

## **Review of Rogate with Terwick Churches 2022 for Parish Council AGM 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'.

The Council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Electoral roll: There are currently 112? parishioners on the church electoral roll.

At the start of a New Year the effects of covid are still being felt with many people still uneasy gathering in closed spaces, or, joining with larger numbers, having had to cancel the Christmas Crib service due to covid. Benefice services have been slimmed down to accommodate our need to join together to share in worship and to work together in the mission of the Church with shared resources.

Bill Howat was elected as the new Churchwarden for St Bartholomew, Rogate. We also appointed a new inspecting Architect for St Bartholomew, Rogate, Richard D Andrews of Carden and Godfrey, who lives in Havant and is a member of the DAC. There are plans afoot for St Bartholomew and its re-ordering of the Chancel and to make the Church more welcoming and open to the community.

Rogate Church boiler broke down at the end the year and will need to be replaced as is unrepairable. As a Church we are struggling to make ends meet at Rogate and we seek for more regular giving to the Parish Giving Scheme.

Trotton and Terwick Churches came together to raise funds for their respective Church restoration projects and an Auction & Dinner was held at Southdowns Manor in May, which was a ticket affair with just over 100 in attendance. Terwick had just completed a re-roof and underpinning of side pews, and installing French drains, and the interior of the church will be the next project to be undertaken at a cost of over £20,000. The auction raised over £13,500 and in total some £33,000 in total has been raised so far.

**A Christian Aid Week Coffee morning and buy sale was held at Rogate Church which raised over £200** which went towards making for over £1,300 collected, through the house-to-house collections. We also welcomed our friends from St Luke, Peckham for our annual Rogation walk and tea which was greatly supported by having so many come down to us from St Luke's. The Rector attended together with Roger Mowll St Luke's patronal service which the Bishop of Croydon preached. We look forward to marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their parish church.

**Rogate Church hosted several Eco Rother Action groups public meeting and seminars on** recycling and solar energy, and in August hosted a Macmillian Cancer Care afternoon tea at Rogate Church organised by The Wyncham Branch of Foresters, which raised over £200.

**Little Angels Toddler Group** which is Church sponsored and run by church and community leaders and is working very well and making great inroads to helping and supporting those who attend and to the wider community for the common good. Our Churches are open to all in and supporting the community as a resource and where people come to visit, worship, and

pray. 'Bartz Kidz' a child friendly activity of Bible stories with craft and a meal was held several times during the year. 'Knit, Stitch and Natter' group, under the direction of Scilla le Pla (Reader), meet at East Lodge, on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays and bring support to one another in so many ways during the year.

**As a benefice we marked the Platinum Jubilee of HM The Queen** in June with an exhibition with floral displays in all our churches, together with an Exhibition at Rogate Church. The exhibition brought many village organisations, businesses, school, and individuals together.

On the demise of HM The Queen in September we were able to respond with a Book of Condolence, lighting of candles and with special Vigil service held in the evening at Rogate Church on 1<sup>th</sup> September which was attended nearly 50 people. We also held a Requiem Mass for HM The Queen. Our prayers and thanksgiving were given for our new King, Charles III and Queen Consort, Camilla and for the whole royal family.

**As a Benefice we contribute £750 each year towards the Deanery Family Support Worker, Kirsty**, who held a Summer event at Rogate Village Hall for families in the village; she comes into Rogate school several times a term, but is inundated with work in Midhurst and Petworth social housing areas. It is hoped that she will be joined by another and is making great inroads to where people need help.

Our Churches are more than just buildings as good as they are to 'proclaim the year of Lord's favour'; to right the wrongs of injustice, to uphold the weak, to strengthen those who are persecuted for righteousness's sake.

**The Diocesan /Parish plans for the next years, with 2023 'Year of the Old Testament' and The Coronation of King Charles III.**

Rogate Church will also mark in 2024 the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its restoration 1874 – 2024 with special services and events as we seek to make for a restoration of Chancel, lighting and bringing together of the wider community.

We look forward to building on the good we have accomplished and with renewed heart, a spirit of togetherness to make headway with all our projects and to be generous in our giving to the Mission of the Church and to meet the needs of all in need in our community.

Ann Arnold, who was a Churchwarden at Terwick and Rogate, and a member of the PCC and Parish Council died following a long illness. A thanksgiving service for Ann was held on 24<sup>th</sup> November at Rogate Church.

We would like to thank the Parish Council for all their support to the upkeep of our Churchyards for burials and for all their support to us all in so many varied ways.  
Yours in Christ,  
Edward (Rector)