

Parish Profile and Person Specification for

VICAR

PARISH OF SUNNINGHILL AND SOUTH ASCOT

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS' CHURCH, SUNNINGHILL

ALL SOULS' CHURCH, SOUTH ASCOT



Contents

<i>Welcome from the Archdeacon</i>	3
<i>Welcome from the Deanery</i>	3
<i>Welcome and Introduction</i>	4
<i>Welcome from the Ministry Team</i>	4
<i>The Mission of our Parish</i>	5
♦ <i>Who we are</i>	5
♦ <i>Our Ministers</i>	6
♦ <i>Our Vision for the Future</i>	6
<i>The Role of Vicar of Sunninghill and South Ascot</i>	8
♦ <i>Role Summary</i>	8
♦ <i>Describing the Role</i>	8
♦ <i>Describing the Person</i>	8
<i>Support we will offer</i>	9
<i>Our Parish</i>	10
♦ <i>History and Geography</i>	10
♦ <i>Schools</i>	13
♦ <i>The Churches: Sunninghill; South Ascot</i>	15
♦ <i>The Ministry</i>	17
<i>The Vicarage</i>	20
<i>Appendices</i>	21
♦ <i>Our Ministry Team</i>	21
♦ <i>Our Church Wardens</i>	23
♦ <i>Our Administrators</i>	25
♦ <i>St Michael & All Angels</i>	26
♦ <i>All Souls</i>	28

Welcome

Foreword from the Archdeacon

“The benefice has two distinct, well-organised worship centres. The working relationship between them is healthy and collaborative. The roles of St Michael’s and All Souls are equally important.

There is a good focus on mission with each church actively asking questions about how best to connect with the surrounding communities. It remains a challenge to discover missional strategies in an area of such high relative wealth – needs-based approaches are important but there is an opportunity to think more creatively and contextually.

There is a genuine desire to reach people with the good news of Jesus who are currently unreached. The parish might want to think more about new congregations alongside its desire to maintain high standards in its traditional expressions of worship. It has been encouraging to see the exploration which has led to the introduction of the café church and Ascot@4. I trust this process of missional experimentation will continue.

This is a good post which I am very happy to commend for your consideration. The existing team is supportive and capable and will enable the new incumbent to fulfil their calling to lead the people in God’s mission.”

Stephen Pullin
Archdeacon of Berkshire

A Welcome from the Bracknell Deanery

“Bracknell Deanery consists of eight parishes which are grouped into two clusters, one around Bracknell and the other around Ascot. These eight parishes represent just about every tradition in the Church of England: Anglo-Catholic, Liberal Catholic, Centrist, Traditional Prayer Book, Open Evangelical and Charismatic. Good relationships exist between members of the chapter, which is seen in genuine and practical concern for one another’s well-being. We also enjoy good relations with our ecumenical partners in both Bracknell and Ascot. The deanery is in good health and every parish paid its share in full in 2020. Drawing upon the national vision of the Church of England to be “Christ-centred and Jesus shaped” and informed both by our own Diocesan common vision “to become a more Christ-like Church for the sake of God’s world” and the Mission Action Plans of our individual parishes, the Bracknell Deanery is currently committed to the following six priorities:

*Youth and children’s work
Community engagement and evangelism
Worship
Discipleship
Missional use of buildings
“Every person ministry.”*

We look forward to welcoming the new Vicar of Sunninghill and South Ascot to the Bracknell Deanery.”

Revd David Brown & Revd Catharine Mabuza (Co-Area Deans)
Caroline Kallipetis (Lay Chair) & Lee Townsend (Vice Lay Chair)

Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to our Parish Profile. We hope that you will enjoy reading about us and our continuing journey in faith.

The United Benefice of Sunninghill and South Ascot contains two Churches with different congregations and liturgy but alike in many ways, with a spirit and determination to unite in heart and faith. There is a talented Ministry Team, supported by active and committed lay people, and an immense fund of talent and goodwill throughout both Churches. There are a number of schools in the Parish: you'll find details in the "Our Parish" section. The Church plays an active role in several of them, and we believe that there is potential to extend this involvement further. Weekly attendance across the parish had grown over the last few years, although the pandemic has clearly had an effect, and there is significant potential to build on this in a variety of ways.

The Vacancy arises following the resignation in 2021 of our Vicar of 12 years, who departed to follow God's calling, and under whose leadership we have seen significant development in our relationships with schools as well as the local community and between our two Churches. In 2007, All Souls, South Ascot joined with St Michael's Sunninghill to create the united benefice of Sunninghill and South Ascot, with one PCC. There are close geographic and historic ties between the two Parishes. Indeed, South Ascot was created from the larger Parish of Sunninghill in 1896.

The coming together of the two Churches as a united Parish is, in many ways, a return to earlier times. It has been a successful and joyful union, allowing us to enjoy services of different types within the parish and across the two Churches. The PCC works collaboratively on whole Parish matters, while allowing each Church team to take responsibility for the day-to-day management of its Church.

It is a happy parish with the ambition to grow and build further into the local community.

Welcome from the Ministry Team

This is a parish with wonderful possibilities for continuing and developing diverse ministry. It offers the opportunity to cast vision for building God's kingdom here, lead the ministry team in working out God's plans and purposes and nurture willing volunteers in their discipleship as an integral part of this. As a parish we have been praying in our vacancy prayer that God will prepare the heart of the right person and we look forward to welcoming you and supporting you as you take up your role as vicar.

The Mission of the Parish

Who We Are

The two Parishes of Sunninghill and South Ascot were brought together in 2007. In the following 14 years, we have sought and achieved unity and we now find ourselves in the position of having a wonderful, combined Parish offering differing styles of worship but working together in harmony with a combined sense of purpose.

Within the community, we are highly valued for our festival services, which are well attended. Both Churches offer a space for reflection and remembrance but also have a strong emphasis on music which is valued by both congregation and the community alike. Our open welcome to a safe and non-judgemental environment is also widely recognised and respected.

There are annual special events, such as Party on the Green in the summer and Carols on the Green, as well as a Christmas Carol concert for the community with celebrity readers. These offer us a chance to bring the community together. In the past, we have developed outreach with the local community, working in for example Frimley Park Hospital, visiting local care homes and making house calls bringing the story of God to a broader base. Further afield we have built a strong relationship with a community in the Gambia where we send not only money but also parcels of laptops and stationery. This has been an exciting cross Parish initiative, bringing closer links between Church goers from both Churches and broadening our understanding of God's work worldwide.

Our work in the Community is something which we value. This work has grown during and now post-Covid. During lockdown, we set up a buddy system to keep in touch with those members of the congregation who lived alone or were facing personal challenges; we have set up regular prayer meetings at both Churches; ladies' fellowship meets weekly; a weekly Bible-study group and there is a recently started Alpha course. A member of the Parish has set up a charity providing fresh food to families in the Parish who might otherwise be unable to afford it and we also distribute meals produced by a local Michelin-starred chef.

Our Church primary schools provide us with the opportunity to work with young children and their parents and we take regular assemblies, when possible.

The last eighteen months have brought challenges. We have kept the Churches open throughout the dark months of Covid (and continue this today). We introduced weekly zoom services as well as a weekly letter from the ministry team. The letters have continued and provide additional support for our work in the community. Since the end of lockdown, regular prayer groups and ministry to local care homes have recommenced, allowing us all once again to share the word of God more freely across the parish. The opportunity to worship in different ways is demonstrated in the variety of services held (details later) but in summary, we offer a traditional sung (Book of Common Prayer) service and a lively family service at St Michael's and more relaxed services at All Souls (Common Worship), which also has a café open Monday to Friday to act as a focal point for the community. Music is key to all our services, although at All Souls' in particular the team has been much depleted by Covid. At St Michael's, we have an excellent music director, Camilla Jarnot, who is growing the choir, has introduced a children's choir and has started a series of musical concerts as fund-raising events. All Souls has a good organist, pianist and choir leader, Judith Usher, who joined us in 2020.

We are keen to once again fill our services and lead our community by using our energy to engage with them and demonstrate God's love and Jesus' teachings. As a Parish we embrace the challenge that this presents with excitement and commitment. Our congregations have a hunger to learn and are thankful for belonging to the Parish community.

Our Ministers

We are blessed to have a good supporting team of ordained and lay ministers, supported additionally by a number of licensed preachers. Our team have produced brief biographies which are included in the appendices to this profile.

During our interregnum, the ministry team meets weekly for spiritual support and day-to-day coordination of matters relating to our services of worship and pastoral care. The Church wardens and ministry team meet monthly to support each other and ensure that all aspects of our services, pastoral care and day to day matters are discussed, considered and God's guidance is sought.

The Ministry team is looking forward to being joined by our new vicar soon to continue the remarkable work that has been happening in this place over the years.

Our Vision for the Future

We aspire to embody God's loving presence in our community, bringing love, peace and support.

To us this means we must serve God and the community, especially those who are lost, lonely or in distress for whatever reason. To achieve this, we recognise that we must be open, making faith accessible to all generations by being more present in our community and wider Church family alike by sharing the good news of God in a fun way. We are lucky to have an infrastructure to help us with this, for example our Church schools, active Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer groups and care homes. Pastoral care and youth outreach are at the heart of our future.

To achieve this, we must be a sustainable parish financially and environmentally. Historically, the bulk of our income has come from weekly collection and fund-raising activities. St Michael's has often raised over 30% of its annual income from fund-raising. Covid has led to our financial state being less robust than it has been for some time. Both Churches are in the fortunate position of having some modest reserves but one of our key objectives for the coming years must be to get ourselves onto a better financial footing by increasing our income by giving our community and congregation a sense of our value and thus encouraging greater giving by everyone.

We aspire to be a confident presence online: more open, better understood and known in the community; a source of wisdom and care to everyone. We can do this by listening carefully and demonstrating a greater presence in the community. We would like to have a lively and younger congregation coming together to share the good news of God and taking that message out into the wider community. We want to serve the Lord for those who need us (the unloved, lonely, those without faith) across our community.

In all of this, we value immensely the diversity of our current services which serve our different congregations, while hoping that that we can broaden our appeal to be inclusive and inviting to the whole community.

In summary, our priorities are to:

- Extend God's mission in the Church family and the wider community, recognising the differing needs and commitments.
- Be alongside those who feel lost, lonely or in need.
- Increase youth outreach.
- Become financially sustainable and therefore able to sustain others.
- Continue to develop our online presence and engage through social media.
- Build on what is valued and explore opportunities to expand the congregation.

The Role Of Vicar of Sunninghill and South Ascot

Role Summary

The role of Vicar for the Parish of Sunninghill and South Ascot is a full-time stipendiary role. The post holder will confidently lead our parish and congregations in growing God's work in the community. An experienced leader who will build on what is valued as they lead us through the next phase of our journey of faith.

Most importantly we are looking for an individual who is enthusiastic and excited at the prospect of leading our Churches and community in the coming years and growing with us in faith.

Describing the Role

While we understand and expect that the role will evolve over time, and we are looking for a leader with the flexibility and vision to lead us, we expect that the key responsibilities of the role will initially be:

- To manage and lead the two Churches in worship and prayer, so that each Church can continue to grow in its unique way within the embrace of our combined parish;
- To foster an atmosphere that encourages generosity of spirit and open-mindedness;
- To embrace and grow the current musical and liturgical approaches with a fresh look at our work with multi-generational congregations;
- To be visible and present within our parish and take a role in the activities of the Church in the community, such as with local schools and charities, supported by a well managed online capability.
- To manage, empower and guide our Ministry team, our PCC, our Church Wardens and all of those who work for our parish;
- To work collaboratively with the deanery, archdeaconry and diocese;
- To proactively develop and encourage generosity in the discipleship of Church members in the giving of their time, talents and money, and in supporting fund-raising activities to ensure a sustainable future for both Churches underpinned by sound finances; and
- To support and enhance the vision and values of our parish and lead us into the next phase of our journey.

Describing the Person

Our new Vicar will be:

- energetic and confident, with a style that conveys calmness and caring;
- a proven leader;
- able to engage across the ages;
- a person of the people with a passion to lead a willing team to help others;
- able to manage and mentor the Church team in its ambitions through engagement with them all and by 'leading from the front' whilst demonstrating a strong level of emotional intelligence;
- Flexible and able to lead multiple styles of worship with different congregations and to articulate God's message within the understanding of each of our congregations;
- embrace all that is currently valued in terms of music, and hopefully have an element of musicality (whilst understanding if this is not the case!);
- a person of deep personal faith able to lead our congregations in prayer and contemplation; and
- able to delegate, empower, encourage and thank as appropriate those who work for and in support of the parish.

Support We Will Offer

The Parish is keen to support our new minister as they enter the new role and in their ongoing work. The Vicar is supported by four Church wardens – Aled Jones and Sandra Stansfield at All Souls’ and Vanessa Cummings and Kate Bolsover at St Michael’s. In addition, we have part-time administrators for each Church who manage both the Church and the associated hall bookings. The PCC has 15 active members and is ably supported by our interim PCC secretary, Andrew Trapnell.

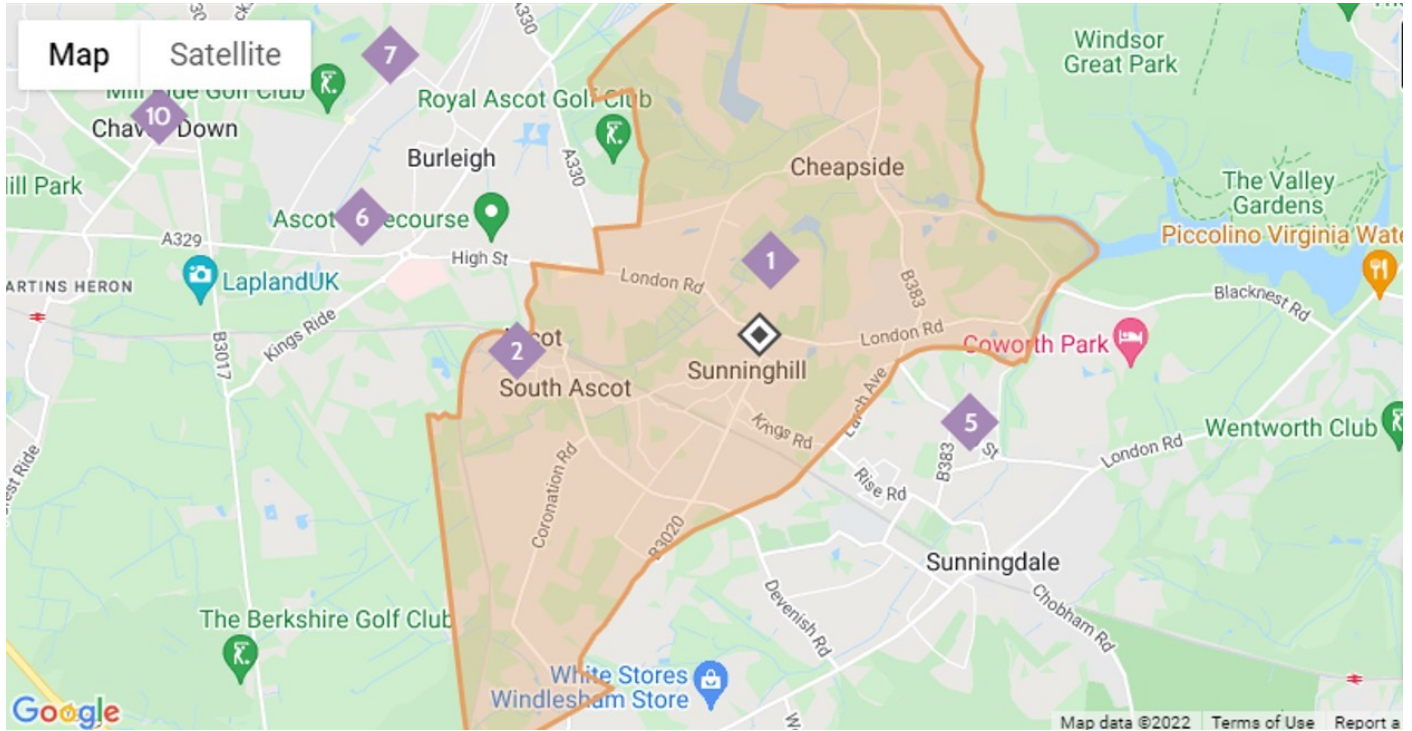
The PCC is engaged and committed to the future of God’s work in the parish. Drawn from across both congregations and across all the services, the members represent our music, the community, schools and financial resourcing. The Church wardens are experienced and willing to offer substantial amounts of their time to ensure the smooth operation of the Churches on a day-to-day basis. Our excellent treasurer produces quarterly management accounts which are reviewed by the PCC and manages our reserves.

Recently completed projects have included a new roof and new heating at St Michael’s and roof repair and the rebuild of the Scout Hut at All Souls. These were funded from fund-raising activities, grants and our reserves.

Our approach to all our initiatives has been one of teamwork with shared accountability and responsibility. At St Michael’s, we have a congregation which enthusiastically volunteers to take on fund-raising initiatives. These have included an annual community carol concert at the Church, other musical events, golf days, tea parties and dances as well as harvest suppers and quiz nights. With the lifting of restrictions, we are all excited to see these opportunities re-emerging! At All Souls, where the congregation has been growing and developing, we have used healthy restricted reserves on projects to improve the Church. Recently, a French Conversation Group has been started as part of the fund-raising campaign. Both Churches had a Christmas Fund-Raising campaign which met with positive support but there is further work to be done following Covid to rebuild finances so that regular giving plus fund-raising covers running expenses and we no longer rely on reserves. We would then hope to deploy reserves for more strategic initiatives.

It is important to us that our new incumbent feels well-supported at all times and able to nurture their spirituality as well as develop their skills while ministering to us.

Our Parish



The Parish of Sunninghill and South Ascot

History and Geography

The Villages of Sunninghill and South Ascot sit about 1 mile apart and are situated in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, six miles south of Windsor. They are southwest of Windsor Great Park and east of Ascot Racecourse. The area is in the green belt, 25 miles from Piccadilly, 15 miles from Heathrow; the M25, M4 and M3 motorways are all also within 10 miles. There are many commuters living in the area. The Parish is in the Oxford Diocese, the Episcopal area of the Bishop of Reading (The Right Reverend Olivia Graham) and the Deanery of Bracknell. There are three Parishes in the Ascot end of the Deanery and local residents opt for the Church of their choice, rather than sticking strictly to their own Parish. The villages were among several Thames Valley settlements of the Saxon tribe of Sunning. The first Church was in Sunninghill and served the scattered dwellings of woodlanders over a wide area; the Parish originally included the whole of Ascot and Ascot Heath. The living of Sunninghill has been in the gift of St John's College, Cambridge since 1526, an association of which the Parish is proud. Following the Unification of the two Parishes this patronage has been extended to embrace All Souls. Development of the Ascot area began when Queen Anne established the Racecourse in 1711. That, and proximity to the Court at Windsor, led to the building of great houses in the area and provided employment for local people. In the 19th century the railway came, beginning the development of our area as affluent commuter country.

Proximity to Heathrow, good rail links to London and nearby American schools mean that the area attracts a number of expatriates who create a strong market for good quality rented housing. Many local people commute daily to London and the City, using the easy direct route to Waterloo which takes about 55 minutes. The nearby town of Bracknell is a centre for high technology industry, with a newly developed town centre shopping area, as is the M4 corridor through to Newbury.



St Michael's



All Souls'

St Michael's in the autumn



All Souls' in the spring



Sunday at St Michaels and All Souls'



Remembrance Sunday

Welcome to All Souls' Coffee Shop



Sunninghill is a lively and characterful Victorian village that includes residential areas. It has a High Street that offers a relatively wide range of small convenience and specialist shops, cafes/restaurants and other services which are well supported by local residents. There are 3 pubs in the village too. There are 1454 households, with a total of some 3500 people. Although property is, generally, expensive with many large attractive houses (both modern and Victorian) which tend to be occupied by senior business and professional people, the village also has small Victorian houses, some 1980's estates, 1950's council houses and modern flats. There are two residential homes for the elderly and a large recreational park and woods popular with families and dog walkers. One of the Church primary schools is situated in the busy High Street. The other Church primary school is in the village of Cheapside, 1 mile away and within walking distance of St Michael's through leafy footpaths.

South Ascot was only established as a village relatively recently in historical terms and lies about a mile to the west of Sunninghill village. The name of South Ascot was first used around 1892 and the village began to take its present shape during the 1870s, with the construction of the Bagshot branch rail line, when Ascot station became a junction. Houses were built for the railway workers and a small community began to grow with the usual commercial and trade development.

South Ascot is more diverse in character than Sunninghill. The core is a Victorian village with terraced or semi-detached houses. All Souls' Church was built in 1897 with a Church Hall, and Scout Hut following in 1929. In the 1950s the Bouldish Farm Estate was built close to All Souls Church and South Ascot Village School, while towards the south and eastern end of the village are streets of large villas in a woodland setting and leafy residential suburbs close to the Catholic primary school. There is a village green and a large recreation area with extensive woodland which links to Swinley Forest which are well used. The Church holds a Party on the Green in the summer and Carols on the Green in December for the community and both are very well attended.

South Ascot has a handful of shops and a pub on a narrow, busy A-road, and also includes Ascot Business Park, adjacent to Ascot railway station, one of the important employment sites in the area.

The village has approximately 1300 households, with a population of 3,500. The village primary school, (South Ascot Village School) is the only non-denominational school in the wider area but has good links with the Church and we run monthly assemblies and all-school services at Easter, Harvest and Christmas with the school's nativity play held in the Church for all parents to watch. There is also a pre-school playgroup which runs from the Church Hall as well as a ballet school, exercise classes and a maths tutoring class. The Scout Hut is opposite the Church Hall (behind the Church) and has a popular Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer Group with some exercise classes for the community to use.

Cheapside is a small village and lies to the east of the racecourse and south-west of Windsor Great Park. One of the oldest parts of Sunninghill, it was a settlement when most of modern Sunninghill and Ascot was still a mixture of marshy bogs and barren heaths. The oldest known sign of human presence dates from about 10,000 years ago in the Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age era. These people made camps along the streams in the Thames Valley, then part of the Rhine river system. A Tranchet axe of this era was dug up in Cheapside just opposite the Thatched Tavern Public House.

The Cheapside parish cottages were mentioned in the vestry minutes of 1807 as several cottages in a place call Cheapside. The railway was too far away to have had a major impact on this side of the parish and the main development of this period was taking place in Ascot and south of the London Road.

Today's Cheapside is a far distance from the huddle of medieval cottages that lay on the edge of Sunninghill Manor between Windsor Forest and Sunninghill Park, but it has several features in common with the village of the past. The roads and paths follow the old ways and there is still the contrast between the large parks and estates and the smaller cottages and houses. It has remained a mixed community. The hamlet is still surrounded by green spaces which set it apart and which help to give it its own identity. Unfortunately, all the shops have closed (and most recently the hairdressers) but the village pub is one of the better ones in the area. The population of Cheapside is now about 715 with a variety of housing - detached, semi-detached, a small Council housing estate with play park and a row of Alms Houses for older ladies to live in.

Schools

- 1 St Michael's School – CE Church Aided <https://www.st-michaelsprimary.co.uk/web>
- 2 Cheapside – CE Church Aided <https://www.cheapsideschool.org.uk/>
- 3 South Ascot Village School <https://www.southascotvillageschool.org.uk/>
- 4 Charters School <https://www.charterschool.org.uk/>
- 5 St George's Ascot Private Girls School <https://www.stgeorges-ascot.org.uk/>
- 6 Heathermount School owned by The Disabilities Trust <https://www.heathermount.co.uk/>
- 7 Marist Convent School – RC <https://www.themarist.com/>
- 8 St Mary's Private RC Girls School, South Ascot <https://www.st-marys-ascot.co.uk/>
- 9 St Francis RC Primary, South Ascot <https://www.stfrancisprimary.org/>

There are two highly regarded Church Aided CE Primary Schools in the Parish, St Michael's in Sunninghill and Cheapside School. The Church was instrumental in the foundation of these schools and they form an important part of the Church's work. The Vicar or the Curate takes assembly once a fortnight. The Vicar has previously been on the Board of Governors for both schools.

South Ascot Village School is also highly regarded and the Church has a good relationship with this non-denominational school. The school has a swimming pool and excellent Forest School within the wooded grounds.

There are very good secondary schools in the area in both the state aided and independent sectors and also several independent prep schools. Ranelagh School, a Church aided comprehensive on the edge of Bracknell, is a popular feed school from our Parish.

There is a thriving Scout Group who meet in the designated hut on Church Road in South Ascot and a thriving Girl Guides Group who meet in All Souls' Church.

The Church halls and Scout Hut are rented out to a number of sporting groups, ballet and children's groups. They are also important sources of revenue to the parish.

All Souls Church has a coffee shop which operates from Monday to Friday 9am to 12pm and is very popular. Many groups meet at the Church including music groups, art club, and baby/toddler groups

In South Ascot, Sunninghill and Cheapside there are thriving dramatic and art societies and clubs and evening classes covering a variety of activities. St Michael's has recently become the venue for a monthly meeting of the Ascot Arts Society. There are close links between the Church and the villages, which are strengthened by the Parish Magazine. The magazine, which ranks among the best nationally, receives considerable support from local businesses and ten issues are distributed free of charge annually to every home in the Parish, delivered by volunteers from the Churches and other local residents. It is also an important source of income.

The Churches

Sunninghill



St Michael's Church, the third on the site, was built in 1827, replacing a Norman Church which in turn was built on the site of the original Saxon building. The first Church was built by the Sunnings in about 830 in a clearing in the Great Forest. The Church is attractive and in a pleasant location (which has been popular for weddings) and covered with a beautiful ornamental Virginia Creeper which is spectacular in autumn. The Parish acquired a large car park immediately next to the Church some years ago, which has recently refurbished thanks to a generous donation from our neighbour.

Although the Church is geographically at the centre of the Parish, it stands in unexpected quietness and detachment in a no through road, half a mile from the main village street. Unusually for a 19th century building, it has a peaceful atmosphere conducive to prayer and quiet thought. The Church has recently benefitted from a new heating system and a new roof.

South Ascot



The site for All Souls was offered in 1890 by General Crutchley and the building was the vision of Lord Stanmore, who employed the most distinguished architect of the day, John Pearson RA. The building is Grade 2 listed and constructed of red brick and Bath stone, which emphasises the arches, vaulting and tracery. The windows are magnificent and were mostly executed by Messrs Powell and Sons and the Whitefriars Glass Company. The Church was considered by Sir John Betjeman to be one of the finest examples of perpendicular architecture in the South of England.

There is a small room above the porch which is ideal for the Sunday School and a Lady Chapel for smaller services/private prayer. The original organ is now unused, but a new digital organ and piano are played at services. Because of the flexible nature of the space, without fixed pews, it is possible to host many social and other functions throughout the year, including youth events, lunches/suppers, concerts, quiz nights, coffee mornings and craft groups.

The Church has recently undergone works to repair the roof and the Scout Hut has been rebuilt. The post and railings between the Church and the Church Hall have also been refurbished.

The Ministry

St Michael and All Angels

St Michael's is fortunate to have an active informal ministry who work alongside our Vicar. In addition, there are many committed lay people as well as an immense fund of talent and goodwill. The Parish reimburses in full the reasonable expenses of Ministry.

Present Services, Fellowship Groups, General Activities

Both the BCP (1928) and Common Worship forms are used. The congregation at St Michael's has greatly valued intelligent, thoughtful, perhaps even provocative preaching. Our 9.15 Family Service is designed for families with younger children. It is a lively service designed to bring the Word of God to life in an accessible and fun manner. The 10.45 service (Holy Communion or Choral Matins) is strongly supported and attendance has been sustained over the last five years. The choir has a full-time membership of 9, (often augmented by part timers) and is an important part of our worship. Whilst the congregation is not terribly conscious of 'Churchmanship' and its associated divisions, it is probably best described as broadly central in style, traditional and well aware of the need to provide a range of services to cater for different constituencies, especially families with young children. We have a very talented organist, Camilla Jarnot, and a fine Gray & Davison organ, which was restored ten years ago but continues to need attention and care.

All Souls' Church, South Ascot

Present Services, Fellowship Groups, General Activities

All Souls Church has a variety of services each Sunday at 10.30am for all ages. A new afternoon service at 4pm has recently started aimed at families with 9–15 year-olds and is gaining popularity. The services include Common Worship Eucharistic Services with hymns, both traditional and contemporary on weeks 2 and 4. The first Sunday of the month is Café Church with a guest speaker where the congregation sit at tables with their hot drinks and pastries and enjoy a less-formal style of service. The third Sunday is usually a Word for Life service which explores the bible in more depth. There is a Sunday School held in the small upper room in term-time with an excellent team of teachers; numbers have been consistent during the Pandemic but they remain low. We are in the process of replacing the heating and have outline plans to close the Lady Chapel in glass, which will be an ideal location for Sunday School or quiet prayer when the café/other activities are operating.

Judith leads a small, enthusiastic Choir in the services and holds regular practices before the Sunday Services. She has accompanied the choir and congregation with her guitar for outside hymn singing. Previously, All Souls had two guitarists and a pianist/ saxophonist/ flautist who played for the services, twice monthly. Sadly, they have moved to pastures new and we are keen to enrich our services with a variety of musical expertise in the future.

Finances

The two parishes operate separate accounts which are consolidated at year end. Each Church team (a sub-set of the PCC) monitors and is responsible for the financial position of its Church but the PCC has overall responsibility for the finances of the Parish as a whole. Parish Share costs are allocated between the two Churches on a formula which is reviewed and approved annually and tries to reflect the wealth of congregations and attendance at their services. The Parish has paid its Parish Share in full for the last few years.

The past eighteen months of the pandemic have reduced both our regular voluntary income and our ability to raise income from Church hall hire and other fundraising activities, with overall income reduced by £42k from 2019 to 2020. We have been fortunate in receiving substantial one-off donations to cover the deficit in voluntary giving. We are not assuming that this support will be repeated in the current year, but we have an enthusiastic group of volunteers who are helping with fund-raising events and both Churches have reserves which can be drawn upon if necessary.

That having been said, the position is not sustainable over the medium-term and, during the interregnum, the PCC is committed to raising income on a sustainable basis by asking the congregation to increase its giving and reviewing and cutting (where possible) our costs. The latter is not easy, however, as we are not profligate and as with all old Churches, maintenance, heating and other such costs are unavoidable.

PARISH ACCOUNTS 2020

Activities Income	58,886	Activities Expense	56,022
Donations and Legacies	178,404	Parish Share	
Interest and Dividends	13,714	Depreciation	18,254
Other Income		Church Running Expenses	128,667
Total Income	262,276	Total Expense	302,275
		Operating Loss before Investments	- 39,999
		Movement in Investments	
		Net Loss	- 61,273

Donations and Legacies include gift aid recovered.

Giving to the Church is supported with regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme, Standing Orders and to a lesser extent Envelope Schemes.

Investments suffered in 2020 due to the impact on the market of the Pandemic but have since recovered.

The Vicarage



Vicarage in Sunninghill

The Vicarage, which is the converted coach-house of the former Vicarage, was completed in 1978. It has a large sitting room, dining room, a large study and three double and one single bedrooms. It has a charming private garden which is completely fenced. It is currently being refurbished by the Diocese. These works include redecoration, installation of a new kitchen, utility room and bathroom with walk-in shower and recarpeting throughout.

The Parish office, which houses our Office Manager is situated in the vestry within the Church and across the road from the vicarage.

Appendices

Our Ministry Team

Vusi Mabuza



Named Vusumuzi, but known to everyone as Vusi! Vusi serves as an Associate Minister for the benefice of Sunninghill and South Ascot, based at All Souls Church. He has been privileged to have served in this parish officially since March 2021, having been linked earlier to this Church since coming to the UK from South Africa in April 2018. Vusi is married to Catharine Mabuza who is also a minister serving as vicar of Warfield (Bracknell). Unlike her, Vusi serves part time in the ministry, working full time elsewhere. From time to time, Vusi and Catherine take time to serve alongside each other. Vusi trained in theology and ministry at the College of the Transfiguration,

Grahamstown in South Africa. He is very passionate about the area of practical theology as well as theological ethics. He enjoys teaching and sharing the good news of the gospel, and pastoral care remains at the heart of his ministry. Vusi professes it to be an honour and a privilege to be associated with this parish and is enjoying the company of so many wonderful and friendly people, who make his work so easy and exciting.

Sarah Mortimer

Sarah Mortimer joined the parish in July 2020 as a full-time stipendiary Curate and celebrated her ordination as Priest in June 2021. Sarah previously worked in the further education sector and has gained experience of leadership through Church, work and school governance over many years. Her husband and three adult sons would say open spaces make her happy, closely followed by tea and a literary classic. She loves scripture and has a passion for sharing the love of God across all generations with a particular heart for young people. Seeing people live life to the full brings her joy. She is thankful for Church that is welcoming and outward-facing.



Mike Francescon



Dr Michael Francescon became a Licensed Lay Minister in 2014 having attended St Michaels All Angels since 2007. He married Elizabeth in 2006. He studied at Cambridge University obtaining a degree and PhD in engineering. His civil engineering career has been in design and construction. He currently runs his own business as an expert witness in civil engineering cases. He leads and preaches at the main service at St Michaels. He finds that there is considerable interplay between his LLM preaching role and being an expert witness.

Mary Nichols, Licensed Lay Reader

Born in Croydon, Surrey. Attended Lady Edridge Grammar School in South Norwood. After O-levels and a secretarial course, she joined BP in their training division. She married David in 1967, moving to Sunningdale in 1975. She became a Licensed Lay Minister in 1996, based at All Souls and joined the team in June 2007, when she was licensed to both Churches. She has been involved with many Church activities in South Ascot, including pre-school children and pastoral work at the Chandler Day Centre in Sunninghill, where she is the Chaplain and the various retirement and care homes in the two Parishes. She takes an active role in leading non-Eucharistic services in both Churches.



Tim Norman



Revd Dr Tim Norman leads our 'Ascot at 4' service, 4pm Sundays at All Soul's Ascot. He is a part-time minister in our parish.

Originally from this area, Tim attended Papplewick school. Married to Vanessa, and with teenage sons, Tim and Vanessa have an international background having lived in France for a number of years.

In 2014, they moved to the Ascot area and are also involved in supporting the ministry of other Churches. Tim has background in chemical research, is a self-supporting Christian minister and entrepreneur. He has a passion for sustainable development lifting people out of poverty and giving them hope for a better future, with a particular in Myanmar and in the Middle East. He is a writer, evangelist and speaker, with a particular focus on apologetics.

Nicola Shaw



Nicola has lived in South Ascot for twenty years with her husband and daughter who is at University. Her Christian journey started at the age of ten when she gave her life to Jesus in Coventry Cathedral. Over the years she has experienced God's faithfulness in so many different ways.

She says of herself that she can't sing and can be bossy, but she has a heart for Jesus and believes in the power of prayer.

She is currently the Children & Families Co-ordinator for All Souls Church and leads toddler praise.

Her role includes organizing the Sunday school material each week; taking a lead role in planning and delivering assemblies for South Ascot Village Primary School; in developing & organizing a mid-week 'Messy Church' (currently suspended); nurturing and caring for families in Church and those on the fringe of our Church community; working with other members of the Ministry Team in organizing Sunday services, especially those that have a focus on families /children.

In addition, we have three members who are **Licensed to Preach**: Ruth Bannerman, Mike Cross and Geoff New.

Church Wardens

Kate Bolsover

Kate has been attending St Michael's Church for over ten years and has been Church Warden twice in that time. She graduated from Exeter University with a Masters in Investment Management and having worked in the City for over 25 years, she retired and combined pro-bono work with a portfolio of non-executive directorships for the past fifteen years. With children in Costa Rica and Bermuda as well as Exeter, Kate and her husband have filled their time travelling, socialising and playing golf in retirement. Kate loves her daily ballet classes when she can fit them in!



Vanessa Cummings



Vanessa has been attending St Michael and All Angels for over 10 years. In 2019, she was elected as Churchwarden. She retired in 2017, having started her career working as a Secretary in 10 Downing Street for four Prime Ministers over 17 years. After leaving No. 10 she moved into marketing management in the retail sector before finding her home in the charitable sector where her last role was as Chief Executive of a small charity working with children abandoned into state orphanages in Romania. Vanessa has lived in North Ascot for 15 years. She has been Treasurer of the Cordes Hall in Sunninghill since 2011 and became a Governor of St Michael's CofE Primary School also in Sunninghill in 2018. With her partner Jim and dog Lenny, she enjoys lots of socialising with family and friends and keeping active.

Aled Jones

Born near Aberystwyth, in Ceredigion, rural west Wales, Aled attended Ysgol Gyfun Gymunedol Penweddig, before studying Engineering at the University of Bath. He met his now wife, Kate, whilst at university, and they spent a year travelling together before starting their work lives. He began his career at Mars Confectionary in Slough, moving to Vodafone in Newbury after finishing the graduate scheme, where he has been ever since, moving between Newbury, Southwark and Paddington. Aled married Kate in 2014 in Wokingham, and moved to Ascot in 2015, where he joined the congregation at All Souls' Church and they have one daughter, born in March 2021.



Aled has been involved in the activities of the Church ever since, joining the Church team and PCC, and in 2019 becoming deputy Churchwarden, and now as Churchwarden with Sandra Stansfield.

Sandra Stansfield



Sandra was born in Worthing, Sussex but did most of her schooling in Hitchin, Hertfordshire. She trained as a Junior School teacher at Bishop Otter College- now the University of Chichester- in West Sussex, and began teaching in Crawley, West Sussex before continuing in Bracknell, Berkshire. Following her marriage, moving to Ascot and having two daughters and a son, she continued teaching at Swinley Primary School, now South Ascot Village School opposite All Souls Church, until she retired. She is now Churchwarden for the second time after a break of three years!

Having been a Church member since the 1970's, she has undertaken many varying roles from time to time, including PCC member, volunteer in the Church Coffee Shop, Sunday School teacher, choir member and reader. She has done pastoral home visits and has been a verger for services. Sandra enjoys taking an active part in Church life.

Our Administrators

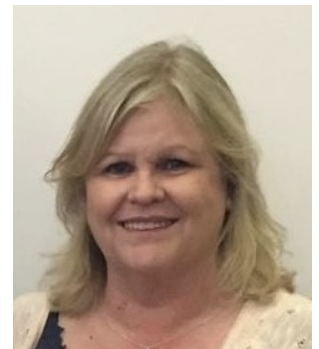
Nicola Hughes



Nicola grew up near Great Missenden in Buckinghamshire attending schools in Chesham and was part of the Sunday School and choir at St Peter and St Paul's Church. She graduated from the University of Leicester with a BSC in Psychology focussing primarily in Forensic Psychology. Upon leaving University, Nicola worked as a Teaching Assistant at an Independent Primary School for two years, gaining additional qualifications in Netball and Athletics coaching a role where she met her husband, Rodger, in 2006. Due to her sports background she was approached to be Assistant Manager at a newly opened Running Specialist Store in London, offering Gait analysis to clients, a role which she held for three years. She and Rodger moved to South Ascot in 2008 and married at St Peter and St Paul in Great Missenden in 2009, after which she refocused her career back to her Forensic Psychology background and gained a job as an Assistant Crime Analyst working for the NPJA in the Serious Crime Analysis Section. Nicola was promoted to the role of Crime Analyst and continued in this position, within both SOCA and latterly the National Crime Agency, until she had her two children (born 2013 and 2014). After taking two years of maternity leave Nicola was offered a lateral transfer within the NCA to accommodate the ongoing ill health of her son. Nicola began attending All Souls Church after taking her children to Toddler Praise and loving the 'cosy' feel of the Church community. Seeking a role which enabled her to be more 'present' and available for her children, Nicola was thrilled to be offered the position of Church Operations Manager at St Michael's in 2019.

Fay Philp

Fay was born in Ayrshire and lived there for a few years before moving to Edinburgh. At age 8, her family moved to Nairobi for 2 years and came home 6 years later! She continued to live in Edinburgh until an opportunity with work enabled her to move down south. She worked as an area administration manager with a dairy in Bracknell before giving up work to raise her daughter. Once her daughter was at Secondary School, she started work as a Programme Manager for an educational charity and then took an opportunity to work for the Church. Fay has two part time jobs – administrator at All Souls (including managing the Church hall) and the Social Action Team Leader at Easthampstead Baptist Church in Bracknell. Fay is also a trustee of Pilgrim Hearts, a charity looking after those on the edge of society, which includes running 2 drop ins each week and a winter night shelter.



St Michaels & All Angels

Services

Every Sunday, Sunday 8.00am: Holy Communion BCP Surplice & Stole (This service was removed during the pandemic but being reinstated on feast days)

Every Sunday 9.15am: Family Service – an informal service, especially tailored for children and young families.

First Sunday 10.45am: Sung Eucharist (BCP). Surplice & Stole

Third Sunday 10.45am: Sung Eucharist (BCP). Surplice & Stole

Second, fourth and fifth Sundays 10.45am: Morning Prayer (BCP).

Choir Habit Chasubles are worn at special services and festivals

We have teams of readers, intercessors and chalice bearers who assist at every service.

Congregations normally number 10-20 at the 9.15 service and 40-50 at the 10.45 one. At Festivals this can rise to 100 – 200.

Music

The family service uses contemporary hymns with hand movements (and when permitted) musical instruments which are given to the children so they can join in. Enthusiasm and excitement probably best describes the style of the singing!

We use sung BCP for both Morning Prayer and Holy Communion at our 10.45 services. Typically, these have been led by the minister or, where necessary, by a member of our choir. Hymns are traditional and well-known and the talent of the choir is supplemented by the high level of musicality and musical appreciation in the congregation.

There is a time for refreshments and fellowship in the hall after the 9.15 and 10.45 services.

Church Groups

Ladies' Fellowship – weekly

Men's Breakfast Club – monthly (suspended since covid)

Every Friday at 5.30, informal evening prayers at the church Parent & Toddler Group – weekly (fallen into abeyance during Covid but we hope to find a new leader to restart this initiative)

Ploughman's Lunches – monthly (suspended since covid)

Thursday night Discipleship Group - weekly

24 hour prayers have been organised in the last few years and we look forward to more

Youth work is led by our curate, Sarah Mortimer. There have been a number of events since lockdown has finished and we hope to increase this as the year progresses

Pastoral Team – We need to develop a fresh and active and committed team of pastoral visitors, but our LLM is licensed to take communion to the sick.

Church Magazine – Part of our outreach is to publish and distribute a monthly magazine to the local houses (distribution 3,500) funded entirely from advertising fees. This free delivery embraces the local communities and is widely read drawing much unsolicited praise and national awards,

A member of St Michael's set up Food4Children during lockdown, a local charity providing fresh food and vegetables to families in need.

The Vicar is an ex-officio member of many charitable trusts associated with the Church. These are:

The Sunninghill Trust <http://thesunninghilltrust.org/>

The Doris Cowdry Trust

The Reading Room Trust

The Cordes Hall Trust

The Schools' Trust

The Parochial Charities Trust

Cheapside Village

St Michael's School Governing Body

Cheapside School Governing Body

The day-to-day affairs of these charities are well-managed by other trustees on the board.

The Vicar is also a member of the chaplaincy team at Ascot Racecourse.

All Souls Ascot

Sunday Services

1st Sunday of the month Café Church 10.30am

2nd to 5th Sundays 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Sunday School

Tuesday and Thursday 08.45am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays 10.30am Toddler Praise

Vestments: Alb and stole with chasuble

Congregations usually number about 30-40 (up to 60 pre-Covid), with 7-10 children attending. For Festivals this is substantially greater.

Coffee is served after Sunday Services in normal circumstances

Music

Currently the 10.30am Services begin and end with traditional hymns and settings, played on the organ. There are three, more contemporary and modern hymns throughout the services; some are modern settings to traditional words. These are often lively with actions and a more relaxed approach.

Before Covid-19 affected our Services, the Eucharist Services on 2nd and 4th Sundays were a sung setting of Paul Inwood's Revised Gathering Mass and included The Gloria and Agnus Dei. It would be great to reintroduce and grow musical settings to the Liturgies in the future. We hope that the new incumbent would, hopefully, embrace this approach and have an element of musicality.

Church Groups

Chat and Craft group

Toddler Praise

House Groups – Advent, Lent, the Beatitudes

Let's Do Lunch (monthly lunch for as many as 40 people)

Tom Kerridge's Community Kitchen, providing 20 meals per week

Sunday School – There is an active Sunday School for over 4s in a room above the porch. The children return to receive Communion or a blessing and to show their work to the congregation.

There is an active Pastoral team and before the pandemic the LLM took Holy Communion to local care homes and the Day Centre.

There is a small choir, which can be augmented for festivals.

There is an active scout group attached to All Souls' Church. They raised £35,000 in 2020 to undertake a complete refurbishment of the Scout Hut and the group is thriving. There are no formal links to the Church though and the group attends once a year on Remembrance Sunday when a parade occurs down the local road to the Church with the Girl Guides (who meet in Sunninghill).

Coffee Shop

We have an active coffee shop, managed by Liz Moore, on weekdays at Church from 10.00am to 12.00pm, staffed entirely by volunteers

We have whole parish services for our Patronal Festivals.



www.ssaparish.org
www.allsoulsascot.org