



Church Development Plan Priorities - 2023-24

We long to see God use St Marks Church to build his kingdom in our local area. The church development plan is how we hope to move together towards this shared purpose.

St Marks Church has adopted a flexible approach towards the church development plan since the Covid 19 pandemic, reconfiguring targets from the more static, diagrammatic five year plan which we wrote as a church, in order to establish priorities that would have the greatest relevance during a period of significant change.

As we seek to maintain a healthy church during the vacancy period between vicars, and look forward to welcoming in new leadership, the PCC has used the same approach to identify four priorities for 2023-24.

Priority 1: To continue to develop a collective sense of belonging and shared-identity through providing different opportunities for people to connect in community with one another, and to share God's love with the world.

Such as by:

- encouraging participation in the process of recruiting a new vicar
- supporting those who are working harder in the church during the vacancy
- offering pastoral support, including through our chaplaincy work at Warwickshire College
- sustaining opportunities for people to connect with one another
- proactively supporting initiatives like eco-church.

Priority 2: To sustain the established church vision statement.

Such as by:

- maintaining its prominence during worship throughout the vacancy period
- articulating it clearly throughout the process of recruiting a new vicar, for example ensuring it has high visibility in the Parish Profile.

Priority 3: To continue developing how we meet spiritual need through the fullness of collective worship.

Such as by:

- maintaining uplifting worship during the vacancy period, and recruit a new vicar who can offer theological leadership and cohesion
- growing in discipleship through whole-church worship, small group worship, and youth work
- exploring with children and young people ways in which they can be more involved in worship
- increasing accessibility for both church and non-church people
- building and connecting with the online congregation.

Priority 4: To continue to maintain the church building and hall during the vacancy period

Such as by:

- identifying and prioritising essential maintenance work
- continuing to support the new Grants Team.

Please look at these priorities prayerfully, and consider how God might want you to be involved in this work. We will all support each other along the way, working together to get things done, and growing in community as we do so.

Please speak to Marcella, Charlie or Ros if there are any projects you would be interested in supporting, with your time, or through a financial gift. Alternatively, contact the church office directly.