

## **Pastoral Worker Report (Karen Salisbury) – 2021**

It has continued to be a rather unusual time with a variety of lockdowns and reopening of church and the church hall, often once again at very short notice! Despite the challenges that this has brought to everyone we have continued in providing whatever we could - this has varied throughout the year.

Barbara's last service with us was not as she wanted, with there only being members of the Ministry Team and Churchwardens being able to be present. But Yvonne S was able to present to her our gift of a small glass angel along with a cheque from the members of the parish to help with the redecoration of her home as she returned to Warrington.

During the vacancy we had support from a number of clergy from across the diocese including members of the cathedral staff and our Archdeacon Ian. Then after many hours spent preparing our Parish Profile this was completed and sent off to the diocese and available to anyone looking to consider becoming our next parish priest. I have to say the support given to the parish by the diocese was (and still is) tremendous and in my role as PCC Secretary I found the help available incredible and we are very lucky I think in this diocese. Then the announcement of Becky as our next Vicar was truly welcome. I admit that the day of the Induction I almost went running for the hills when at 11.45am I learned that we would not be having our Rural Dean and Archdeacon as they had both been pinged following an event they had been at, luckily Bishop Sam and Revd. Margaret stepped in at 11.55am and acted as Archdeacon and Rural Dean respectively!

Whilst doing all the tasks needed during the vacancy I have continued with my Scout, Royal Air Force Air Cadet and Royal School of Church Music activities - including as ever the Battle of Britain Service at the Cenotaph in September which is such a privilege to be able to take part in. The organisations have had difficulties during the year with the various lockdowns etc but have continued using a variety of methods - Zoom and Team on-line meetings, virtual parade nights and eventually with great anticipation and delight in-person and face-to-face meetings, with the joy of being able to be in our cathedral for the RSCM Festival Service in October. Lots of activities were curtailed or cancelled altogether but the young people and the adult volunteers have made every effort and my support to them has continued when and where I can. So here's to another year in God's service and let's see what 2022 brings us all.

Karen