

PARISH PROFILE

HOLY TRINITY SITTINGBOURNE

Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ⇒ CHANGING LIVES







INTRODUCTION

ORDINARY PEOPLE EXTRAORDINARY GOD

We hope you will be encouraged as you read our Parish Profile which provides a snapshot of what God is doing in our church and town. We are praying that the right person will be led to us as they read this. Perhaps that person is you?

We are a friendly, generous and welcoming church; keen to move forward and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, trusting in God's Word, bringing honour to our Father as we seek His Kingdom.

We are part of the New Wine network and value their mission and ministry style. We are connected to the Church of England Evangelical Council and the Canterbury Diocesan Evangelical Network, and value their support on matters of orthodoxy.

We offer both traditional and contemporary services, which enable people to encounter and connect with God in different ways. We are a community of ordinary people from different nationalities, backgrounds and ages who love, worship and serve an extraordinary God!

ARE YOU BEING CALLED?

We are praying for a leader who can help us to fulfil our vision to take our church forward and see God's Kingdom come and His will done in us and our town. The harvest truly is plentiful. We have a strong sense that God is building His church and will bring revival here.

The new incumbent will be well supported by our team of paid and unpaid staff, Clergy and Reader.

We look forward to meeting our new Priest and you will find yourself very warmly and enthusiastically welcomed. We pray that the Lord will bless and direct you as you consider whether God is calling you to Sittingbourne.

Phil & Terry

Churchwardens

To see Sittingbourne transformed one life at a time by Jesus

THE PERSON WE SEEK

SPIRIT FILLED AND KINGDOM FOCUSED

You are passionate about Jesus and are a person of integrity, faith and courage. As a servant hearted leader, firmly rooted in God's Word, you will be sensitive to the Lord's voice and to the leading of the Holy Spirit in all you do. You are committed to seeing God's kingdom expand in Sittingbourne, working across the area to enable more people to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

PASTORAL AND PIONEERING

You are people focused with a caring, kind, gentle and compassionate heart. You can relate well to people of all ages and backgrounds and have had experience of the working world. You are fun to be around with a good sense of humour. You have the ability to make people feel at ease. You are humble, thoughtful, approachable, prayerful and a good listener. You are a good communicator and able to teach the Bible and demonstrate the life of the Kingdom through your words and example. You are community minded and mission focused.

COLLABORATIVE

You are a leader and a team player. You lead by example, encourage, enable and empower others. You are enthusiastic about seeing others grow, discover and use their God-given gifts and talents in ministry. You are a good people manager and know how to support whilst delegating effectively. You are comfortable with the different styles of our services: enjoying leading both contemporary and more traditional worship.

OUR PRIORITIES

These can be summed up with three words - Worship, Word and Ministry

WORSHIP

"As you reach out to me my Spirit will flow greatly among you, my power will strengthen you, my love will heal you, my grace will refresh you and renew you, for I am building my church."

We are passionate in our worship of Father God, receiving the good news of Jesus and encountering him through the Holy Spirit. Worship is at the heart of our life together and we take it very seriously, encouraging regular attendance and active participation by people of all ages and stages of faith.

We are blessed in being able to have both contemporary and more traditional worship across our two services on a Sunday morning and for occasional offices and special services too. We have a Worship Band, an H Wills & Sons 1895 organ (but currently no resident organist) and a team consisting of Clergy and lay service leaders.

WORD

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, to be received, understood and obeyed. As a church we have a team of preachers who enjoy preaching and teaching the Scriptures faithfully and enthusiastically! We seek to be relevant to modern culture whilst also holding an orthodox position regarding the teaching of Jesus in all situations.

MINISTRY

We believe that all ministry whether on a Sunday or through the week should be guided, directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We stand in the Evangelical, Charismatic tradition of the Church of England and have seen many signs and wonders occur as we have witnessed, prayed and ministered in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

During this time of Vacancy, we have been encouraged by:

- *the good foundations, procedures and protocols* laid down by our previous Vicar which we have been able to maintain and build upon;
- *collaborative leadership* across the different aspects of church ministry;
- *continued growth* as we welcome new people almost every week (we are an eclectic church);
- *a steady income*, we are blessed by a generous church family, and we believe in tithing for Christians;
- being able to maintain our *Kids' Church* and restart our *Younger Youth* group;
- being able to strengthen and develop all our *Sunday teams;*
- being able to s*erve our community* through the ministries of MenTalk Health, Love Laughter Lunch and HT Stay & Play;
- further development of our *Prayer Ministry Team* and *Home Groups;*
- the underpinning of our leadership and life together by an understanding of *The Culture of Honour* (as expounded by Danny Silk in his book of the same name) and *Spirit Filled Churches* by Paul Harcourt.

Overall, our greatest desire and priority is to be the church we are meant to be and to do the things that Jesus calls us to do.

OUR VISION

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.(Hebrews 12:2)

Beginning with us, we long to see Sittingbourne transformed one life at a time by Jesus.

We see our church as a beacon for God in Sittingbourne, to reach the lost and grow disciples. We seek to be welcoming, loving and relevant, connecting with and serving our community, providing both spiritual and practical support in a friendly and Christ-like way.

We want to see more of the power of the Holy Spirit moving amongst our church family changing lives and making all things new. We want all we do as church to honour the Father who loves us, to be Jesus centred, Bible based and Spirit led. We seek to empower one another to be people who walk with Jesus in their daily lives, at home, at work and in the community and beyond.

PROPHETIC WORDS

And teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age (Matthew 28:20)

We believe the Lord has spoken these words to us during the vacancy and are prayerfully seeking to live them out.

God is doing a new thing, urging us on. Focus on what he is doing. He's looking after everything. Be bold, he is doing a new thing. Be joyfully expectant. Keep moving on, trusting he knows best.

Look! See what I am doing. I am working on a new thing. I have been putting my plans in place from the beginning, so that this great thing can happen, for love and glory. It is beautiful and true.

The Lord is saying, he will give us insights, wisdom, and grace and that there is great blessing in tough times. He has not forgotten us.

The Lord is saying, I open the door that many seek to close. I know the outcome. I am with you always.

We are to be a thin place where heaven, the Kingdom, comes close to earth. A joyful place of sacrificial worship, healing and blessing.

Be people of the Word and the Spirit. Preach, teach and practice repentance and humility. Be patient, keep learning the ways of the Spirit. Seek and wait on me in all things. Be obedient, expectant, steadfast and bold.

Seek, be bold and use what I have given you.

Season of winter has passed, now a new season of light, growth and joy, new things to come.

A new dawn, great expectations!

My church, I know where I am taking you. It is for the sake of my Kingdom, for the sake of the lost around you. Hold on to me and pursue my ways and listen for my voice guiding you. I will never lead you astray. You can trust my plans for you.

CHURCH LIFE

PASTORAL CARE AND OUTREACH

A CULTURE OF HOSPITALITY AND WELCOME

'We don't have a welcome team because we are all the welcome team'

We strongly believe that the generosity of our welcome and hospitality are together a whole church responsibility and activity, and key to creating a sense of belonging. We have teams who serve in both of these areas and we are often complimented on making people feel welcome. At both of our Sunday services the congregations are encouraged to chat over refreshments with church family and newcomers.

We see hospitality, practiced both personally and as a church, as an important part of growing a strong and healthy fellowship with good relationships across the generations. We aspire to do more of this in future.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is extremely important to us. We have a parish safeguarding officer and a safeguarding administrator who work with the Leadership team and the PCC to ensure that any risks or concerns relating to children, young adults and vulnerable adults are managed sensitively and effectively.

'Good safeguarding is everyone's responsibility!'

We work to the CofE's standards and keep ourselves updated by attending quarterly Diocesan Safeguarding Network meetings. We receive safeguarding newsletters from the Diocese which keep us well informed. We share updates with the Leadership Team and the PCC.

We follow the CofE's safer recruitment procedures when recruiting volunteers or paid staff.These procedures include carrying out the correct DBS checks and ensuring safeguarding training is completed and up to date.

We are currently working towards the CofE audit which will be conducted later in 2026.







HT THURSDAY STAY & PLAY

HT Thursday Stay & Play is our group for pre-school children that takes place in the church every Thursday morning in term-time. After the pandemic this group restarted with around 20 children, and has increased to 50 children attending with their parents or carers each week.

The aim of the session is to build relationships with the children and parents/carers on personal and spiritual levels. We incorporate a bible story within the craft and tuff trays each week and our mornings end with action songs and a blessing under our parachute. We always offer good quality snacks and drinks. As we build relationships and community we are able to come alongside people and pray with them and have seen many wonderful answers. Our families support one another, and some are attending church - we pray for more!

We also offer practical help such as our having small Baby Bank available, offering nappies, wipes, baby food and milk, toiletries and other one-off items.

We are thankful for the support we receive from our local Asda and Morrison supermarkets.



LOVE LAUGHTER LUNCH CAFE

This is our community café, which is held between 12 and 1.30pm every Wednesday in term-time. Our aim is to provide a good quality, low-cost meal along with a warm friendly welcome in a place where people can feel safe. We work alongside Foodbank and CAP to provide a free meal for those in need.

There is a seasonal menu along with different weekly hot meal, pudding and home-made cakes. We have a steady number of regulars who attend most weeks, not all of them church members. We are a little restricted in terms of the number of tables we have at the back of church, but we have never needed to turn people away, and if we did we'd offer them a take away!

We provided a free Christmas dinner last year which was well attended and gratefully received.

There is always worship music playing on the sound system and we aim to share the Gospel and offer confidential prayer ministry if appropriate.







HOMEGROUPS

We continue to see a homegroup as place where established Christians welcome and bless newcomers, including new Christians. Also, the groups offer a place to study God's word and encounter him, hear his voice and grow in responding to him. We see each homegroup as a spa and a gym, a place of comfort and challenge!

The groups retain the simple pattern of Bible, Prayer and Friendship.

Our Homegroup leaders have completed the relevant safeguarding training and follow the guidelines and expectations given for this role. Homegroup leaders seek to meet together each month to study God's word, pray, listen for words of knowledge and receive training as well as support by the leader overseeing this ministry. They desire to grow closer to Jesus and to grow in using his spiritual gifts.

We are blessed to have such faithful homegroup leaders and their love and care for their groups is very evident in the life of the church.

Last winter we were been delighted to have the Wednesday Homegroup lead and host the 321 Course in church. They did this in a loving, professional way and worked brilliantly as a team to welcome and sit with those who attended. The cakes were wonderful too!

We also did a survey in the autumn regarding our roles and what our mission plan/vision should be for the next five years. We have been encouraged and will continue to seek the Lord's way as groups grow and as we establish new groups.

PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM

The Prayer Ministry Team at Holy Trinity regularly and faithfully serve at our Sunday services and in other situations throughout the weekly life of the church. Many of our members attend the prayer time before the 10.45 service.

We aim to meet monthly to worship together, read God's word, listen for words of knowledge, pictures and prophecy and always include a review and training session. The team members have completed the basic safeguarding training and are governed by our prayer ministry guidelines and expectations. Keeping confidentiality is important to us and we seek to serve God's people by honouring the Lord. During last autumn we also did a survey of our roles and what our mission plan/vision for the next five years should include. We were encouraged by our common purpose and will continue to review where we stand regarding our mission focus.

We have been called by the Lord to minister to others in the power of the Holy Spirit. We are greatly encouraged by the ways we have seen God speak to his people on Sundays during the response time and many have responded to specific words of knowledge. It is a privilege to come alongside people and be used by the Lord to bless and encourage them as they seek him.

It was a joy for the team to be used by the Lord to seek words of knowledge, pictures, prophecy and scriptures for the candidates and present them at recent baptismal services.

Team members continue to build a closer walk with the Lord and desire to grow more in using spiritual gifts to bless his people wherever he takes them.

THURSDAY PRAYER GROUP

On Thursday afternoons we meet for an hour of prayer in the church, and people from other churches regularly join us. We begin with a time of worship and Bible reading. Then, as our church is also used for community events, we ask the Holy Spirit to cleanse and fill the building and guide us as we pray.

Our prayers are focused on revival for the world, our nation, our town and the local community. We pray especially for countries in conflict, asking for God's wisdom for all in authority and seek the powerful presence of God with us. We like to end our time of prayer by singing the Benedictus by Matt Redman.

We participate in the week of prayer for Christian unity and host one of the town's prayer meetings.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST



Our HTSB Women's Breakfast began on 17 May 2025 as a welcoming and growing ministry that creates space for women of all ages and backgrounds to gather regularly for fellowship, encouragement and spiritual growth.

Meeting throughout the year, the group typically attracts around 27–30 women, including both church members and those from the wider community. Feedback from those attending highlights a strong desire for deeper relationships, opportunities for prayer, worship and Bible-based teaching and a place where women can share testimonies, support one another and grow in faith. There is also enthusiasm for outreach, practical life topics, and social activities that build connection beyond Sunday services.

At the final breakfast gathering of 2025, the group was also able to support a local domestic abuse charity through donated items, reflecting a growing heart for practical outreach and service. The HTSB Women's Breakfast has continued to meet and has quickly become a valued part of church life, offering warmth, belonging and a gentle pathway for discipleship and community

MEN'S WALKING GROUP



Our Men's Walking Group restarted in Autumn 25 and meets regularly on a Saturday morning for a relaxing walk followed by fellowship and breakfast. The walks are much enjoyed by all men in the group, as well as youngsters and dogs!

The group has walked around a number of Sittingbourne's local villages and also Milton Country Park.

MINISTRY IN THE COMMUNITY

FOODBANK

Our vision is that in the future there will not be a need for anyone to use a Foodbank in our community.

We are long term supporters and contributors to the local Swale Trussell Trust Foodbank which serves Sittingbourne and Sheppey. We collect donations of food and other household items regularly.

The parish hall is one of the regular locations for food parcel distribution. Volunteers from our church serve, alongside other local Christians, in an attitude of respect, interest and helpfulness. They signpost clients to other support agencies, including Christians Against Poverty (CAP).

We regularly give free vouchers from HT for Love Laughter Lunch, which are offered to the clients.

SWALE CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY DEBT CENTRE (CAP)

We help local people become free of debt and stay debt free. We also have a parallel aim of clients knowing Jesus and being rooted in the local church.

We are the Lead Church in a partnership of four churches which support the local Swale CAP Debt Centre, which serves the areas of Sittingbourne, Sheppey, and surrounding villages.

It is led by a Centre Manager who is also the Debt Coach and supported by a Regional Manager, a local Line Manager, Befrienders and Prayer Partners. All Centre staff apart from the Manager, who works 50 hours a month, are unpaid volunteers.

Some members of the Centre are trained to offer the CAP Money Coaching sessions to clients and prospective clients. This is a free service designed to empower people to know how to budget and better manage their finances. Recently they have run the course in two of our DWP Centres.

We have built good links with local Food banks, Homeless Charities, Job Centre plus, the Local Council, Social Services, Housing Associations and Mental Health Teams.

Clients have also been supported by local churches and the Acts 4:35 Charity.

CHRISTMAS & HARVEST GIFTS



Every year at Christmas, the church supports several charities or Christmas outreach programmes. Past examples are: local schools, the Swale Foodbank, CAP Christmas gifts for clients, young carers and local prisons. The congregations come together to show God's love in very generous and practical ways to others in the community.



At Harvest we collect a financial donation to Tearfund and food for our local Foodbank.

We always exceed expectations, which is a great example of the church's desire to serve those around us.

MENTALK HEALTH SITTINGBOURNE



Mentalk Health Sittingbourne is a local registered charity led by a mental health professional and supported by a small group of trustees. There is also a team of trained first aiders/coaches who attend the meetings and are available to support the men during the week.

We host their weekly support group in our church building on a Tuesday evening. The average attendance is 40-50 men, and each meeting is a lifeline for many, that enables them to find friendship, fellowship, mutual and empathetic support. We believe that at least eighteen mens' lives have been saved.

We have a team of 5 volunteers from HTSB, and our role is to provide a safe place of meeting, to create a welcoming atmosphere, provide refreshments, and a listening ear.

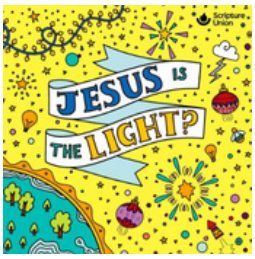
Over time, we are delighted to have developed relationships with a number of the men. We have had opportunities for spiritual conversations, and for prayer, where appropriate.

Three men have been baptised here, and one at Sittingbourne Baptist Church. God has been, and still is, at work among them. We thank Him that we have been able to meet this need, and serve the men in our area.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

EXPERIENCING GOD

KIDS CHURCH



Kids church meets every Sunday except for All Age Service Sundays and summer holidays. Currently there are 12 members of team. All leaders and helpers have completed the necessary safeguarding training. To comply with CofE safeguarding requirements we always ensure we have 4 adults at each session.

The age range for Kids church is currently 3 years to end of school year 5. Depending on the number of children present on the Sunday morning we keep all the children together for the whole session or split into smaller groups. Average attendance is 14 children. The current number of children on our register is 50.

The theme for the week's session is usually based on Scripture Union Light material. We choose sessions on a theme for about 4 weeks at a time, to fit with the season, tie in with a theme being used in church or to link characters in God's story. The sessions or themes are often augmented with ideas from other sources such as Saddleback Kids, The Jesus Story Book Bible and Trueway Kids.

Each week we try to include thank you prayers for past week, a game, song, bible story with discussion, prayer from the session and craft.

YOUNGER YOUTH





The Younger Youth group runs bi-weekly on a Sunday parallel to the 10.45 service and is a provision for our children in school years 6 to 9. We currently have 18 children on our register.

We are a small team of leaders who are very passionate for our children to learn about Jesus and build a close relationship with Him. We want to come alongside them on their personal journey, listen to their questions and teach them about who Jesus is and what He has done for them. We pray that they will become close followers of Jesus.

We encourage the children to translate what they learn into their daily life and that being a Christian should be part of all we do. We also want them to understand that we are part of a bigger church family and that we look out for each other. Bible study, prayers, games, craft activities and quizzes are all part of our time together.

Our vision for the future is to expand the team to enable us to offer weekly meetings and also to add activities during the week so our relationships and friendships can develop and grow stronger. We have started 'Fun Family Friday' evening events for our whole church family and their guests to come and enjoy a relaxing evening of board games, group games and fellowship.

WORSHIP TEAM



9am Common Worship Holy Communion with hymns & Bible teaching

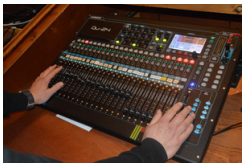
10.45am
Contemporary Worship with band and Bible teaching
Communion offered monthly.











As a team we aim to use our gifts to give glory to God and to lead our church into an intimate encounter with Him. We are dedicated to leading others in Spirit-filled worship; allowing the Holy Spirit to minister to people through song.

We are building relationships with one another, with God and our church family through Sunday worship services and other church activities.

As a team we enjoy social events and constantly hold each other in prayer.

Our current team consists of musicians, singers, audiovisual technicians, out of which four also lead worship on a regular basis at 10.45 and once a month at 9am. Other 9am services currently have on-screen hymns.

We want everything we do to be relevant and life-giving to the body of Christ as we worship in Spirit and in Truth.

'I will loose your tongues and you will sing for me. You will speak for me. You will pray and see miracles in your midst. You will wait and I will come in power and glory. You will rest and be restored. You will proclaim my name and you will declare my glory in this place.'

PARISH FINANCES

Holy Trinity is a generous church. The church family is encouraged to give generously and trust God by tithing or structured giving. The members of the PCC are encouraged to be on a giving plan, as we need to practice what we preach. As a church, we are committed to give a mission tithe of all unrestricted income to partners that we support, locally, nationally and internationally including Christians Against Poverty Swale and National, TearFund, Open Doors, Swale Foodbank (Trussell Trust), Bible Society, Bible Reading Fellowship, New Wine, Mercy Ships and Mission Aviation Fellowship.

In January the DCC approved our distribution of our 2025 tithe as follows:

RECIPIENT	AMOUNT £
CAP Swale (agreed annual contribution of £250 per month)	3000
CAP Swale for Local Centre use	1000
Swale Foodbank	3000
Open Doors	1500
TearFund	1585.61
Mercy Ships	1000
Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)	1000
Bible Reading Fellowship	100
Bible Society	500
New Wine	200
Total	**£12885.61**

HTSB

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 12 2025

	31 12 2025	31 12 2024	
Income			
Cash Collections	11,423	11,715	
Gift Aid Claimed	20,099	20,893	
Legacy		8,910	
PCC Fee Income		926	
Other donations		415	
Planned Giving - Gift Aided	71,563	75,505	
Planned Giving - Non-Gift Aided	43,120	29,631	
Interest Received	56	105	
Total Income	**146,261**	**148,100**	
Average Income per month	***12,188***	***12,342***	
Expenditure			**Budget for 2026**
Parish Share***	67,066	69,294	84,169
Services	8,209	6,900	9,750
Church Running Cost	26,223	17,378	22,170
Management And Administration	35,432	34,266	38,270
Clergy Expenses	1,649	1,328	2,050
Mission Tithe	14,750	13,895	12,886
Total Expenses	**153,328**	**143,062**	**169,295**
Average Expenditure per month	***12,777***	***11,922***	***14,108***
Total Net Surplus /(Deficit)	**(7,066)**	**5,038**	
Transfer Between Funds	(103)	(121)	
Total Fund B/Fwd	34,791	29,874	
Total Funds C/Fwd	**27,622**	**34,791**	
% Of Income C/Fwd To Next Year	19%	23%	

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Consecrated in 1869, good condition, both structurally and decoratively, Grade 2 listed.

Reordering of nave completed in 2019 creating new flexible space for worship and ministry in the community.

Lounge and office.

2 toilets and fitted kitchen.

Car park for 12-15 cars on site with nearby public parking.

The Holy Trinity parish hall is nearby and is run by a separate Trust.

Our vision for the church building is to provide a safe, warm and welcoming environment that serves the church family and our local community.

Our Quinquennial Inspection was carried out in November 2024 and we are working on the resulting Plan of Works. We held a Giving Day in November 25, which raised approximately £53,000 over the next 3 years, some of which has been used for repointing of the Tower.

The church re-ordering was completed in 2019. The floor was levelled and pews replaced with wooden chairs. The heating system was also upgraded. In 2021 the kitchen was refitted.

There are 2 toilets situated off the South entrance lobby; one being adapted for disabled use. There is a small vestry at the base of the bell tower and access to the organ loft and tower is via a staircase off the vestry. A lounge is accessed from the North lobby which is used for small meetings and Younger Youth currently meet here on a Sunday morning. Our office leads off the lounge. The church has WiFi.

Holy Trinity does not have a churchyard but there is a garden and small car park. The garden is lovingly cared for by members of the church family and is well stocked with flowers and foliage for church flower arranging.

RECTORY

The rectory is a five bedroom property with a ground floor wc, first floor family bathroom and 2 first floor wc's. There is a large enclosed rear garden ideal for functions and family time. The house has gas central heating, an alarm and is fully carpeted throughout.



5 bed house with off-road parking, ½ mile from the church, opposite a park



Hallway



Lounge



Study



Kitchen

THE OPPORTUNITY

OUR LOCATION



Sittingbourne is the largest town in the borough of Swale, situated in North Kent on the A2, which was the Roman road (Watling Street) linking London to Dover. We have direct links between London and the coast by road and rail.

Canterbury is 17 miles away and the county town of Maidstone is 12 miles away.

Sittingbourne is popular with commuters due to property affordability and excellent rail links. The population of Sittingbourne is growing rapidly as many new housing developments are being built. The population estimate for 2024 is 66,210, with age mix as follows: 23.5% (0-17), 59.8% (18-64) and 16.7% (over 65) *Source: https://www.citypopulation.de/*.

STAFF TEAM

Retired Priest (PTO)
Lay Reader
Church Administrator (paid part-time)
Families & Community Minister (paid part-time)
2 Pastoral Ministers (part-time)

2 Churchwardens

OUR PARISH

Holy Trinity's Electoral Roll has 112 members. The average Sunday attendance figure is 105, as reported in the 2025 Statistics For Mission Return. Its parish is located in Sittingbourne town centre, and is bordered by the A2 to the south and railway line to the north with a mix of Victorian, 1930s and 1970s housing.

OUR PCC AND VOLUNTEERS

Parish Safeguarding Officer
Parish Safeguarding Assistant

LOCAL AMENITIES

Shopping and entertainment (new cinema, bowling alley and restaurants near the railway station) in Sittingbourne as well as nearby towns. Across the town there are 5 secondary schools (2 grammar) and a good selection primary schools. There are 3 schools for children with additional needs. Many local sports and leisure venues and local places of interest to explore. Great countryside walks locally including the North Downs and Kent coast.

MISSION AND MINISTRY

Star at top of church tower, very bright, there for all to see. God saying, be alert Holy Trinity, I am sending you as a beacon for the town.

There is a great opportunity for our church and churches across Sittingbourne, to work together to advance God's kingdom in the area. The town is being regenerated and there are many new housing estates. However, there is also deprivation, homelessness, unemployment, poverty, drug/alcohol addiction and loneliness. The pandemic has increased mental health problems and anxiety across all age groups. As society continues to rebuild, how can our church be relevant and at the heart of the community in a rapidly changing world - guiding, caring, giving hope, and demonstrating a different way to live to everyone?

We want to seek new ways to reach people and bless them, in Jesus' name, to see our town transformed. We want to be a beacon of hope bringing the good news of Jesus to our community in both word and deed.

IN CONCLUSION...

The Vacancy has been a challenging time for us individually and for our church. As the Staff Leadership Team, we have sought to build on the strong foundations laid by our previous Vicars and to encourage our Church Family to pull together and be TEAM TRINITY; and they have!

We have sought to bless each other week by week and to keep JESUS AT THE CENTRE, to keep our eyes and ears fixed on Him, seeking to follow where He leads us. In the tough times we have chosen not to give up honouring The Lord and His Church but to keep focussed on worshipping Him alone.

We believe that God is the Father who loves us, Jesus is our Saviour and Lord of the Church, the Bible is the Word of God and the Holy Spirit transforms our lives, bringing forgiveness, healing and deliverance. Through our sung worship, and systematic preaching and teaching of God`s Word, we have endeavoured to present faithfully the teaching of Jesus and The Gospel, in the love of the Father and power of the Holy Spirit; so people's faith and trust in Jesus is enriched, deepened, and strengthened; and it has been! Therefore, we will continue to hold fast to God and His Word.

We have brought people of all ages to Baptism, Renewal of Vows and Confirmation; we have seen one Ordinand recently ordained as Deacon and now serving in a neighbouring benefice; one person is currently in the discernment process. We have seen many new people join our church and believe that the Lord will continue to bless us with growth in every area of our life together.

We are looking hopefully and trustfully to the future and to the new areas of ministry that The Lord will reveal to us. We believe there is great opportunity for church planting and developing other worshipping communities in our town and Deanery and think that we are ideally positioned, spiritually and geographically to become a resource centre for this kind of ministry. Our previous Vicars have had very good relationships with local church ministers, members of the Borough Council and other community leaders and we are praying for that to continue with our next appointment.

We are learning to wait on the Lord, to trust Him with our future and to continue to serve Him faithfully even in the harder times.

Stay close to me
Stay in my presence
Walk in my way
Believe and trust my Word.
Reach out and receive the power of my Spirit; for I am guiding you.
I am directing your steps.
I am calling you forward
I am taking you further and deeper into the purposes of my Kingdom.
Watch, wait, receive
And go in my Name, to my glory, into this world.
I am with you; I will never leave you.

WE ARE READY TO GO AGAIN!!!

The Staff Team
Terry, Phil, Ann, Gill, Laura, Tina, Mike, and Jane



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