

## WORSHIP & MUSIC GROUP 2017/2018

### Members as at March 2018

PCC members: Graham Savage (Chairman), Peter Jones

Ex officio PCC members: Rev'd Derwyn Williams, Phil Smith, Rosemary Thomson, Terry Pigrum, Peter Rixson

Other members: Angela Barton, Richard Carr, Lynn Graseman, Elspeth Lewin, Angela Smith, Margaret Webb

The function of the Worship and Music Group is to focus the church's attention on its vision to be people who know, love, and serve God. Its mission is to broaden our knowledge of God through preaching and to deepen our love of God through worship and prayer, in particular by ensuring that the acts of corporate worship offered to God are carried out to the highest standard possible. It is important that the atmosphere, decoration and ordering of the church building is conducive to such worship, that people have the resources required to enable them to worship, to pray and to hear the preaching, and that all music is made as part of the offering of worship to God and in a way which inspires people and brings them closer to God. The Group has direct or supervisory responsibilities for a number of activities embracing the overall running of our Church services, from worship through music to such items as cleaning of robes and other ancillary tasks. All of these matters are an integral part of our worship at St Michaels and it is important that there is proper coordination.

We continue to be indebted to both Richard Carr, our Director of Music, and Robert Stokely, our Organist, for the quality of the music which we enjoy. Robert has now reduced his involvement due to family commitments and, for a trial period over the coming months, the organist at some of the services will either be one of our two organ scholars or a potential Assistant Organist, Anthony Zerillo. Our choir continues to sing to a very high standard, but there are now fewer junior choristers. It is hoped to remedy this through presentations to be made to local primary schools in the weeks to come.

"Music at St Michael's" has organised a successful series of concerts over the last year on Sunday afternoons, also a much admired concert with organist, Keith Hearnshaw in October. We have also been fortunate once more to host a programme of lunchtime recitals by pupils from Bishop's Stortford College, all of which have been very well received. At the time of writing, we are looking forward to a performance of Mozart's Requiem on Palm Sunday evening. Funds from "Music at St Michael's" events support future choral and organ scholarships, so please spread the word. We are able to fund more scholarships so, if anyone knows of possible suitable candidates, please have a word with Richard Carr.

On the worship front we held an open forum for members of the congregation to discuss the format and content of the Parish Praise service. There was a good discussion, thanks to all who attended, and new guidelines have now been issued to all those involved with these services.

Our rota of pianists for the Wednesday morning service is now down to two, with some additional help at the Tiny Tots service. We could really do with more on the rota, so please let me know if you are able to assist.

If you have any matters that you feel should be considered by our Group, either in relation to music or worship, please do not hesitate to contact any of the clergy team or myself. We are always interested in new views and, if you feel that you could contribute by joining our Group (you do not have to be a PCC member), please let me know.

Graham Savage