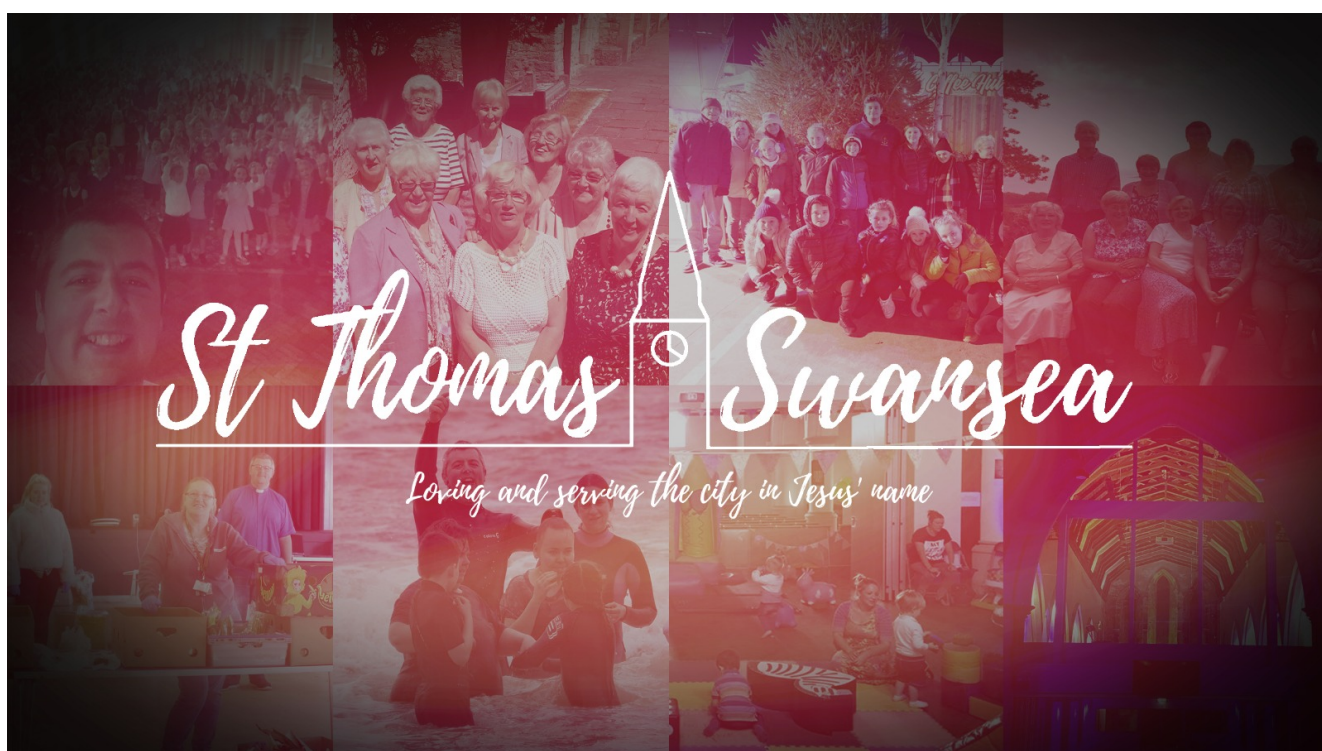


Parish of St Thomas and Kilvey



Annual Report 2020/21

Team

Vicar: Rev Steven Bunting

01792 652891 / 07816421683

vicar@sts.church

Operations Manager: Rachel Bennett

01792 455671

Rachel.Bennett@sts.church

Office Administrator: Deborah Sharpe

01792 455671

office@sts.church

Café Manager: Rob Dawson

Community Engagement: Ellena Bannon

Parish Wardens: Rob Smith and Lynda Miners

Parish Website www.sts.church

Facebook Site

www.facebook.com/stthomasswansea

Weekly Services

Sunday: St Thomas 10.30am (free breakfast at 10.00)

Tuesday: St Thomas 11.30am (followed by free lunch)

Introduction from the Vicarage

Greetings,

In March 2020 the world changed for ever with the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus which quickly spread across the world. Governments took unprecedented action to protect the lives of people in every country. On 23rd March the Prime Minister addressed the UK to announce the first national lockdown where businesses and organisations including the Church must close immediately and everybody had to stay at home. The government in Wales banned the gathering of people for communal worship and this continued for the remainder of 2020. As a church we used this unprecedented crisis as an opportunity to truly reflect our vision which is to love and serve the city in Jesus name. The remainder of this report will highlight the way our church came together with the community and City to try and relieve the consequences of this devastating pandemic.

The church continued to gather for worship online through newly learnt technology such as zoom and when it was possible small gatherings happened outside the church building. In total 66 online services were recorded before the church was allowed to gather again in person.

2020 also saw the continued redevelopment of St Thomas Church in preparation for its reopening, when restrictions are eased in 2021. I give thanks to God that none of our church family were seriously ill with Covid-19 and that they all remain healthy and able to attend worship when allowed. I always remain grateful to the many people who give up so much of their time to serve our wider church family, community and city, most of which goes unseen by other people.

With Love and Prayers Steve

Diocese of Swansea and Brecon

Deanery Afon Tawe

Parish of St Thomas and Kilvey

Category	Sub Category	General Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total	2019 Total
INCOME					
Voluntary Income	Planned Giving	£32,105.15		£32,105.15	£15,373.00
	Loose Collections	£677.85		£677.85	£2,370.00
	Donations	£9,198.55		£9,198.55	£3,487.00
	For Special Mission		£4,490.00	£4,490.00	£4,026.00
	Legancies	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	GA Tax Refunds	£5,828.90		£5,828.90	£7,663.00
	GASDS				£561.00
	Grants		£652,094.49	£652,094.49	£231,422.00
	Generated Income	£5,674.82		£5,674.82	£10,996.00
	Fees	£2,739.00		£2,739.00	£3,502.00
	Other Income	£8,165.18		£8,165.18	£1,028.00
TOTAL INCOME		£64,389.45	£656,584.49	£720,973.94	£267,428.00
Expenditure					
Support for Ministry	Parish Share	£32,009.51		£32,009.51	£17,917.00
	Clerics Expenses	£4,775.08		£4,775.08	£1,591.00
	Money Raising	£0.00		£0.00	£17.00
Parish Activities	Maintenance of Services	£3,385.32	£0.00	£3,385.32	£2,774.00
	General Parish Expenses	£2,371.96		£2,371.96	£3,664.00
Church Property	Maintenance of Churches	£15,878.79	£636,260.34	£652,139.13	£220,405.00
	Maintenance of Other Property	£893.57		£893.57	£5,838.00
	Exceptional Expenditure (Salaries)	£0.00	£23,453.88	£23,453.88	£8,881.00
Grants and other	Mission in the Parish		£6,552.18	£6,552.18	£4,705.00
	Mission across the World	£0.00	£180.00	£180.00	£1,474.00
Total Expenditure		£59,314.23	£666,446.40	£725,760.63	£267,266.00
Summary					
Summary	Balance brought forward 2019/20	£15,757.51			
	Plus Income for 2020	£720,973.94			
	Expenditure for 2020	£725,760.63			
	Balance Carry Forward	£10,970.82			
	Current Account Closing Balance	11,330.83			
	Mission Fund		13,006.98		
	Friends of St Thomas		11,328.50		
	House Fund			Acc Closed	



Covid-19 Response



After the announcement of the 1st national lockdown in March 2020 the church quickly acted to support the local community and wider city. Our foodbank in St Stephens was closed and a new one opened in St Thomas Church Hall, open 5 days a week. A hub was created from where volunteers could collect and distribute food and donations, prescriptions could be collected and delivered, and wellbeing checks could be done on vulnerable people in our community. During the pandemic we were collecting and delivering over a tonne of food every week. The foodbank distributed standard food bank parcels and a mixture of fresh and donated food. We are grateful to all the supermarkets, organisations, pubs and restaurants, shops and the general public who donated so generously during this period to support us. We are also incredibly grateful to Admiral Insurance who donated a significant amount of money to support the work of the church during its covid response. We are indebted to the kindness of the local community who organised bingo, street parties and gatherings to raise money for the program. We also owe so much to the small band of volunteers who worked their socks off the whole time!



During the first lockdown we sprung into action to support the families across the city who were eligible for free school meals. Volunteers from the church travelled all over the city to deliver to the doorstep over 10,000 bags of food to make sure not child went without. We delivered sandwiches, easter eggs and other treats to support the staff building the Swansea Bay Field Hospital and at Christmas blessed over 200 individuals and many families with blessing bags containing chocolate treats and gifts. We also supported several struggling individual families with furniture and other goods. Our volunteers collected food from supermarkets across the city every night to distribute to those who need it most, including through our porch in St Stephens. On Christmas Day we were unable to host our normal Christmas Dinner for those who are alone and instead we delivered 50 hot cooked dinners to doorsteps across the city to bless peoples Christmas day.



During 2020 our Baby Basics programme continued to support families across the Swansea Bay University Health Board. We are incredibly grateful to all our volunteers who help keep this important ministry going. This work directly transforms the lives of some of the most vulnerable in our society including vulnerable mothers, those fleeing domestic abuse, teenage mums and tiny

Our BB and GA groups had to move online during 2020 because of the pandemic. Members got involved in lots of activities including a weekend camp from home, celebrations for VE Day, Harvest and Remembrance. We look forward to resuming all our childrens activities when we are allowed, including our school assemblies, toddler groups, youth and children's groups and school activities.



Our New Home

