

## **Ministers report, 2018 - All Saints, Dogmersfield**

**Sunday worship:** During 2018 services at All Saints continued with their pattern of alternate eucharistic and non eucharistic services. I am grateful to LLM Sarah Groombridge for her diligent, careful and creative leading of the Matins and Family services, and regular visits to lead assemblies at the Primary school.

Other services were led, presided or preached at by a number of other lay and ordained ministers from the Benefice, joined this year by Rev Pauline Moyse, a retired priest who lives locally and worships at St John's. Rev Janette Smith (curate) led both the Easter and Christmas Day services. Through this team the Sunday worship of the church continues and enables others to be welcomed warmly in preparation for their weddings and christenings. The Wardens and Sides people are appreciated for their part in this work of hospitality.

Jackie Harry and the choir continue to enrich the worship with beautiful music and the Revell's kind permission to park either side of their drive adjacent to the church also enables Sunday services. I am grateful to them for these gifts. Our surroundings have also been improved by the care and elbow grease of Sue Smith and Sue Rumsey as they have made the memorials sparkle!

**Other services:** Alongside the other regular special services so appreciated, an hour of reflection, with candles and bells on Remembrance Sunday evening, as a special memorial of 100 years since Armistice was particularly memorable. The Benefice prayer gathering met at All Saints twice during the year. Sadly, this was poorly attended and will not continue to into 2019. With declining attendance, and in conversation with the school, it was decided that Messy Church would not continue in its previous format, though the possibility of holding it during school holiday and half terms was thought to be a possibility. I am grateful to Sarah for her ministry in leading Messy Church.

**Weddings:** Due to the closure of St Johns while roofing works were carried out, more weddings were booked at All Saints, which is reflected in the increased fees this year. I am grateful to Verger Joyce Stace and Jacqui Pemberton for supporting the clergy so kindly at weddings.

**All Saints Primary School:** in 2018 two church members from the benefice took up Foundation Governor roles, together with the incumbent in an ex-

officio role. We are grateful to Sue Cooper and Philip Baylis for meeting this obligation. I spoke at an Easter service for the school in the church and a Christmas service in the school as sadly the weather had rendered the path too muddy for use. During the Year, at the school's request, a team from across the Benefice has begun to take 'Open the Book' to a monthly assembly. This has been well received and seems to be quite a lot of fun to participate in!

**Support:** Given the condition of some of the eternal stone work I am grateful to all those who so generously support the church financially, particularly those who fund raise, whether by selling cards, hosting lunches, or volunteering at other events. I am grateful to the Friends of All Saints for their support and hard work in helping the church community to look to the future with confidence.

Finally, a big thank you to Church wardens, Amanda and Jaquie and PCC secretary Christine Lowe for her organization and administrative skills and for keeping quite so many balls in the air at one time!

Rev Angie Smith  
Priest in Charge  
18<sup>th</sup> April 2019