



MISSION ACTION PLAN 2020-25

GROWING TOGETHER WITH GOD

THE FIVE MARKS OF MISSION

TELL: Share the Good News
of Jesus Christ

TREASURE:
Safeguard &
Care for
Creation

TEACH:
Nurture new
Believers in
the Faith

TRANSFORM: Address
Injustice & Promote
Reconciliation

TEND: Offer
Loving Service



TELL: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

We do many things already to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but many of them assume that people will come to church to hear of Jesus.

While we wish to continue to offer such ways of introducing others to the way of Jesus Christ, **in the coming five years our priority will be on equipping members of St Mary's to share the Gospel.**

We will also find ways of communicating what we believe to others in both new and traditional ways.



TELL: OUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR 2020-25

1. To continue to develop St Mary's Rule of Life as a basis for discipleship; to provide opportunities for members of the church to #BringOneFriend to St Mary's; and to explore resources to encourage faith sharing by members of the church.
2. To reintroduce Alpha Courses (or similar) and to run it at least annually.
3. To engage more effectively using social media including embedding live-streaming of worship and Christian education.
4. To provide attractive, helpful printed material for visitors and enquirers and to engage more effectively in baptism and wedding follow-up.



TELL: OTHER POSSIBILITIES TO EXPLORE



STILLNESS, MINDFULNESS, PRAYER AND MEDITATION

We wish to use the traditional disciplines of Christian spirituality and the recent interests in mindfulness and stillness as tools for wellbeing, to enable people to connect with God.



PRESENCE & ENGAGEMENT

We wish to continue to engage with our parish & community through our work on the Surrey Lane Estate, at Meadbank and through building on the work of Coronavirus Angels. As far as possible this will be achieved in partnership with Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church and the Salesian Community.

TEACH: NURTURING THE DISCIPLES OF JESUS AT ST. MARY'S

Since the days of the Acts of the Apostles the Christian community has been a place of learning and growth. This has been done in many ways over the years.

We will continue to be a community of deepening knowledge and faith, but **in the coming five years our priority will be to develop both disciples and leaders**, recognising our God-given potential to be both learners and teachers of others.



TEACH: OUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR 2020-25

1. To continue to develop St Mary's Rule of Life as a basis for discipleship, to provide regular ways of praying, reading and learning together. We will do this by developing both regular and occasional home and study groups and by continuing to develop skills in Godly Play for children.
2. We will look for ways of developing leaders, building on the learning from the Congregational Development Programme and the Church of England project *Setting God's People Free*.
3. We will offer quality pastoral care to everyone, with a focus of clergy time on new members, those in crisis or particular difficulty, and on supporting those in leadership roles.



TEND: OFFERING LOVING SERVICE

St Mary's has a long history and commitment to serving its community. It also has deployed significant resources in recent years to this work. Coronavirus Angels is but the most recent of these.

We will be a church known for its commitment to those in need in our neighbourhood. **In the coming five years our priority will be to develop existing partnerships to maximise our impact in loving service**, and to seek to be a community listening to and learning from those who are more marginal in church and parish.



TEND: OUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR 2020-25

1. To continue to try to do the little things well, including developing our welcome ministry and finding better ways to spot the absentees.
2. To develop our partnerships with key organisations, especially Katherine Low Settlement and Glass Door. We will develop an emerging project from Coronavirus Angels and to run the Winter Night Shelter on an annual basis throughout the period.
3. We will undertake a careful scrutiny of what it means to be an inclusive church, adapting our ministry 'offer', our common life and building in the light of what we learn.



TEND: OTHER POSSIBILITIES TO EXPLORE



GETTING TO KNOW YOU EVENTS

We wish to hold regular events for newcomers, exploring ways in which they can find a welcome and a ministry in the life of St Mary's



OPEN CHURCH

We wish to be able to keep the church open to visitors more regularly throughout the week and, using the newly-finished servery, to make better use of our church for events, regular coffee mornings and other events, with a focus on the potentially lonely or isolated.

TRANSFORM: SEEKING JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

At St Mary's we don't just want to respond in service to those in need; we want to change the circumstances that make such need a reality, both in individual lives and in wider society.

We will build on what has been done in recent years, but **in the coming five years our priority will be to develop our learning and practice of how best to help change lives**, working alongside other people of goodwill who maybe do not share our faith or values.



TRANSFORM: OUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR 2020-25

1. To continue to support existing work, especially Battersea Communities and Battersea Welcomes Refugees, Glass Door and whatever emerges from Coronavirus Angels, working with people within and beyond our faith community.
2. To become a more organized church through our membership of Citizens UK, building on the learning from the Community Development Programme.
3. To launch an inclusive social investment programme in partnership with others to develop local entrepreneurs from disadvantaged backgrounds.
4. To identify potential volunteers and trustees for KLS, signposting them accordingly.



TREASURE: CARING FOR CREATION

At St Mary's we share in the global concern for the future of our planet and its people. We recognize that our life as a church has not been driven by respect for the environment.

As completely new work, **in the coming five years our priority will be to shape our life, decision-making and approach to mission and ministry in the light of climate change, reduction in biodiversity and the need to secure the environment for future generations.** We aim to become carbon-neutral by 2030.



TREASURE: OUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR 2020-25

1. To become an EcoChurch, conducting an environmental survey by November 2021, with a view to gaining the Bronze Award within eighteen months and then progressing.
2. To engage our children and young people in this work, allowing them to shape our response.
3. To care for and develop “our patch”, including the Moorings, in sustainable ways, informed by the climate emergency.
4. To use all methods available to inform educate, inform and change culture.





WORSHIP & PRAYER



OUR PRIORITIES

- To develop our Ministry of Healing & Wholeness, by training prayer ministers.
- We will explore a new family service as we emerge from lockdown in the 9.30am to 10.30am 'slot'.
- To introduce a degree of flexibility within the broad structure of our 11am service, with opportunities for testimony, story-telling, etc.
- To secure the long-term future of a voluntary choir through active recruitment.
- To embed live-streaming into our regular Sunday worship 'offer', aiming at those who cannot attend church physically and new audiences.



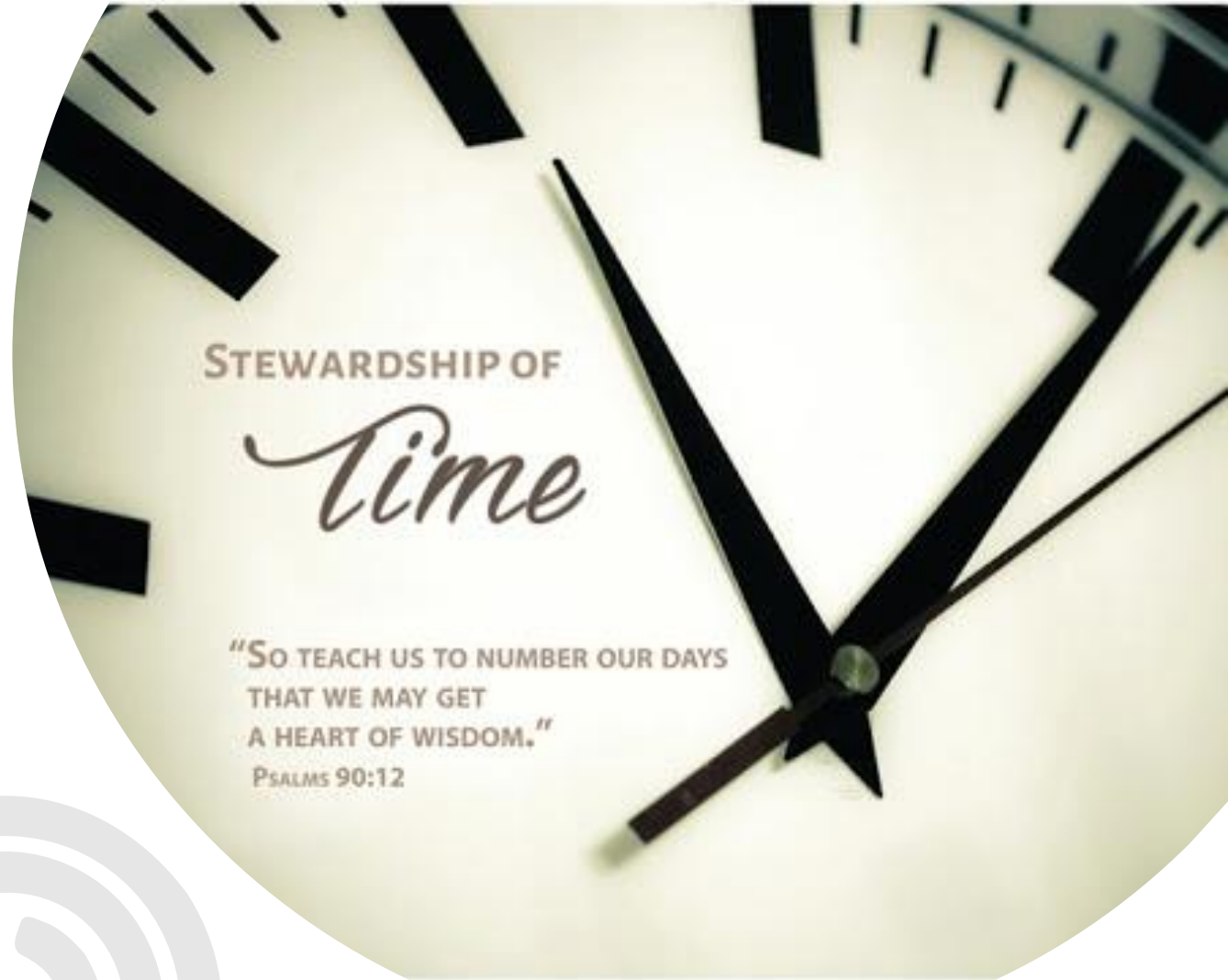


RESOURCING THE MISSION ACTION PLAN

TIME, TALENTS, TREASURE

TIME

- We will review our current activities, stopping things that are unsustainable or do not fit within our current Mission Action Plan. New work must be sustainable.
- We will encourage every member of St Mary's to explore their stewardship of time on an annual basis.
- We will invite those joining the church to give a proportion of their time to some aspect of our work.



TALENT

- We will focus on developing lay leaders and equipping people to serve God in daily life. Annual stewardship will focus on opportunities for gifts to be shared.
- We will encourage lay leadership in every aspect of church life, using learning from the Congregational Development Programme. We will offer training and build up volunteers via feedback and encouragement, giving people opportunities to try things.
- We will use the Church of England Report *Setting God's People Free* and its resources to encourage discipleship, and will challenge any clerical culture where it emerges.



TREASURE: STRATEGIC MISSION FUND

- The PCC is making £120,000 available for new work, projects that will enable us to realise our Mission Action Plan. This is part of the larger bequest from John Hughes, given to fund mission rather than 'bricks-and-mortar.'
- Any member of the congregation is welcome to come forward with ideas and proposals, and would be asked to make connections between the idea and this Mission Action Plan. Our Funding & Finance Group will assess/recommend these bids to the PCC.
- This is separate funding from the costs of the Associate Vicar post. Regular giving will fund the day-to-day running of St Mary's.



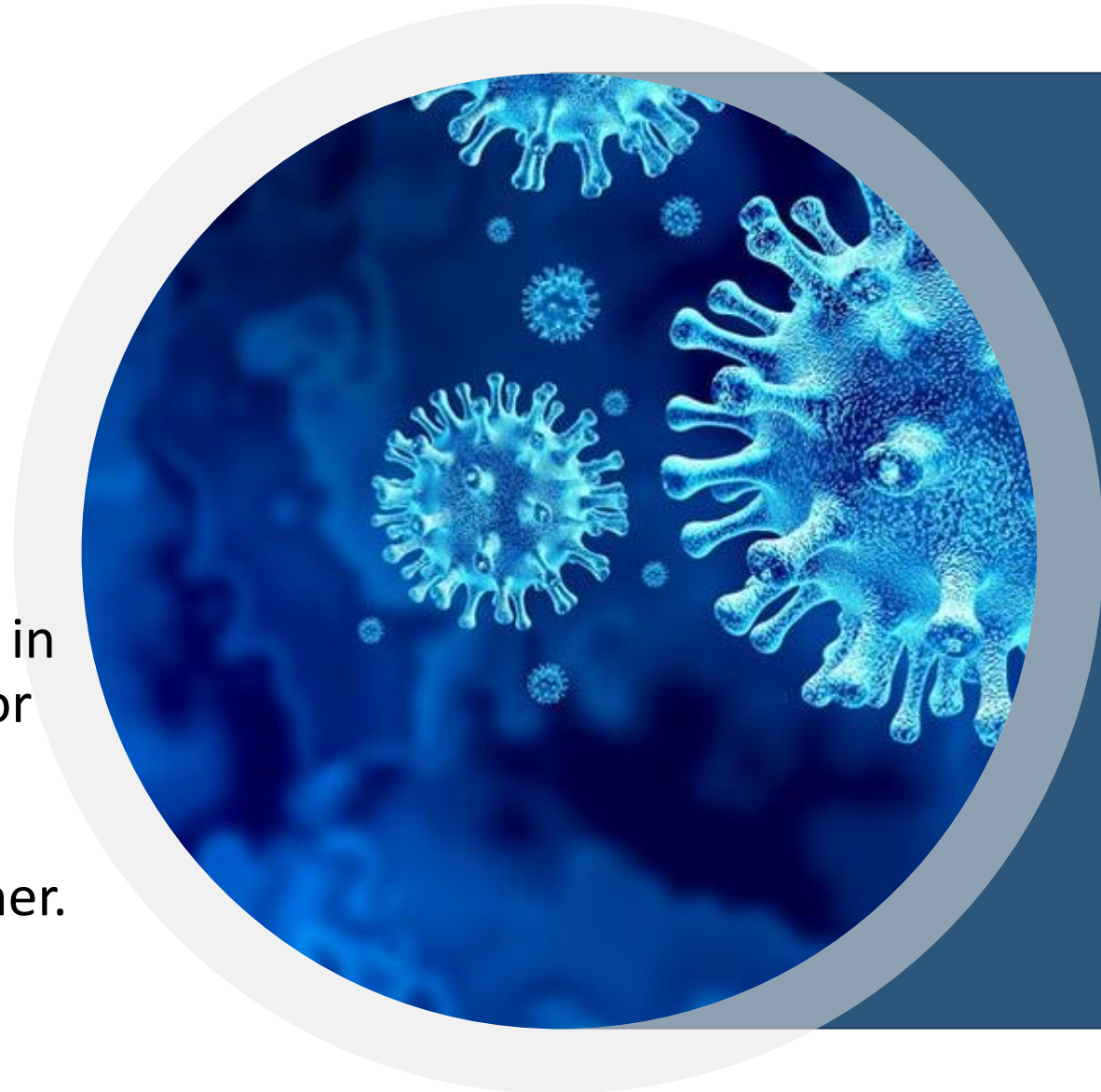
TREASURE: INVESTMENT

- We will seek to increase our giving in proportion to the size of our congregation, encouraging regular stewardship as part of joining the church.
- We will continue to develop and encourage contactless and online giving.
- We will invest up to £1m in property and equity to generate income.
- We will continue to invest in the ministry of an Associate Vicar, reviewing the post in late 2022.
- We will make funds available for the Moorings Project when they are required.



LEARNING FROM COVID-19

- We have to be ready to reimagine this Mission Action Plan. Our MAP must be a living document
- People matter more than programmes
- We have to adapt our life together in the light of those who are unable or unwilling to physically attend our church. Digital and physical church now need to sit alongside each other.





THANK YOU



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