

Membership and Values at All Saints

Thank you for being part of All Saints Weston – you are very welcome here!

This leaflet is designed to give you an overview of the priorities and values for those who feel called to worship and serve at All Saints. Everyone is welcome to belong to the church, whatever your age and stage, whether you are a committed Christian or just exploring. But as we seek to *share the life and message of Jesus*, it is helpful to understand what this could mean in practice and highlight some of the beliefs, values and expectations that can help shape us into a distinctive and effective witness for Christ.

Our Mission

Being an Anglican church means we are called to serve the wider parish of Weston, looking for spiritual fruitfulness for the whole community for generations to come.

Our mission is to ***share the life and message of Jesus in Weston, Bath & beyond***. We aim to grow All Saints and equip its members so that we can work with local schools, churches, universities and organisations to transform our area into a thriving community where everyone can flourish and grow spiritually.

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer – Romans 12:12



Our Values

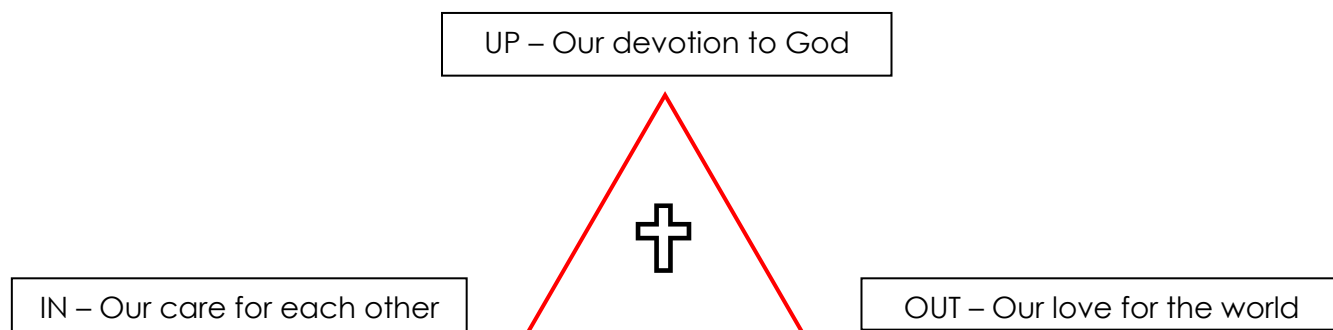
Jesus summed up his teaching, and therefore our priorities with:

- **The great commandment** (Matthew 22:37)
'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.'
- **The new commandment** (John 13:34).
'As I have loved you, so you must love one another.'
- **The great commission** (Matthew 28:19)
'Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.'

Our core values are therefore to live out this calling both individually and collectively on a day-to-day basis through:

- Prayer and worship – our devotion to God
- Discipleship and unity – our care for each other
- Mission and evangelism – our love for the world

Jesus' commands are all important so as we focus on Him, we take a balanced approach so that none are neglected, placing equal value on **Up, In** and **Out**:



Therefore, by God's grace and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we do this by being:

Joyful – Living a life of prayer and worship centred on loving God, making space for seeking His Kingdom, applying His Word and enjoying His presence.

United – Actively growing together as disciples of Jesus to develop positive and caring relationships.

Missional – Reaching out courageously to share the life and message of Jesus both locally and globally.

Generous – Giving time, gifts and teamwork to serve and bless the community.

Welcoming – Creating a prayerful culture of safety, honour and respect.

These values mean we invest in all ages, with vibrant youth and children's ministry as well as groups and activities for adults and seniors. We welcome people from all backgrounds, whether life-long Christians, newcomers or those on the margins of society. We try to ensure that caring for people takes priority over tasks or projects, and that means being honest about our struggles, while trusting that *nothing is impossible with God*.

Our wider connections

All Saints is an Anglican church in the Diocese of Bath and Wells which is part of the Church of England. We are also part of a Benefice of three local parishes along with St. Mary Magdalene Langridge and St. Martin's North Stoke.

All Saints has close links with Weston All Saints Primary School (WASPS), Oldfield School, 103 Nursery and Noah's Ark pre-school. WASPS is our Church School in Weston and part of The Partnership Trust. We work with students across the city, especially those at Bath Spa University.

We pray for our Deanery, city and our nation alongside networks such as New Wine and 24-7 Prayer, and we support the global church in other countries, particularly with financial help for our 12 mission partners. We also help with mission initiatives and churches in the diocese through our generosity budget.

A bit of history

There has been a Christian community in Weston for over 1100 years. Weston village was the birthplace of St. Alphege who was one of the first Abbots of Bath Abbey and later became Archbishop before his martyrdom in 1012. A stone coffin lid located at the front of church has an inscription about Godfrey, possibly the 2nd Bishop of Bath and Wells who died in 1133. The church tower dates back to the 15th century. At the time of the Reformation, the church came into the patronage of the Crown as part of the Church of England and was later joined with North Stoke and Langridge as a Benefice of 3 parishes in the Diocese of Bath and Wells.



Membership at All Saints

All Saints has an *electoral roll* and anyone who is over 16 and baptised can choose to add their name to if All Saints is your spiritual home. However, members of All Saints can also demonstrate deeper commitment on a practical basis by subscribing to these 5 marks of membership:

- A. **A**ttending regularly
- B. **B**elonging to a small group (such as a Home Group)
- C. **C**heerfully giving regularly (see finance leaflets for details)
- D. **D**oing service as part of a team (e.g. join the Welcome team)
- E. **E**ncouraging others to know Jesus

Every person has significance in God's Kingdom so for everyone who joins All Saints there will be a special part to play in its life and ministry. For safety, some teams require training and safeguarding checks to be done before you can join them, but it's well worth the effort!

Baptism is the biblical mark of church membership and we gladly baptise adults, children and families who choose to receive God's grace and make Jesus central to their lives. We also have an open Communion table and encourage anyone who loves the Lord Jesus or wants to love him to come and receive bread and wine in remembrance of him.

Home Groups

Home groups are at the heart of church family life at All Saints. They are smaller gatherings of people meeting weekly or fortnightly at various times and in various homes and venues in the local area, helping one another to grow in faith and friendship.

Each home group is a little bit different, but all share the same aim - to provide a community where you can be truly known, deeply loved and spiritually challenged to share the life & message of Jesus with others.

Home groups will pray and study the bible together, often discussing issues raised during the Sunday sermon series. They will often eat together and sometimes engage in mission projects or serve as part of a church team.

Home groups are the first port of call for pastoral care in the church, but the pastoral staff and clergy are available should Home group leaders require assistance.

Call Tony and Diane Haines on 07980 156820 to help get you connected.

Leadership at All Saints

As Rector, Tom is licenced by the Bishop of Bath and Wells to lead All Saints along with Curates, Church Wardens and the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The PCC currently has 23 members including the clergy, Wardens, Readers and elected representatives who are voted on for 3-year terms. There are also various committees and sub-groups which work on aspects of church life between the monthly PCC meetings. The PCC is also a legal charity: 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bath, Weston, All Saints' (Registered Charity No: 1136968) so we have to report to the Charity Commission and publish our accounts each year, and ensure that the church is compliant with standards of health and safety, safeguarding and employment law.

All Saints has a staff team of 17, some full time, others part-time or voluntary who manage the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church.

Finance

Approximately two thirds of All Saints' income is from regular giving and voluntary donations, with the rest mainly coming from events and hiring out our facilities. The PCC finance committee sets a budget each year (nearly £500K for 2026) and works very hard to manage the finances of the church wisely.

We aim to keep around 3 months' worth of expenditure in reserve (£125K) but we have had to manage well below that level in recent years.

Although staffing is our largest expenditure as a church, our overall costs are roughly split equally between Ministry, Facilities and Support for our mission partners and the diocese. Our 'Benefice Share' is the amount we pay for our clergy and Diocesan costs as well as helping churches in other areas.



Basis of Faith

For 2000 Years Christians have been sharing the good news that God loves every one of us, and by turning to Jesus we can be reconciled with him and experience forgiveness and new spiritual life. Christianity is something we do together, so church happens wherever people meet up, follow Jesus and serve the community. Whilst All Saints could be described as a 'Word and Spirit' church, members have a range of preferred worship styles and often have different ideas about theological matters, ethics and politics. But as a Church we affirm:

- All creation was made to glorify God the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is good, loving and compassionate. Nothing is impossible for Him.
- Humanity's fallen nature and susceptibility to sin, the world and the devil keeps us from fulfilling our created purpose, such that we need forgiveness and reconciliation, both with God and also with those we have wronged.
- Faith and trust in Jesus Christ are the only means by which we can be forgiven, saved and receive the Holy Spirit. This includes belief in the historical reality of Jesus' birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension as well as His glorious future return.
- All Scripture as contained in the Old and New Testaments of the Bible is authoritative for life, faith and salvation. Biblical interpretation is best done in community and takes wisdom, care and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness – (2 Timothy 3:16).*
- The statements of Christian faith and orthodoxy as set out in the historic Creeds and Anglican formularies such as the Book of Common prayer are key benchmarks of our valued Christian heritage and teaching.
- The gift and infilling of the Holy Spirit enlivens faith, convicts us of truth and enables fruitful, whole and empowered Christian living today. The Holy Spirit enables us to nurture the essential Christian virtues of faith, hope and love, to grow the fruit and gifts of the Spirit in our daily lives (Gal 5:22-23) and experience the abundance of God's grace, mercy and peace.

Strategic priorities

Each year the PCC prayerfully discerns priorities for the church for the coming year. For 2026 these are:



Growing
Discipleship



Nurturing
Homegroups



Blessing
the community

The PCC has designated 2026 as 'A Year of Blessing' for the community so we will be prioritising local mission and ministry initiatives when budgeting for the year ahead. Our 'Year of Blessing Calendar' features community meals, work parties, prayer and training, generosity and creative practical support for our local community, schools and local community organisations.

Our primary method of growth is through word of mouth – people inviting their friends and neighbours to come and join in the exciting things that are happening at All Saints and through our different outreach initiatives. Our prayer is that they will encounter the Lord and All Saints will be so full of hope and joy that it cascades out into the entire surrounding community.

Alpha. For anyone who has questions about life or faith, a great way to find out more is by coming on an Alpha course. Over 20 million people have found the sessions life-changing and inspiring. Everyone's opinions are welcomed. Nobody pesters you. It's totally voluntary and totally free. If you're interested, do speak to anyone at church for details of the next course.

Everyone has questions.

Exploring is good. We're built for it. Explore more about life, faith and meaning with Alpha.

Alpha



Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. 1 Peter 3:15

A culture of prayer, safety and honour



Prayer is the mortar that holds the church together as we seek God's heart, wisdom and guidance for our lives and intercede for those in need. Prayer sometimes leads us to adventure, stepping out to take risks and try new things. We pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and prayer also leads us to look out for the lost, to be kind and welcoming, to care for creation, strive for unity and be generous with our time and resources.

Safeguarding underpins all activities at All Saints, and preventing abuse, particularly against children and vulnerable adults is everyone's responsibility. For safeguarding enquiries or concerns do contact our Parish Safeguarding Officers on 01225 231013 or email safeguarding@allsaintsweston.org.uk

Honour. Each and every person is significant to God, so we look for ways in which the Holy Spirit is working to draw us closer to Christ. *'Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.'* Romans 12:10-13.



allsaintswestonchurch



All Saints Weston Church



01225 447663

All Saints Church, Church Street, Weston, Bath, BA1 4BT
office@allsaintsweston.org.uk allsaintsweston.org.uk

Nov 2025