their religious understanding. Increase the training and religious understanding of members of the congregation.
- Expand the range of activities provided in this versatile building.
- Continue the close contact established by All Saints' Church with the Bromsgrove District Council.

### The church buildings and grounds

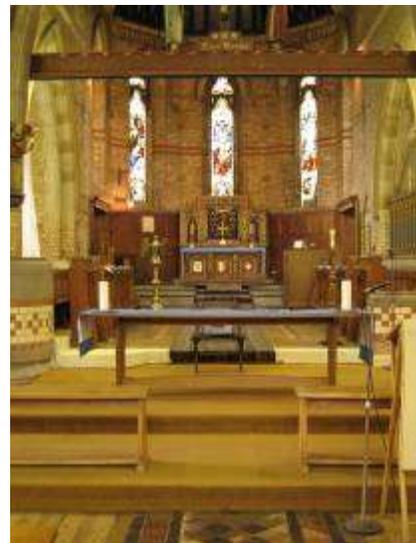
The church occupies an attractive and conspicuous site in Burcot Lane, just north of the town centre and opposite the District Council buildings. Its foundation stone was laid in 1872 and the building was completed in 1874; the tower was added in 1888. Much of the money for this building was raised by local donations. A subsidiary church (St. George's) was built in the early 20th century, but was subsequently sold.



The spacious building is Victorian Gothic in style, with interesting windows and interior decorations designed by members of the Bromsgrove Guild and donated by local people. Its high Anglican origin is indicated by the interior fittings, including the rood carving. The Church is a Listed Building, Grade II. There is a high altar and a nave altar on a permanent platform. There is flexible seating capacity for about 300.



*The high altar*



## All Saints' Church

*The church hall* is on the other side of Burcot Lane. It is a good size and has a kitchen, toilets including a disabled toilet, and storage facilities. The building is in good decorative order and the floor was replaced recently with a surface suitable for children's activities and for dancing. The roof has also been renewed and there has been improvement to the central heating system. We have a hall manager (voluntary) and cleaner. The building is well used by the church and the local community and currently operates at a profit.



*The church grounds* are attractive and well-maintained and are freely open to the public. All the trees have been inspected recently and some work on them is planned for the near future.



There is no burial ground attached to the church. *The War Memorial* in the grounds is maintained by the local authority.

*The car park* behind the church is leased to a local garage, but there is always space for church cars. There is plenty of other free parking available in the vicinity.

### **History and development of the church**

The church was built to cater for the needs of the large population living to the north of the town. It thrived and congregations and Sunday school became very large. It has always maintained a moderate, catholic tradition.

Today, the church attracts people from a wide geographical area. It continues to provide a moderately high anglican form of worship in Bromsgrove. There are currently just under 100 people on the electoral roll and the church provides a good number of baptisms and funerals as well as a reasonable number of weddings annually.

The congregation is spread across the socio-economic groups and, although there is no significant ethnic minority represented within the congregation, everyone is given a welcome at All Saints'. There is a mix of ages, but there are more retired members in the congregation than young families or young adults. One of the parishioners has described All Saints' as "a friendly, sociable and

## All Saints' Church

thinking church, eager to welcome new people and keen to look beyond the church community to the needs of the local and world community."

Although the P.C.C. would like to be able to have the church open at all times, it is necessary to keep the building closed except when someone is present. In the spring, during the annual art exhibition, at the time of the Bromsgrove Festival, the building is open throughout each day.

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### Scenes close to All Saints' Church



The Crabmill pub is close to All Saints' church



All Saints' Garage close to the church



The town's Dolphin Sports Centre

## All Saints' Church

### All Saints' worship and music

All Saints' has a moderate Catholic tradition. The Eucharist is at the heart of its worship.

#### Sundays 8.00 am

All Sundays Said Eucharist using Common Worship.  
Usual attendance is between 5 and 15 people.

#### Sundays 10.00 am

1st Sunday All age worship with Sunday School in the service.  
Baptism within service.  
Attendance about 40.

2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays Sung Eucharist. Common Worship.  
Sunday school joins service for Communion.  
Some children have been welcomed to take Holy Communion before confirmation.  
Attendance about 40 plus children.

**After the 10.00 am Sunday Services** fair-traded drinks are served in the hall.

#### Sundays 12 noon

3rd Sunday Baptism service. There is an open Baptism policy.

#### Sundays 6.30 pm

1st Sunday Sung Eucharist.  
4th Sunday Choral Evensong.  
Numbers vary but 18 usually attend.

#### Thursdays 10.00 am in the Lady Chapel

Said Eucharist Between 8 and 12 attend.



The Thursday service



## All Saints' Church

Some people receive **Communion at home** or in one of the homes in the Parish.

**Church breakfasts** take place at 9.a.m. before the service on the first Sunday in the month when numbers are usually about 14.



**All Saints' special services including occasional services of high mass:**  
**Christmas:** Lessons and Carols on Sunday during Advent, Christingle Service at 3.30.p.m. on Christmas Eve with preparation of the Manger (with about 120), Sung Eucharist at 11.30.p.m. on Christmas Eve, Christmas morning at 8.a.m. and 10.a.m.

**Candlemas.**

**Mothering Sunday** when bunches of flowers are presented to all women and the Sunday School children give hand-made presents to their mothers.

**Palm Sunday** begins with a procession from the church hall.

**Services during Holy Week** include Maundy Thursday, Good Friday 10.a.m. with making of an Easter Garden for the children, Good Friday 1.00.p.m. to 3.00.p.m.,

Holy Saturday: Lighting of the Fire, and two services on Easter Day.

**Ascension Day** (usually a Bromsgrove Anglican Group Service).

**Pentecost:** usual services and Praise in the Park (organised by Churches Together in Bromsgrove).

**Sea Sunday** attended by the Royal Naval Association.

**One World Week** service (often with an invited speaker).

**Remembrance Sunday** service ends with congregation moving to the War Memorial to lay Wreaths. The Royal Naval Association has taken a lead role.

**All Saints' Day**

**Memorial Service**

**Annual District Council Service**



Palm Sunday procession at All Saints' Church

## All Saints' Church

**Christmas and other services for local organisations** have been variously for The Scout Association, North East Worcestershire (NEW) College, the College Crèche, the first schools, Parkside Middle and North Bromsgrove High Schools, the Primrose Hospice and the WI.

### Church Music

The church has an unusual and distinguished, modern Italian two-manual Tamburini drawstop organ which was installed at the back of the church about 30 years ago. In addition there is an Allen organ and an electronic piano.



The current organist and choirmaster has been at the church for two years and is an outstanding musician who performs international concerts and is also organist to Birmingham University and acting head of department for organ at the Birmingham Conservatoire. He was attracted by the quality of the two-manual Tamburini organ which was installed at the rear of the church about 30 years ago. While with us he and his wife have contributed much to the music and the church community.

There is a small but enthusiastic choir which leads the congregational singing and which sings the Psalm and an anthem at the monthly Evensong. Choir practices are held on Friday evenings. Hymns are usually taken from *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (New Standard version), occasionally supplemented by *Worship Songs*. The church is affiliated to the RSCM.



Choir members enjoy a meal together

Occasionally, it may be possible to involve musicians from North Bromsgrove High School to play during the service.

There is a single bell.



## All Saints' Church

### The current Vicar's offices

Chaplain to Bromsgrove District Council, for which an annual service has been held at All Saints' Church.

Trustee of Bromsgrove United Charities and Thomas White Charity.

Chaplain to the Naval Association.



District Council Offices opposite  
All Saints' Church

### Personnel

All Saints' Church has one experienced **Lay Reader**, who is Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod and runs All Saints' Sunday school.

**Lay participation** in the services is well-developed. Many members of the congregation read lessons; a smaller number lead the Prayers of Intercession. Currently, a number of people are authorised to act as **Eucharistic Assistants** and assist with the chalice.

There is some possibility in the future of a few lay people undertaking pastoral visits within the District or helping with visits to the homes for the elderly and carrying out baptismal visits as has been undertaken in the past, particularly during the previous interregnum. It is hoped that some people will undertake diocesan training for various lay roles during 2009-2010.

Members of the congregation carry out many duties for the church.

### Activities and groups

The **Sunday School** is under the leadership of the lay reader. It is small but its activities are imaginative and popular with the children.



Sunday School Music Group

## All Saints' Church

There is a **Mothers' Union** which meets monthly and which has contributed much to the life of All Saints, the Deanery and the Diocese. It has been involved in various activities locally, and provides mutual support for its members and helps with church activities. On the second Thursday the Mothers' Union joins the 10.a.m. Communion service and has coffee afterwards.

Members of the congregation attend various conferences and training meetings on their own initiative. Those who need it have attended the Diocesan Child Welfare and Safety training and the CRB system is up-to-date. A day course on Food Hygiene was arranged for members of this parish some years ago for those who are involved in catering and Certificates were gained as a result.

There have been regular **fund-raising sales**, usually annually but sometimes twice yearly. Each year there is a **Parish lunch** and there are **monthly breakfasts** in the church hall.

The **Chatterry** is an informal social gathering run by two parishioners in their homes, usually on the second Wednesday of each month for coffee and for an Open Day once a year. There is a "regular little group of All Saints' friends who make it a happy, lively coffee break." It is an opportunity for parishioners and neighbours to come together and it is an effective outreach activity. All profits so far have gone to the General and Restoration Funds of the Church.

**An annual art exhibition** (for the work of local artists) has been organised in the church during April for seven years in association with the Bromsgrove Festival. Part of the profits have been generously donated to the Church's Restoration Fund. There are occasional **choral concerts** in the church.

From time to time, there have been short series of **discussion meetings**.

In recent years there have been joint discussion groups for Anglicans and Methodists held at the Bromsgrove Methodist Centre and other denominations have been invited. Two year-long **Bishop's Certificate courses** have been run at All Saints' church for people from the whole Deanery.

Members of All Saints' participate in events organised through **Churches Together in Bromsgrove** and the **Anglican Group**, especially the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the Holocaust service, the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, Praise in the Park and the joint Lenten events as well as Clean-up days in various parts of the town.

## All Saints' Church

### **Other activities meeting regularly in the church hall**

All Saints' Art Club, Bromsgrove and District Flower Arranging Society, Tumble Tots for pre-school children, various keep fit and dance activities, and dog training! The hall is used frequently for private parties.

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Bromsgrove holds a lively market in the pedestrianised High Street

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All Saints' Church

**Finance: annual accounts and work to be done**

The full parish share has been paid, although with difficulty, since 2000.  
All reasonable clergy expenses are paid in full.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ALL SAINTS. BROMSGROVE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2008**

**INCOMING RESOURCES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
			2008	2007
	£	£	£	£
Voluntary income	27,597	-	27,597	27,062
Activities for generating funds	800	-	800	1,595
Income from church activities	28,353	-	28,353	29,852
Income from investments	49	256	305	444
Extraordinary item	26,379	-	26,379	-
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>83,179</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>83,435</b>	<b>58,953</b>

**RESOURCES USED**

Grants	376	-	376	513
Activities directly related to the work of the church	62,004	-	62,004	5,343
Fund raising & publicity	-	-	-	-
Church management & administration	1,372	-	1,372	1,526
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>	<b>63,752</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>63,752</b>	<b>57,382</b>

**NET INCOMING/OUTGOING)  
RESOURCES**

	<b>19,426</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>19,682</b>	<b>1,571</b>
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BALANCES B/FW

1 JANUARY 2008	5,847	11,25	17,097	15,526
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BALANCES C/FWD

31 DECEMBER 2008	25,273	11,506	36,779	17,097
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All Saints' Church

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ALL SAINTS. BROMSGROVE**

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2008**

	2008 £	2007 £
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>		
Organ	2,226	3,338
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
Debtors	3,150	3,150
Bank & Cash	<u>31,403</u>	<u>36,988</u>
	36,779	43,476
<b><u>LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</u></b>		
	-	(26,379)
<b><u>NET ASSETS</u></b>		
	<u>36,779</u>	<u>17,097</u>
	=====	=====
<b><u>FUNDS</u></b>		
Unrestricted-General	(3,152)	(28,549)
Unrestricted - Church Hall	28,426	34,396
Total Unrestricted	25,273	5,847
Restricted	<u>11,506</u>	<u>11,250</u>
<b><u>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</u></b>	<u>36,779</u>	<u>17,097</u>
	=====	=====

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by:

Chairman: W Moore      Secretary: C Horne

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009

**Stewardship and planned giving:** The stewardship and planned giving system has been in operation for many years. Each spring, the Stewardship Officer writes to all participants and electoral roll members to invite them to reconsider their regular donations. Even so, it is hard to meet the regular commitments of parish share, maintenance of activities and of the building.

**Current work in hand**

A faculty has been granted for work on the roof.

The sound system with its induction loop is currently being renewed and updated to enable a wider variety of uses.

The electrical wiring and lightning conductor were both repaired and granted certificates of safety during 2000 and have been maintained and inspected since then. Installation of a second lightning conductor, to meet current standards,

## All Saints' Church

has been approved. Some extensive repair to the heating system was carried out in 2001 and further maintenance work has been done recently. Tree maintenance is up-to-date.

**Condition of the church** The church is sandstone with a brick lining and tiled roof. The interior of the church is generally in reasonable condition and the state of the roof is good. However, some restoration work is needed to the sandstone, particularly on the tower. Sufficient money was raised to begin the restoration of the upper part of the tower in the summer of 2001. The cost of this first phase of work was approximately £65,000. In total, about £200,000 work is needed on the building but it is not possible to do all of this at present. It would be useful to convert the former organ chamber to include an additional room for church use.

The **war memorial** in the church grounds is maintained by the District Council.

### **PCC and committees**

**The Parochial Church Council** meets about six times a year and meetings have sometimes been preceded by a meeting of **the Standing and Finance Committee** (incumbent, churchwardens, P.C.C. Secretary, and Treasurer). At various times there have been active Mission, Worship, Social and Building Committees. Currently the Mission and Building Committees are active and others are planned for the interregnum.

The P.C.C. is represented on the committees of **Churches Together in Bromsgrove** and **Bromsgrove Anglican Group**.

There is a weekly **Newsheet** and **Parish magazines** are produced ten times each year.



Sorting magazines

**The Mission Committee** oversees the church's current outreach activities, guided by the ideas of the Five Marks of Mission. It runs occasional bring and buy Mission Stalls after morning worship to raise money for Mission. The money raised by this and other fund-raising events is used to support various charities including Anglicans in World Mission (United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) and the Church Housing Trust. Twice a year there are Traidcraft Stalls and most years there has been at least one coffee day.

*Christian Aid Week* for the town is organised by our All Saints' reader. In 2008, our own All Saints' collectors raised more than £2,300 during the week. The church also gives money raised by a harvest auction and other activities to

## All Saints' Church

Christian Aid. Twice the church has organized a large town-wide collection of tools for Workaid which sends renovated tools overseas.

*One World Week* is celebrated in a modest way, usually with an outside speaker and a special lunch.

The church has supported *Jubilee 2000* and subsequent campaigns and members of the congregation have visited the *diocesan link churches* in Magdeburg and Peru and through the Mother's Union and North Bromsgrove High School there have been links with Uganda and The Gambia. The Sunday School has a link with a Nursery School in Kabale, Uganda.

Leaflets about the church and its activities are delivered to new housing developments in the parish. Cards are sent to children on the first anniversary of their baptism.

The church actively supports the *Children's Society* through donation boxes and the Christingle service collection.

In addition, the church supports the two local Homeless Projects by providing gifts of food and recycling goods, collects stamps which go to Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, postcards which go to the Helen Keller Centre for visually handicapped in Jerusalem, and encourages recycling of furniture and household goods.

### **Housing**

*The Vicarage, 20 Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove B60 1AD*

The attractive vicarage is close to the church and convenient for the centre of Bromsgrove. It was built during the 1950s. The accommodation comprises: good-sized kitchen, 2 reception rooms overlooking the rear garden, study, five good bedrooms all with built in wardrobes and one with wash basin, good airing cupboard, family bathroom, separate toilet, downstairs cloakroom. The study area is separated by a lockable door from the main part of the house. The house has gas-fired central heating and there is floodlighting and an alarm system. There is a garage next to the house and an extensive area for parking. The garden is lawned with some interesting shrubs, fruit trees and a vegetable area.



It is hoped that the new Parish will use this vicarage for church purposes and possibly to provide housing for a curate, lay worker or other member of the clergy.

## All Saints' Church

### Local features

All Saints' District lies to the north and west of the town. The area is largely residential, with housing of all ages and types and some shops and other commercial premises. The District extends to just beyond the M42 roundabout at Lickey End to the north and includes the village of Burcot.



A local shop and café

The Methodist Centre, the Lickey End Methodist church and NewSong Church are all within the All Saints' District. The Princess of Wales Community Hospital and the District Council offices are close to the church.



The Methodist Centre and its Minister



The Bromsgrove campus of North EastWorcestershire College, North Bromsgrove High School, several First and Parkside Middle School are within the District, as are the David Lloyd Centre, the town's Dolphin sports hall and swimming pool, and the Artrix Arts Centre.



North Bromsgrove High School



The Artrix Arts Centre