



ST AGNES  
LONGSIGHT

# Annual Report

of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2007

2007

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**reference and administrative information**

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## **The Parish Church and the PCC**

St Agnes' Parish Church is situated on Slade Lane near the junction with Hamilton Road. It is part of the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is  
St Agnes' Rectory, Slade Lane, Manchester M13 0GN

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

The Bankers for the PCC are CAF Cash Ltd and the insurers are The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, Gloucester.

The address of the Parish website is **[www.stagneslongsight.org](http://www.stagneslongsight.org)**

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2007 until the date this report was produced are:

<i>Parish Priest</i>	The Revd Stephen Edwards ( <i>Chair</i> )	
<i>Wardens</i>	Colin Best Leah Lutley	
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Karen Flowers Doreen Healey Leah Lutley Lewis Njoku	
<i>Elected members</i>	Emmanuel Agbo Joan Anthony Nannette Dele-Charley Beverley Flowers Pauline Flowers Joyce Green John McKae Joyce Royle Gwen Sherratt Margaret Taylor Elaine Tidsey Rick Tidsey	<i>from APCM 2007 until APCM 2007 until APCM 2007 Vice-Chair co-Treasurer from APCM 2007 until APCM 2007</i>
<i>Co-opted members</i>	Vivien Morris Jennifer Newton Margaret Taylor	<i>co-Treasurer Secretary until APCM 2007</i>

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## **structure, governance and management** St Agnes Longsight Annual Report 2007

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC is supported by the work of a number of sub-committees which although having no particular decision making role meet regularly to discuss issues and make suggestions in support of the PCC's work. The various groups are:

### **Standing Committee**

consisting of the parish priest, wardens, secretary and treasurers, this group can meet to set the agenda for PCC and deal with day to day issues.

### **Worship Committee**

prepares for and deals with details of services and makes suggestions to the PCC about major worship issues/changes.

### **Mission & Action Group**

discusses and suggests to PCC issues of mission, action, justice, peace etc; particularly non-financial ways of getting involved.

### **Care & Nurture Group**

looks at ways of ensuring parishioners are prayed for, visited, and nurtured in times of sickness and in health; also preparation and care of baptism, confirmation and wedding candidates and the care of the recently bereaved

### **Social Committee**

a small group of people who meet to coordinate social and fundraising activities.

### **Community Hall Management Committee**

manages all aspects of the hall – financially and administratively.

### **Children's Ministry Team**

The Junior Church leaders meet regularly to discuss issues around our Sunday Junior Church programme and other activities and events as appropriate.

## **Parish Policy**

The PCC has developed parish policy in a variety of areas to support and maintain best practice. Key policy areas include:

### **Child Protection**

Under the guidance of our parish officer (Doreen Healey) the PCC has adopted a policy which covers recruitment, safety, and training along with other areas of child protection in line with national and Diocesan requirements. This policy is reviewed annually.

### **Health & Safety**

Training, awareness and implementation are key to this policy which was adopted by the PCC in 2007. It is an agenda item at the PCC at regular intervals and currently risk assessments are being carried out by designated people.

### **Children and Communion**

During 2007 this policy was completely renewed and adopted. The Bishop of Manchester renewed his permission for our parish.

### **Safeguarding Adults**

In June 2007 the PCC adopted a policy for the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

The parish also maintains policies on

**Data protection**

**Disability Discrimination**

**Fairtrade**

**Baptism.**

Work is still underway on the adoption of a parish environmental policy in line with the Church of England's 'Shrinking the Footprint' project.

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## **objectives and activities**

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## **Objectives**

The object of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC co-operates with the parish priest in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The various committees and groups outlined in Section 2 above, and especially the provision of worship and pastoral care, are key to the strategy of meeting these PCC objectives.

As a result of PCC discussions during 2005, 2006 and 2007 the PCC have adopted a vision for the future which, building on the work of the 2006 Deanery Strategy Plan, sets out a development plan for the church building and grounds and our ministry and outreach.

The vision, entitled 'In this place will I give peace' is outlined in Section 5 of this Annual Report and underpins our discussions as a PCC.

## Activities

The activities of the PCC which are outlined in this report depend largely on volunteers. It is important to mention the contribution of volunteers to the life, ministry and mission of the Parish as a whole and particularly the PCC. Without this 'workforce' many of the objectives and activities of the PCC would not be possible. The PCC notes with gratitude and appreciation the contribution of volunteers at all levels of parish life.

As well as the activities mentioned in this report and the structures outlined above to support the objectives of the PCC, the parish has a mission giving project whereby 5% of the weekly collection is set aside for mission giving. Each December the PCC allocates this money to four or five charities chosen from nominations received from the wider congregation. In 2007 the chosen charities were:

- USPG Project: Children First (Worldwide)
- CrossRoads: caring for carers (UK)
- Tumelong Mission (Pretoria, South Africa)
- EthiopiAid (Ethiopia)

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## **achievements and performance** St Agnes Longsight Annual Report 2007

## **Church Attendance**

During 2007 the average Sunday attendance was 69. There were eight Baptisms, one wedding, and no first communions or confirmations.

## **Review of the year**

During the past year there have been 8 meetings of St Agnes' PCC. Attendance has fluctuated from a low of 47% to a high of 82% with an average of 69%.

Major items covered by the PCC and its supporting committees during the year have included:

- The presentation and acceptance of the Deanery Strategy Plan.
- The re-founding of St Agnes Community Hall as a sub-committee of the PCC with a view to full control of accounts and management in time. The Hall's funds were used to purchase new chairs.
- An evening meeting and an extra Saturday day session were given over to discussion of our priorities and plans for the future. We were enabled in this by Christian Tiede, Deanery Development worker.
- Adoption and implementation of a revised Health and Safety policy.
- Adoption and implementation of a policy to safeguard vulnerable adults.
- Application to renew our permission for the admittance of children to communion was made to the Bishop of Manchester and this was granted. A new policy was created at the same time.
- PCC members and others attended an inter-faith conference, an open day at the Makki mosque, GrantNet training and presentation of the work of the local charity, Barnabus.
- The Quinquennial Inspection was completed and small matters of maintenance were carried out. At the time of writing applications for grant funding towards the cost of the repairs to the north aisle roof are being made.
- The creation of a financial awareness campaign to congregation members.
- Pastoral Care and Nurture – a bereavement training course has been undertaken, and monthly Bible exploration groups started.

- Fifteen members of the parish enjoyed a 48 hour retreat at Ilkley, Yorkshire.
- Mission Giving – see section 3.
- Junior Church continues to meet weekly and a Holy Week activity day was held for the first time. The Christmas party was repeated for its third year. All leaders attended a child protection training session led by the Diocesan Officer, at St Agnes.
- Worship – the Worship Committee continued to meet most months and as well as regular services there have been a number of additional opportunities for worship and prayer as well as Advent and Lent group courses. New Eucharistic booklets have been introduced and some work started on alternative worship. Regular attendance at weekday Evening Prayer has been encouraging.
- Mission & Action – among the work we supported was Zimbabwe Women’s group, Micah Challenge, Convoy to Moldova, Peace Week, and World Vision (through a giant Christmas card). We also discussed discrimination issues in the parish, and the nature of our annual mission giving. Plans were started for the invitation of the Makki Mosque to visit us (in return for our visit to them earlier in the year).
- The parish maintains connections with St Agnes School, other local schools, a local residents group, mosques (particularly the Makki Mosque on Beresford Road) and the Street Pastors ministry, in which we have a member of our congregation as a pastor and are able to support with prayers and the use of the community hall.
- Section 3 above acknowledges the work of volunteers in the life of the Parish. Every day people take part in maintaining the life of the church: cleaning, flowers, music, reading, washing, gardening, tidying, typing, planning, opening up, welcoming, giving, reading, serving, and more. These activities may get overlooked in a report like this, but without them, nothing would be possible. Thank you.

## **Electoral Roll**

During the 2007 a new Roll was prepared in line with the requirements of the Church Representation Rules with 100 hundred names entered onto it.

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## **plans for future periods**

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In 2004 the Church of England published one of its most important reports in recent years - Mission Shaped Church – encouraging parishes to think differently about buildings, mission and ministry.

In 2006 the Diocese of Manchester underwent a diocesan wide assessment of parishes, buildings, boundaries, structures and mission in order to help Deanery Pastoral Committees prepare for future ministry patterns through the creation of a Deanery Strategy.

Together these two initiatives have enabled St Agnes' PCC to record, assess, and review the life, ministry and mission of the Parish of St Agnes Longsight.

During 2007 the PCC has worked with the Deanery Development Officer to prepare for the future ministry and mission of St Agnes Longsight and what part the church building may take in this. The PCC have identified three areas of focus for the future of our ministry.

Based on the Scripture text from the prophet Haggai, which is written in tiles above the main entrance to St Agnes parish church, our mission as a parish grows from the words:

in this place will I give peace

Our three identified projects are

- peace through engaging creative worship
- peace through outdoor green space for the community
- peace through community café and welcome facilities

in this place will i give peace

**St Agnes Longsight**