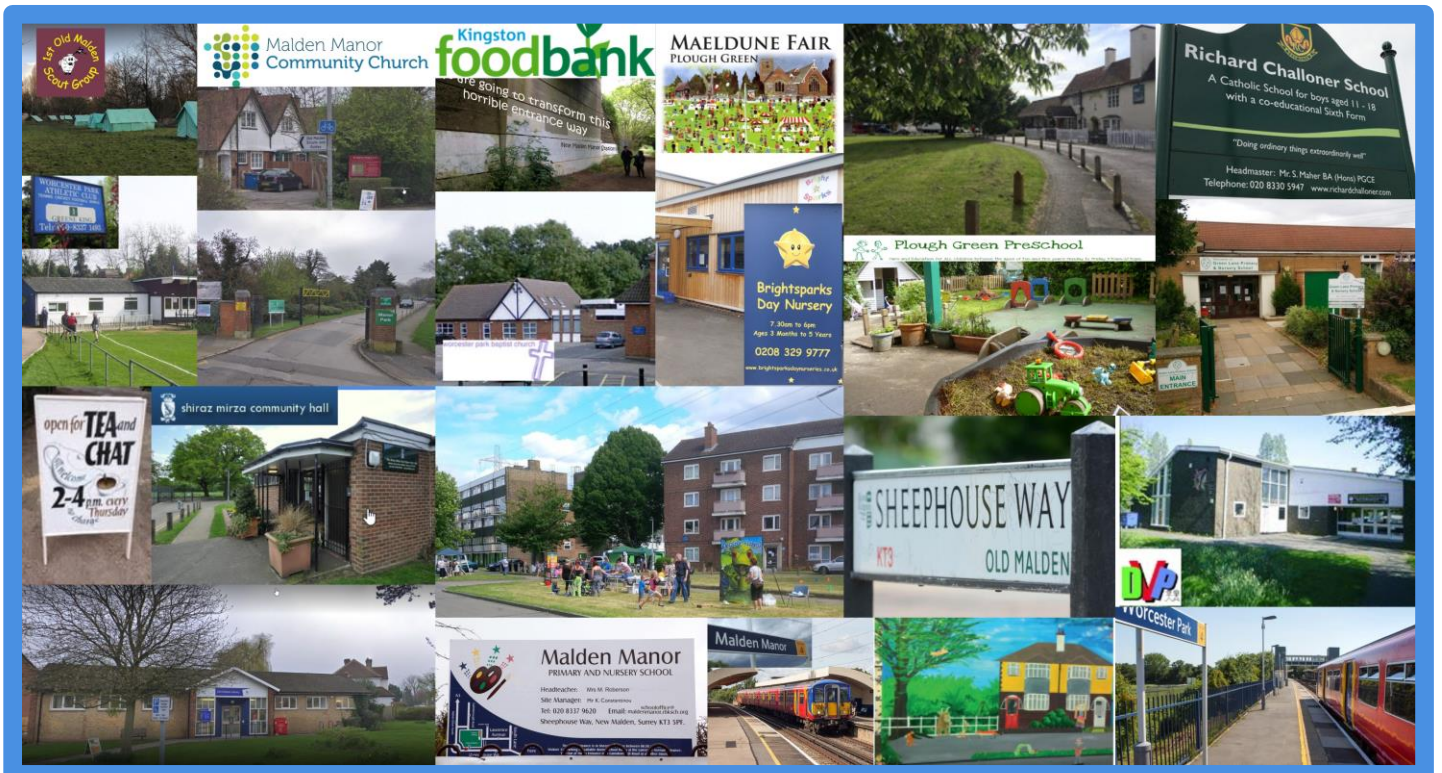




THE PARISH OF MALDEN, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH PROFILE 2018



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, MALDEN



Parish Website

<http://www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk>



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsmalden/>



Parish Blog

<http://stjohnschurchmalden.blogspot.co.uk>



Twitter

[@StJohnsChurchWP](https://twitter.com/StJohnsChurchWP)

Contact

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St John the Baptist
Old Malden

6 November 2018

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'IN A NUTSHELL'

Following the retirement of the Revd Kevin Scott, who was the Incumbent at St John's for 15 years, we are looking for a Priest to lead us as we move forward in a new and exciting chapter of the life of the Parish.



Our Parish

The parish of Malden St John is in a pleasant, leafy suburb with easy access into the heart of London. The parish is made up of large areas of apparent affluence with one area of comparative poverty. Our church school is classified by Ofsted as 'Outstanding' and the same rating in SIAMS religious inspections.



Our church and its people

St John's is committed to being an inclusive church. We use Common Worship for our liturgy and use incense at our main services. Children and young people are an essential part of life at St John's and are welcome at every service.



Our church and its community

St John's has a strong record of commitment to both the local and wider community. We provide a wide range of social and outreach events, which are only made possible by the generosity of volunteers. We have recently constructed our new website which is regularly updated and reviewed.



Our church and its buildings

St John's dates back to Saxon times and is a grade II listed building with original features. The building is in relatively good maintenance order but would benefit from some internal decoration. The vicarage is 5 minutes' walk away and the church hall is 15 minutes' walk away.



Ordained and Lay Ministry

The ministry team, churchwardens, members of the PCC and the Parish Administrator provide valuable support to the Incumbent. We have a strong team of servers and we are well served by an RSCM affiliated choir accompanied by an experienced organist.



PCC and MAP

We have an active PCC and eight committees forming a structure to enable St John's to operate. Our key mission focus is Welcome. Our MAP is reviewed regularly and appears as a standard item on the agenda of all committees.



OUR NEW PRIEST



We are looking for a vicar who is rooted in prayer and personal faith, to be the foundation of our church and parish community; innovatively leading us forward in faith:

- ✓ Open hearted and open minded
- ✓ Actively and consciously inclusive
- ✓ Visible and fully involved with the wider parish community - bringing a fresh approach to the life of the church
- ✓ Desiring the opportunity to further develop our understanding of scripture. Spirituality through prayer, preaching and teaching, help us to grow in faith and in our relationship with God
- ✓ Embracing our liberal Catholic tradition style of worship whilst moving it forward to ensure it is relevant today and into the future
- ✓ With the courage to be radical and challenging; bringing new and innovative channels of communication, collaboration and technology to welcome, engage and grow our all age congregation
- ✓ Preaching from the heart to deliver challenging and inspirational sermons; exploring theological ideas and meaning behind scripture, and what they mean in modern day, empowering us as a congregation and as individuals on our spiritual journeys
- ✓ With a strong desire to further develop and build a fruitful relationship with Malden Parochial school; nurturing more families into the life of the church
- ✓ With a collaborative leadership style which enables the involvement of others in church life; including the Ministry Team, PCC, committees and subgroups and fosters vocations
- ✓ With a Global vision; looking for peace and justice in the world and a concern about climatic changes and the environment



What we can offer:

“God is love, and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.” 1 John 4:16

A congregation which is:

- Unassuming but with a tenacious approach to living our faith
- Inclusive and welcoming, offering a safe place to worship
- Eager to embrace change whilst continuing to honour the familiar
- Seeking to reach further out into our community
- Rich with ideas and skills
- Committed to the pastoral care of clergy; recognising it is important to maintain a healthy work-home life balance by setting aside time for family, and for rest, recreation, retreat, and study in accord with the report by the College of Bishops “Clergy Wellbeing”.

A church which has:

- A heritage and history dating back to the Domesday Book
- A supportive Ministry Team
- A musical tradition with a robed choir, organist and Director of Music
- A supported parish office
- An ‘outstanding’ church school (Nursery - Year 6)

What our children say!



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

The parish of Malden St John is in a pleasant, leafy suburb of London in the Kingston Deanery and the Diocese of Southwark. The Parish is predominantly residential with a high number of commuters due to the easy access into London. There are two railway stations, Malden Manor and Worcester Park (25 minutes to Waterloo) and the A3 (&M25) which leads directly into the heart of London.

The housing is primarily 1930s houses mixed with some recent small developments and one large area of local authority houses and flats. The population of the parish is 10,700 with age profile at the 2011 census of 5-15 years - 14%, 16 - 64 years - 65% and 65+years - 16%.

The parish has three primary schools, including our church school Malden Parochial and one Roman Catholic secondary school. There are also 4 pre-schools, 3 community centres and 2 community churches. The parish hosts a GP led health centre, a library and 2 shopping parades. The parish also has a number of open spaces including the Green Flag Award Winning Manor Park. A map of our parish can be seen at Appendix 1.

Malden Parochial School

Malden Parochial C of E Primary School is a popular and successful one form entry school within the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames. Classified by Ofsted as Outstanding, it also has achieved this rating in SIAMS religious inspections. The school also has a Nursery.

Traditionally there have been good links with St John's. The Eucharist is held twice a term in the school. In addition, the Vicar takes collective worship once a week. The school visits the Church once a term for services including Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Easter and an end of school year service. St John's also provides Foundation Governors.



Children of MPS entertain Mothers Union



MPS children visiting church at Heritage weekend.

OUR CHURCH AND ITS PEOPLE



St John's is a member of Inclusive Church and Visible Congregation. We believe in being an inclusive church; a church which does not discriminate on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in a church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ. The Church is also one of only two communities in this part of South West London to be recognised as a 'One Body One faith' visible congregation having been found to be a safe space to worship by some of the LGBT members of our community. We currently have 143 on our electoral roll. Our Patrons are Merton College, Oxford.

Worship is at the heart of our Church Life

Much of our worship focuses on the Eucharist and we use Common Worship for our liturgy. Our worship is colourful, drawing on both traditional and contemporary aspects of catholic liturgy. Our theology is liberal and seeks to be radical. Lay participation is an integral part of our Services. We have an open baptism policy; we welcome couples to be married including those that have previously been divorced; we care for the departed and comfort the bereaved. We remember those who have died in a Service of Remembrance and in our regular intercessions.



Prayers of lament at St John's.

Sunday Services

- 8.00 am - Said Eucharist Eucharist is said using Common Worship. The congregation is usually between 10 and 15 people.
- 9.45 am - Sung Eucharist This is the main Sunday service. Eucharist is sung with incense, robed choir and organist. Attendance is usually between 90 and 120. Children's Ministry is available during term time and is usually attended by between 12 - 15 children. Twice a month 'Little Fishes' creche is available for children under 5 years.
- Ministry of Wholeness Anointing with laying on of hands is available during the 9:45 service on the third Sunday of each month.
- 11:30 am - Thirty Minutes This is a lively service for pre-school children and their parents or carers held on the second Sunday of the month during term time.

Other Services

- Everybody is welcome at Morning Prayer which is held at 8:45am on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during school term time.
- On the first Tuesday of each month, Holy Communion is held at 10:00am. This is attended by approximately 15 people.
- Pray time, an event for pre-school children and their parents or carers, is held at 2.15pm. This includes prayers, songs and bible stories.
- In addition to the usual principal Sunday services, the full calendar of the church year is celebrated as well as the occasional Evensong.



'Little Fishes' making poppies for Remembrance Sunday

Children and Young People at St John's

Children are an integral and essential part of life at St John's and are welcome at every service. We have been given special permission from the Bishop to admit children to receive Holy Communion before Confirmation. Children are admitted once a year at Candlemas after preparation.

Children's Ministry, held during the 9.45am service, explores the gospel reading in church through story, drama, crafts and games. This has about 30 children on the register and is enjoyed by about 12 children each week but is ready for a fresh approach!

In addition to the activities for children during our services, we have an active '11 Up! Group' which meets monthly after the 9:45am service. They enjoy discussion, activities, outings and undertake an active role in many church and parish events. (They are keen to find a vicar with energy and a desire to be involved with their activities.)

Young people play an active role on the serving team, as well as the welcomers and sidespeople teams. In addition, St John's has junior choristers who follow the RSCM's 'Voice for Life' scheme.



Acting out a Bible Story



The children resurrected "Alleluia" which had been buried at the beginning of Lent.

Parish Finances

The Parish Finances are relatively stable and reasonably sound: As of 21st December 2017 total funds stood at £111,000. Of this:

- £20,000 were for restricted use in relation to the church organ and fabric
- £3,500 were endowed funds relating to the churchyard
- £25,000 represented the historic valuation of the church hall
- £62,000 is retained in general funds

Overall annual income in 2017 was similar to previous years, at around £104,000, which may be broken down as follows:

- regular giving £63,000;
- loose plate collections, donations from church groups and one-off donations £11,000;
- gift aid tax recovered £14,000;
- Wedding & funeral fees: £3,000;
- Christmas Day Event Donations: £1,500;
- Maeldune & Christmas Fairs £5,500;
- Other fundraising £3,000;
- Parish Magazine Sales and Advertising £2,000; and
- Investments £1,000.

The PCC recognizes our significant reliance on fundraising and the need to increase regular giving. Expenditure in 2017 also stood at £104,000 and may be analysed as follows:

- Parish Support Fund £70,000;
- Administrator £6,000;
- Music £5,000;
- Administration & Maintenance £6,500;
- Incumbent, Ministry team, organ maintenance and service expenses £5,500;
- Utilities & Insurance £5,000;
- Mission Giving & Christmas Day Event £3,000;
- Churchyard Upkeep £2,000; and
- Other £1,000.

The PCC is keen to further its commitment to outreach and charitable giving, and has committed to increase Mission Giving in 2018 to £2,000 from £1,500



OUR CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY

At St John's, we are involved in a wide range of social and outreach events, which are only made possible by the generosity of volunteers. Some of the regular events are described below.

Christmas Day event

An integral part of our outreach offered to anybody who would be on their own on Christmas Day. The event, which is held in our church hall, has been running continuously since 1972 and is attended by 40-50 guests.



Fun was had by all at the Christmas Day event.

Sunday Lunch Club

Started in 2011, offering a home cooked Sunday lunch to members of the community who live on their own. Held in our Church Hall, this is a very popular social event. It is attended by about 30 guests, the majority of whom are not from our congregation.



Tea and Chat

From 2014, the Church Hall has opened every Thursday afternoon for anybody to drop in for a cup of tea and meet somebody new. The number of guests varies between 2 and 16 each week. This provides an excellent opportunity for members of the community to socialise.



Parent and Toddler Group This is held every Wednesday morning in the church extension. This is an opportunity for parents and carers of the wider community to bring children up to three years of age, to meet other local families and to make friends.

Mothers' Union

St John's is an active branch comprising 24 members and meets in church twice a month. Some MU members help out with teas at Toddler Group and Praytime.



Mothers' Union selling their wares at the Christmas Fair.

Men's Thing

This is an open group for all men in the Parish and the wider community. It meets in church monthly and boasts an eclectic programme of speakers and activities. It has an important role in the outreach of St John's into the community as a large proportion of members come from outside the congregation.

Reading Group

This has been running since 2008 and meets in church on the first Thursday evening of every month. The Group is open to the wider parish and averages 15 members.

Crochet & Knitting Group

This group has thrived since 2008. Meeting in the church extension on the last Thursday afternoon of the month it is open to the wider parish with as many as 24 members. The group has produced huge quantities of knitted and crochet blankets and garments for the Romanian Aid Foundation and we are often approached by housebound members of the parish who are only too pleased to knit for us. We have also held 'Learn to Knit' sessions for younger people during school holidays.

Traidcraft Stall

This is currently held once a month in church after our Sunday services, although the future of Traidcraft is uncertain. As well as supporting fairly traded goods the proceeds from the stall are used to sponsor two children through Action Aid: Junior from Zambia and Majabin from Afghanistan. The children from Children's Ministry regularly correspond with Junior and Majabin, exchanging drawings and sharing their different lives.



Julian Group

This group meets monthly in church for meditative prayer, loosely styled on the experience of Julian of Norwich.

Scout Group

The 1st Old Malden (St John the Baptist) Scout Group is our sponsored Scout Group. The various units are popular and oversubscribed, and many of the leaders are regular worshippers at St John's. We also welcome other uniformed organisations to our parade services.

Sustainability Group

This group advises the PCC and the congregation on matters related to our responsibilities towards God's creation. This ranges from care of the churchyard to advice on energy and lighting.

Old Malden News

Our monthly magazine, which is distributed to 240 households, is also available on our web site and through our Parish Mailing.

Parish Mailing

A weekly email is shared, detailing upcoming events for the following week including all services. The mailing also includes links to the Sunday pew leaflet and Old Malden News.

Foodbank

As part of our outreach we actively support Kingston Food Bank through weekly donations as well as the 'Ace of Clubs' centre for the homeless through Harvest donations.



OUR CHURCH AND ITS BUILDINGS

At St John's, we believe that the church is the people who gather for worship. However, we are fortunate to have a beautiful building in which to meet.

St John's church is a beautiful Grade II listed building located on the edge of the parish within the Old Malden Conservation Area. It is set back from the road with access via a gravel finished lane which also leads to residential properties and the Hogsmill River. The building is steeped in history and is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. At the end of the 16th century the church was almost in ruins but the old flint walls of the chancel were repaired in 1611 and the nave and the tower rebuilt in brick (the present Lady Chapel). A new nave, chancel and vestries were added in 1875. In 2004 the building was further extended by developing the Victorian vestries. This extension is of two floors; the ground floor comprises a much-used coffee lounge, new vestries, a kitchen and a disabled toilet and the upper floor, serviced by a stair lift, comprises the parish office, a toilet, a large meeting room and storage space. The church building is relatively small and seats approximately 250 people in pews furnished with cross-stitched kneelers made by members of the congregation.



Christmas Day at St John's



We have a closed churchyard and a Garden of Remembrance. We also have a War Memorial and several Commonwealth War Graves. We maintain our churchyard following conservation principles seeking to develop a meadow cut approach, encouraging the diversity of native plant species within the churchyard.

On our last quinquennial report in July 2017, the architect noted ‘the building provides a very good standard of accommodation and facilities and the extensive accommodation is well-maintained and in sound structural condition’.



Helping hands at the annual churchyard working party.

The Church Hall

411 Malden Road, Worcester Park, KT4 7NY (15 minutes' walk from the church)

St John's Church Hall (formerly known as The Institute) was built in 1898 to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Queen Victoria and is an important part of our mission both to the congregation and more importantly, to the community. The Hall is run as an independent charity and provides accommodation for a wide range of groups including Plough Green Pre-School every weekday during term time. The hall is also used for St John's Church's social and fund-raising events and is available for private hire at weekends for functions, including wedding reception and parties etc.



The Vicarage

5 Vicarage Close, Worcester Park, KT4 7LZ (5 minute walk from the Church)

The Vicarage is a modern spacious detached 4 bedroom property with allocated office space. The ground floor comprises an entrance hall, office space and storage room, living room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room and downstairs WC. The first floor comprises 4 bedrooms, shower room and separate bathroom. At the front of the property there is a detached double garage and paved parking spaces for several cars. There are large gardens at the front, side and rear of the property.



ORDAINED AND LAY MINISTRY

St John's is committed to maintaining an open and inclusive attitude to all. It does this by believing that such an attitude more closely reflects God's love and compassion. We welcome everyone irrespective of age, race, gender, marital status, sex orientation or disability. It is also committed to liberal and critical approaches to the Bible, tradition and theology. The following, together with the members of the Parochial Church Council provide valuable support and assistance to the Incumbent:

The Reverend Milly Broome
Assistant Priest

Milly is an NSM who was trained in Southwark and was priested in 2001. She was licensed to St John's until 2013 and now has PTO. Milly presides, preaches and carries out pastoral visiting in the parish.

Marilyn Burkett
Licenced Lay Minister
(Reader) & Choir Director

Marilyn was licensed as Lay Reader in 2003 and continues to serve in that role with regular preaching, teaching, leading non-Eucharistic worship and pastoral care. Marilyn is also Area Warden of Readers for the Kingston episcopal area.

Anthony Pullen
Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary

Commissioned by the Bishop as a SPA in June 2014, Anthony supports the work of the parish in visiting, home-communion, work among men, and helping with courses. Within the wider Diocese Anthony is a trained hospital chaplaincy volunteer, and tutor on the Diocesan SPA and Chaplaincy volunteer courses.

Lynn Sanger/Tatiana Hagan
Churchwardens

Lynn and Tatiana were both elected churchwarden in 2015.

Amy Chan
Parish Administrator

Amy is a paid employee and works 12 hours a week Monday to Thursday term-time only.

Safeguarding Officers

We have two safeguarding officers who assist with the implementation of the Diocese 'Safe Church' policy. They are also responsible for ensuring all those working with children and vulnerable adults hold a valid DBS check.



Servers

The serving team has for many years played an important role in assisting the clergy in worship at St John's. The team assists at all Eucharistic Services and is made up of both children and adults. The team provides a good opportunity for children to enter into a fuller participation in worship and so develop their spirituality and relationship with the Church. Participation in the serving team has become an important way for servers to express their worship and devotion to the Church.

Choir

St John's has a strong musical tradition and is well served by an RSCM affiliated SATB choir with adults and junior choristers. The junior choristers follow the RSCM's 'Voice for Life' programme. Music is an important part of our worship: the choir helps to lead the congregation at the 9.45am Sunday Sung Eucharist in addition to seasonal services. We have a pipe organ which is played by our experienced musician, Barry Eaton. We also have an assistant organist, Marie McGuire. We seek integrity in both words and music and our hymnody is carefully chosen. We use the NEH, Sing Praise, and music from the Iona Community, Taizé, Brian Wren, John Bell and Bernadette Farrell.

Welcomers and Sidespeople

Welcome and hospitality have been at the core of St John's for many years. Alongside a team of Sidespeople, we also have a team of Welcomers of all ages.



Our choir and servers leading the congregation from Malden Parochial school to church on Palm Sunday.



PCC AND MISSION ACTION PLAN

Parochial Church Council

PCC members are elected at the APCM held in March, for a period of 3 years, after which they must stand down for at least 12 months before putting themselves forward for re-election. The PCC may co-opt members of the congregation for a period of 12 months. As well as the PCC the following committees form a structure which enables St John's church to operate:

Children and Young people	oversee all our activities with children and young people up to the age of 18.
Church Hall	manages the Church Hall which is part of the Mission of the Parish.
Congregation	oversees all those activities which build up members of the congregation spiritually and socially, both as a body and as individuals.
Finance	responsible for The Parish accounts, budgeting, managing investments and loans, cash flow, FWO scheme, salaries and fees.
Fundraising	responsible for organising fundraising events to support Parish funds.
Maintenance	responsible for the maintenance of the church and grounds.
Outreach	reaches outside the congregation in witness and service (Mission), and in publicising St John's Church.
Worship	meets with those who have responsibility for aspects of worship.

Mission Action Plan

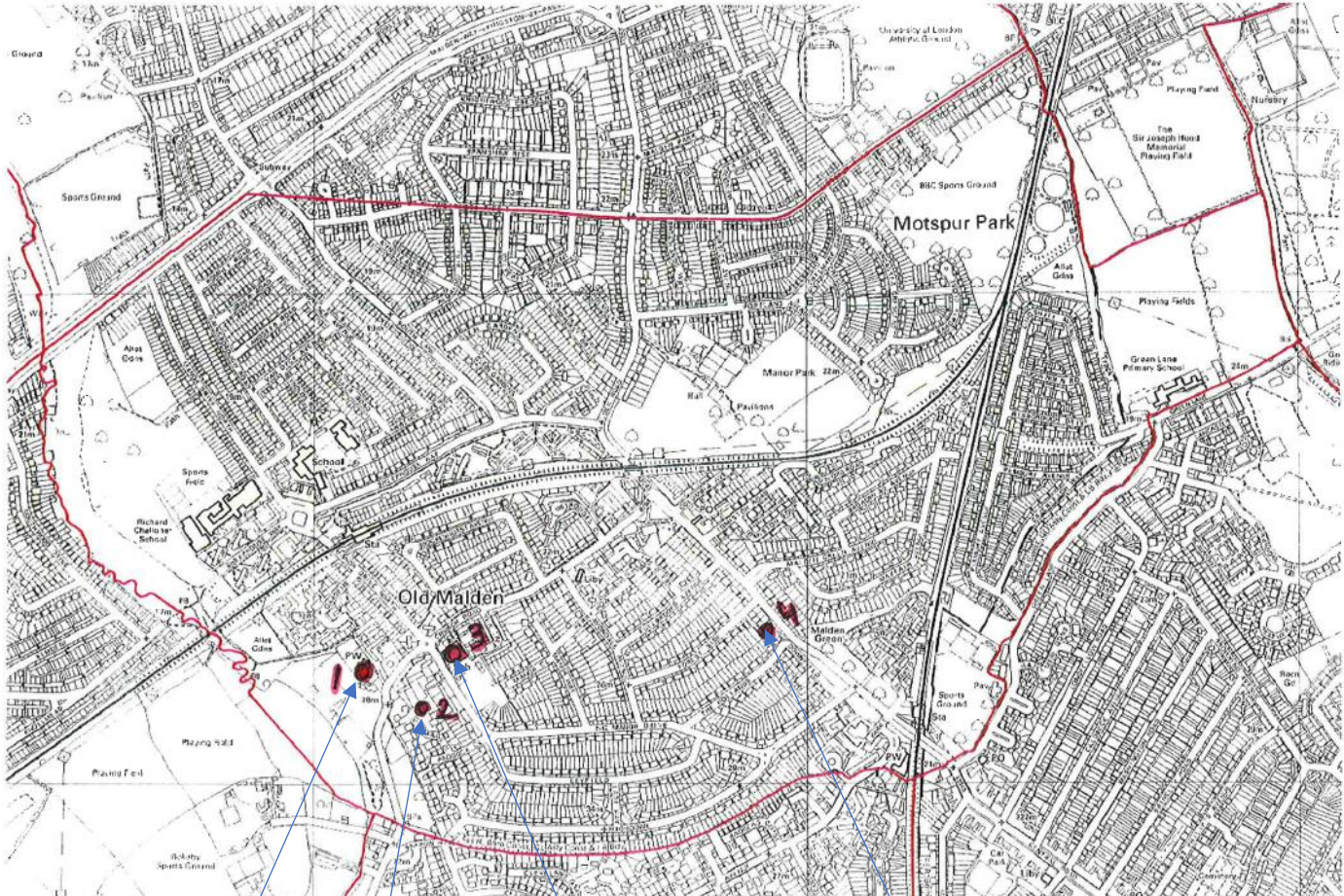
Our key mission focus is Welcome: we believe that we best reflect the nature of God when we conduct and order ourselves in ways which value and include people. We do this by welcoming them. In this way people gain a glimpse of the truth that they are loved by God and, in gaining that glimpse, begin to respond to God's love. When we invite and encourage people to worship at St John's, we show that they are wanted; that their wellbeing is our concern. Our MAP was first approved by the PCC in 2011. It was reviewed in 2013, 2015 and in 2017, when it was agreed that special emphasis would be given to three areas of our mission and that they would be the focus of our work for the following three years; 'Caring for Creation', 'Communication' and 'A Eucharistic Community of all Ages'. Our full MAP can be found in Appendix 2.



APPENDIX 1

MAP OF OUR PARISH

Parish of MALDEN, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST



St John's Church

Vicarage

Malden Parochial School

Church Hall



APPENDIX 2

MISSION ACTION PLAN (REVIEWED 2017)

Caring for creation

Believing that God has created the world in love and calls us to care for the ecosystems upon which we depend, we will;

- care for our churchyard to recover the biodiversity achieved before the survey by the London Ecological Unit in 2006
- involve members of the congregation and the wider community in environmental projects in our churchyard
- make our buildings more efficient in their use of energy and other resources
- preach and teach care for creation, throughout the year, but especially during our celebration of the Season of Creation in September/October
- inform and inspire people to adopt sustainable lifestyles and make environmentally responsible choices
- promote contact with environmental organisations beyond the parish
- set realistic sustainability goals and monitor our performance against them

Communication

Believing that God loves all people without distinction:

- We want people throughout the whole Parish to know about God's love for them.
- We want them to know how St John's can serve them.
- We want worshippers at St John's to have clear and accurate information about matters affecting the life of the Congregation.
- We want these communications to be as accessible as possible.



To those ends we will;

- review all our current means and platforms for communication, amongst them:
 - our use of noticeboards and posters both at St Johns and throughout the Parish
 - our parish leaflets
 - our parish magazine
 - our pew sheet
 - the way we give information during acts of worship
 - our parish emailing
 - our parish website and parish blog
- we will consider and develop our online presence, beginning with our parish website and parish blog, Facebook and Twitter

A Eucharistic community of all ages

Believing that God meets us at St John's most prominently in the Eucharist:

We need to expand the ways in which the Eucharist is accessible to people of all ages, and to people with a range of spiritual needs.

To that end, we will;

- ask people of all ages what helps them engage with the Eucharist in our current pattern and style of services
- we will also ask what makes it difficult for them to engage
- recognising that many of our worshippers have little or no church experience before St John's, we will consider ways in which we can help the whole Congregation to grow in their understanding of the Eucharist
- we will review our pattern of services, to consider what would best suit the needs of current and future worshippers

