

Annual Report – Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Nunthorpe

Foreword

In reading through these reports, it is clear that 2019 was a busy and fruitful year at St Mary's. For me personally, celebrating Holy Week and Easter for the first time here in Nunthorpe was a great joy and privilege.

It has also been wonderful to welcome the Revd Laura Wild and her family to the parish. In her role as Curate, Laura has already made a great contribution to the life of the parish. It has been good to see the impact that she has had within the church and in the wider community, particularly through her role as an assistant leader in the new Beaver group.

Another highlight of 2019 was the confirmation service in which six of our young people were confirmed. It has been good to see the spiritual life of the parish continue to develop, in particular through the Oasis group, ably coordinated and lead by Janet Barker.

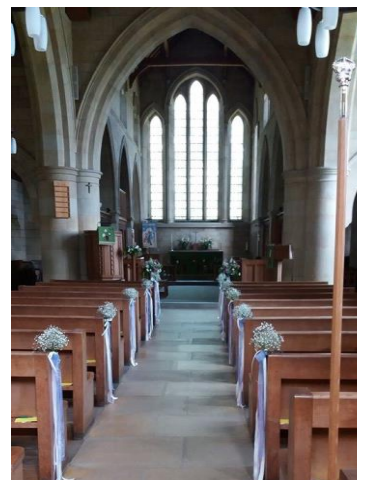
The worshipping life of the parish has also changed over the last year, thanks to the reintroduction of Café Church on the first Sunday of the month at the Church Hall. Lead by our Reader Janet Hinton, Café Church has experienced rapid growth, particularly amongst children and families.

The social life of the parish continues to be vibrant and I am delighted that we are able to bring together people of all ages and backgrounds at the events organised by the SET team. The contribution of other groups such as the Mothers Union and the Luncheon Club in bringing people together for food and fellowship is also an impressive one.

2019 was a year of growth and change but also of loss. The absence of many friends is keenly felt. In particular it seems right to pay tribute to the Revd Judy Cook for her many years of service to St Mary's Church and the local community. Judy's ministry touched many lives and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with her, even if only for a short time.

The life of the church is sustained by the commitment, faith and hard work of many people. To all of you who give so much and do so cheerfully – thank you.

Revd Tessa Stephens, Vicar



Churchwardens Report for the Year Ending 31 December 2019

Activities

The churchwardens are responsible for reporting to the APCM on the fabric, ornaments and goods of the church and we are again very pleased to report that all items (listed in the Terrier and Inventory) are present and in good order. The marked up inventory for church and hall are included with this report for examination as required

Our vicar the Rev'd Tessa Stephens continued to integrate into the very busy spiritual and social life of the parish. Her expertise, enthusiasm and guidance are greatly appreciated.

The parish was also greatly rewarded by the appointment of a Curate Rev'd Laura Wild who was ordained in York Minster on 3th June. She led the classes for our confirmation by the Bishop of Whitby on 13th October. Laura also adopted responsibility for young persons and played a key role in introducing a long awaited Beaver Group. With the help of the Scout Leaders formation of a new Cub pack is under consideration

Our Remembrance Sunday Service was a great success and with good attendance by parishioners, Councillors, Scouts and Rainbows, Christmas Services also proved again to be very popular and included Toy Sunday Christingle, Two Crib Services, and Carol Service, "Midnight" Eucharist and Christmas Morning Family Service

Appreciation

We both express our thanks and appreciation to our Vicar for her ministry supported by the Curate Rev'd Laura Wild, Revd. Pat Harrison, Revd. John Blakesley, our licensed reader Janet Hinton and not forgetting our assistant church wardens. It was a great shock and sadness to us all at the sudden passing of Rev'd Judy Cook. Her ministry, support and friendship are sadly missed.

We are also extremely grateful for the ongoing efforts of all teams, groups and individuals who offer their time expertise and commitment to ensure the smooth running and exemplary appearance of both church and hall and without whom our task would be impossible

David Young and Mike Arnott Churchwardens (Prepared 16 February 2020)

Church Hall

Following the renovation in 2018 the Church Hall is becoming increasingly popular to hire not only for regular class events but also Birthday parties and one-off bookings using both the supper room and Main Hall. Block bookings in 2019 began to show an increase in previous numbers with 2020 showing a promising start with an addition of 3 daytime regular classes.

The weekly usage consists of Monday evenings for youth groups and Nunthorpe Knitters, Tuesday morning holds FitSteps Fab and the evening holds Jump Fitness and Nunthorpe Players, Wednesday holds a monthly luncheon club with Beavers and Scouts in the evening, Thursday daytime is Pram Service and then Rainbows and Hart & Soul Dancing in the evening.

Whilst Friday evenings are left free for church events there are many regular bookings, e.g. Mothers Union, Scouts, Luncheon Club, Pram Service and Sunday and Wednesday services, being regular church activities, some of which provide a welcome source of income for the Church.

Claire Levett-Renton, Parish Administrator

Fabric Team Report for Year ending 31 December 2019

The Fabric Team continued to effectively maintain all parish assets including the Church and Churchyard, Millennium garden, Parish House 15 Ripon Road and the Church Hall

The team comprising members of the PCC plus co-opted persons as required but much of the work was completed without formal meetings. I do not intend to summarise the activities completed (as is usual) but will focus on future activities

Completion of the major hall enhancement, including the car park extension, greatly enhanced the building capability. The large increase in roof and wall insulation resulted (as expected) in major energy efficiency improvement. As a bonus, the building is now always warm and completely dry; a situation I cannot recall experiencing in 30 years plus !! The Capital expenditure committed is well justified. The external and internal modernisation has greatly increased marketability of the building which resulted in many more individual and repetitive bookings. Our intention for the future is to build on this most encouraging trend to find more innovative uses for the hall and attract more third party hire

By Church of England mandated Quinquennial Inspections of the Church and Parish House by independent architects are due during 2020. We are also committed to revalidation and updating of our Fire Safety Policy with associated Fire Risk Assessment for Church and Church Hall. The Lease of 15 Ripon Road was terminated in April and Laura and Family took up residence in May after some property remedial work

Appreciation

The ongoing efforts of fabric team members, other support groups and individuals who offer their time expertise and commitment is greatly appreciated to ensure the smooth safe running and exemplary appearance of church, hall and churchyard

David Young Fabric Team Chairman

Deanery Synod Report

We have three elected representatives who attend Deanery Synod three times a year - Graham Hassall, Linda Smith and Christine Young. The Clergy also attend when possible.

The last meeting was held on 29 February 2020 at Worsall Village Hall. Laura Wild, Janet Hinton and Linda Smith attended.

The Lay Dean Kate Brown opened the Synod with prayers followed by a presentation by Rev'd Nik Stevenson Multiple Minister who is based in Ingleby Berwick in the Parish of St Frances. He outlined how he had approached this new ministry by identifying the groups of people the Church do not reach at present. Synod broke into groups to discuss identifying and responding to the needs of these groups.

The next Deanery Synod has been rearranged to 1 July as Deanery Synod triennial begins with newly elected representatives from Parishes commencing their term of duty on 1 July. Neither the Lay Dean nor the Secretary will be standing for re-election. Anyone interested should apply. Synod Treasurer is willing to restand for election. The Area Dean is appointed by The Bishop. PCC Secretaries are requested to advise the Deanery Synod Secretary of newly appointed Synod Representatives from their Parishes with - Name, Address, Postcode. Tel No and Email address.

PCC Member Trustee Eligibility Declaration - Reminder that PCC Members are Charity Trustees and MUST sign an appropriate HRMC declaration that they are "a fit and proper person" to act in this capacity. Form can be adapted or amended if necessary.

The Area Dean thanked Rev'd David Charlton Assistant Curate at Ingleby Barwick for his contribution to the Deanery. He will be retiring on 24 February and his final service is 23 February 2020.

Thanks were given to all Synod members for their contribution since 2017.

Christine Young

Churches together in Marton and Nunthorpe

We are part of:



Our activities in 2018/2019, aimed at providing a common witness and service to the local communities, have been similar to those held in the previous year. The joint service at St. Mary's church during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) at the beginning of 2019 was well attended, although in reduced numbers. A joint Soup Lunch was held at Marton Methodist church during the same week. Funds raised from these events were shared between CAFOD, Christian Aid and Open Doors.

Nunthorpe Methodists hosted a pancake Praise Breakfast in early March and St. Cuthbert's a Pentecost Songs of Praise in early June. Both were well attended, particularly the latter which featured the Lockwood Brass Band and a chocolate fountain with fruit and drinks.

Two members agreed to carry out amendments to our Churches Together constitution to reflect our current situation. The new constitution will be considered at our next AGM.

We thank God that we can take part in our different forms of worship and activities, support local outreach charities and spend time together in fellowship. We pray that God will continue to encourage us to delight in our differences and that we may find new ways of responding to the needs of our local communities.

Graham Hassall

St Marys Luncheon Club

The luncheon club has 9 meetings a year, 8 with speakers and an AGM. The aim of the luncheon club is to provide social contact and generate funds for St Marys Church.

The luncheon club had a very hard working committee which provides excellent, varied menus as well as our speaker finder Eileen bringing informative and sometimes amusing speakers.

These include:

- Maggie Poppa – Retirement
- Carol Tetlow – Working with Wonder Women
- Eddie Harland – Littlethorpe Manor Gardens
- Pat Bingham – Floral fantasy
- Barbara Hickman – Travels with my red bag.

The highlight for me was Chris Powell – Trash to treasure.

Again a highlight Chris Cade – Scrooge the Christmas carol and Nona Jenkins.

The luncheon club have raised £2250 to go to Church funds in 2019. Sadly we lost two members Lilian and Betty, a loss not only to our club but also to St Marys Church. My thanks in particular to Pat Bingham for her kindness and gentle guidance. Two members have resigned due to the demands of time and family. My thanks to the committee for all their hard work.

Brenda Goman, President

St Mary's Flower Guild 2019

We successfully completed a very busy year of 28 weddings, donations and events flowers. It was a big job to organise and supervise so hectic a schedule, very ably helped by our invaluable team members. We had some setbacks amongst our helpers with loss and illness affecting us badly. However, we managed to cope and feel proud of the achievements. A huge thank you to all involved.

Once more we were able to donate the sum of £1500 to church funds. A wonderful outcome from careful planning, shopping and voluntary skill giving, not to mention the garden raiding we all subscribe to! Our friends and neighbours are very used to our judicial pruning and even contact us to tell us when things need a 'haircut'.

Thank you to all donors who give so generously towards the cost of flowers. Thank you to Angus Levie for auditing our accounts so efficiently. As in other years sincere thanks are given to all Guild members and especially the team leaders for their continued commitments to making the church look beautiful on so many occasions.

We pray that the pleasure you have given us Lord in presenting us with so many beautiful flowers and foliage and the companionship and the fun which the Flower Guild provides will continue throughout the years.

Betty Griffin

Nunthorpe News Report year ended 31 December 2019

Nunthorpe News is the magazine of the Anglican and Methodist Churches in Nunthorpe. The Magazine Committee has members from both churches and normally meets twice a year.

We are most grateful to everyone who buys the magazine and to our advertisers. Any surplus monies are donated to local organisations for the purchase of books. In 2019 we were very pleased to be able to make payments to St Mary's Church children's groups, Nunthorpe Methodist Church Accessible Worship Course and the Methodist Asylum Project Middlesbrough. We also gave Guisborough Bookshop vouchers to the four primary schools in Nunthorpe, thus supporting a local business as well as the schools.

Thank you for the excellent and varied contributions to the magazine this year, which included pieces from the primary schools and poignant tributes to dear friends no longer with us. We had some lovely articles, including *The Life & Times of the Revd Patricia Harrison* by Alison Colombi, *the Revd William Pennyman* by Janet Hinton and an update on *Potter's Village* by Rosie Brown. I do try and include information of local interest but please give me a nudge if there's something that you would like to see in the magazine - or better still, have a go at writing it yourself. I'm afraid that the deadline dates for contributions to the magazine are very early, this is partly because I'm not the world's best typist and it takes me a while to compile the magazine, but also because it needs to be at the Methodist Circuit Office for printing by the second Friday in the month eg the May 2020 issue has a deadline of 3 April and needs to be printed by 17 April for collation on 21 April.

Please keep reading and contributing, and if you know of anyone who would like to receive regular copies of Nunthorpe News, then please put them in touch with Keith Armstrong or myself (contact details are on page 2 of the magazine).

Anne Graham Editor 15 February 2020

Nunthorpe Players

Hello, just to let you all know, Nunthorpe Players has had a very successful 2019 in terms of finance and productions and giving something back to the community. The highlight being, winning the best drama play "It will all be over by Christmas" This play was a sweet love story set in the atrocities of world war one, following a doomed soldier going off to fight for his country. The players are extremely proud of this achievement. Our pantomime for 2020 was Alice in Wonderland which was well supported by the community and was well written by a local author and had some amazing talented people join the society and fantastic audiences. Drinking habits followed this, a light-hearted comedy set in a convent about nuns brewing their own wine. The bar profit was particularly high on this production! The players were also able to put on an afternoon tea and cake with our production of a bygone favourite scarecrow, Worzel Gummidge. This was received well as was the homemade cakes. We saw new additions of front tabs and lighting which will hopefully enhance future productions.

We welcome new members to our society; our contact information is on our website or on Facebook.

The Bible teaches us "Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the lord is the great God" (Psalm 95:2-3). The Nunthorpe players have certainly tried to give entertainment to the community with music and song and we are grateful for the continued support and partnership we have with the church. Here's to another successful year of entertainment and giving thanks to the people that come to watch.

Thank you.



Chair Julie Hobson

St Mary's Church Knitting Group

We meet on Monday nights in Term time 7.30 -9pm and are part of Nunthorpe and Marton Knitters.

As well as making items for various good causes the ladies (all ladies at present but gentlemen are very welcome!) have a very enjoyable evening as well as learning new skills. The spin off for us all has been the huge amount of support we have all received at different times during the year. The ladies bring their experiences to the conversations and we all benefit and find great comfort. I am so thankful for this and there is evidence of well-being benefits of hobbies such as knitting and crochet.

This has been a very busy year supporting old and new groups and individual people in need.

We made items for all the public displays ,the main ones being for Remembrance Sunday .We are now able to have displays outside our 4 main churches in Nunthorpe as well Nunthorpe Railway Station and Nunthorpe Oaks .This year it was an opportunity for the Rev Laura to take part in the Blessing services with the Rev Sue from Nunthorpe Methodist Church.

Middlesbrough hosted the Big Weekend in Stewart Park and as we expected large numbers of people to use the trains, we decorated Nunthorpe, Gypsy Lane, Marton and the James Cook Railway Stations bringing very positive comments from the public. The media filmed and interviewed us and was great fun.

We have made Trauma Toys for the Police and Crime Commissioner and for Refuge and Asylum Seekers' children arriving into our area. We also make toys for the Palliative Care Team at the James Cook University Hospital, blankets for Blue Babies Twiddle Muffs for people with dementia and restless hands. This year Suzanne was able to take several Twiddle Muffs to Roseberry Park and I expect this will be a continuing need.

We made "Prayer Bears "for the Rev Tessa to give to babies/children being baptised – something new. Teesside Hospice benefitted from about 50 lap blankets and various items to put into Comfort bags for relatives sitting with patients. We continue to support schools in Teesside with Worry Monsters which help children to express any worries and concerns they have. At Christmas we were able to donate about 15 lovely blankets via Janet as unexpected Christmas gifts for needy people.

It has been good to review the year and see how much has been achieved and I am pleased to say we make a small financial contribution to St Mary's Church Funds.

I am thankful to be part of such a positive and happy group and pray that we can continue to make a difference through our very enjoyable hobby.

Brenda Thompson



St. Mary's Mothers' Union

We began the year with forty-one members but sadly three, Mabel Carass, Lilian Thompson and the Revd Judy Cook, died during the year. Our branch is part of the Mothers' Union in York Diocese, but we are a small cog in an enormous global movement of four million men and women members. We have an afternoon and evening meeting in most months together with outings and special services which members are able to attend across the Deanery, the Archdeaconry and the Diocese. In June we hosted the Deanery Festival when the address was given by Lynne Tembey OBE, the immediate World- Wide Past President of Mothers' Union. We had some excellent speakers at our meetings including from Middlesbrough Together and Water Aid.

Members continued, to take an active role in all aspects of life at St. Mary's. They served refreshments at the Spring and Christmas Fayres and members donated the contents for the Christmas Hamper raffle thus providing a significant contribution to the money raised. Our social and fund- raising events have demonstrated the skill, generosity and commitment of the members. £200 was donated to the PCC for Church funds along with £50 towards the cost of Baptism candles. In addition, a total of £700 was donated to Mothers' Union appeals and, following the Shrove Tuesday lunch, £125 was given to Fr. Terry Leathley's Coffee Van Project in East Middlesbrough. The branch continued to support the Women's Aid Refuge in Redcar with gifts at Christmas. Visitors are always welcome to attend our meetings and we would be delighted to admit new members.



Edith Dobson

St. Mary's Pram Service

Pram Service was held on thirty-eight Thursday mornings during 2019. We were delighted to welcome the forty children regularly attending with their parents, grandparents or carers. We give our thanks for the commitment of the families.

A short service followed the themes of the Church's year and aspects of God's love for all of us and his natural world. After songs, a story and prayers, we had a time of play for the children while carers enjoyed social time with refreshments.

All children received birthday cards and cards and books at Christmas. Mothers and carers were given cards and flowers for Mothering Sunday. Pram Service is self-supporting, but we are grateful for the generosity of those attending. £640 was donated to Church funds and generous amounts were raised for Children-in-Need, Children's Society Christingle and Mothers' Union 'Make a Mother's Day' appeal.

We pray that we may welcome families who have made contact with St. Mary's through baptism and we are grateful for the prayerful support of the Clergy and MU members.

Edith Dobson

The Children's Society

The Children's Society says 'Childhood should be a time of happiness and safety. But for so many children that's not the case'. The Society works with the most vulnerable children and young people in Britain today. An issue now absorbing more resources is dealing with consequences of mental health problems, often arising from social media involvement. In Nunthorpe we have forty-eight Children's Society box holders saving regularly, as well as a number of direct debit contributors. In 2019 the box-holders, together with some donations, raised £1,479 towards the work of the Society. We would welcome more box holders to join in these efforts.

Edith Dobson

Safeguarding Report 2019

It has been a reasonably settled year, with not too many changes to DBS

All required DBS checks within the Church are up to date, any new PCC members will require DBS checks and will be applied for accordingly.

An internal audit was completed by the Vicar this year, and there were no issues highlighted

As with an obligation to review historical complaints, which again raised no issues for St Mary's.

For 2020 I intend to complete full review of files and admin, with an intention to archive, and to discuss with PCC members, the erection in Church and the hall of notice boards.

Linda Smith Safeguarding Officer

Social and Events Report

The SET team year was busy, and thankfully successful

It is always the teams goal to increase our fundraising on the previous year.

To date, as we enter our 4th year, we have achieved this, and we are very grateful.

- We started the year on the 6th April with a Quiz, with supper, raising £906.62
- On 6th May we enjoyed a Family May Day Celebration, this event was great fun, with fancy dress, Sword dancers, and afternoon Tea. £536.00 was raised from ticket sales and a raffle
- On 8th June the sun shone on our Summer Fayre, the hall was filled with stalls, brought together by a stella team of organisers and volunteers, £1564.00 was raised on the day.
- On 20th Sept a further much requested Quiz, with supper, was held and with the raffle raised £636.00
- On 12th Oct a Dance Evening was held, with a live band and Supper, raising £470.00
- The year ended on 16th Nov with our Christmas Fayre. The team made a decision to try and earlier date than usual, and it paid off raising a magnificent £2213.

The total amount raised this year for church funds was over £7000, the special Birthday celebration, donations from Janet Barkers party was a welcome gift, and what a great idea, it was a lovely day with children performing for us and a pooled tea.

In addition the SET team provided refreshments for various church events, including a welcome tea for our new curate Laura and her family.

A Summer concert, with local school choirs joining St Mary's choir and young entertainers to raise funds for local charities

There are so many people involved in this year's wonderful fundraising effort, and it is impossible to name them all individually, but I would like to thank:

All the children and adults who took part in the concert for sharing their talent and bringing Joy to St Mary's

Dave Wherrit for his continued support and the hard work that makes the Quizzes so successful

The Leven Long Sword dancers and The Cardiac Dodgers Band, who generously gave their time free

Everyone who works tirelessly to bring our ever-popular Summer and Christmas Fayres, we join together with Mothers Union, and every year the fayres become more popular.

The SET team, for their hard work, generosity and good humour

And finally, to those who support us, by donating in huge amounts, and attending our events both Church family and our friends in the community.

Fundraising only succeeds when people come through the door.

We are grateful to all those who have shared these happy times with us and at the same time raised much needed funds for the church

We pray that we can continue to achieve our goals, and Thank God for his goodness

God bless you all



Linda Smith Chair Social and Events Team 2020

St. Mary's Church Choir

During the course of this year the happy band that is the choir have continued to contribute towards the worship and musical life of the church. We perform at on at least a monthly basis at the Choral Evensongs on the fourth Sunday of the month (unless circumstances dictate otherwise), and also support the worship at the major festival services. In addition to this, we perform at the annual children's concert, and hopefully demonstrate that we can turn our hand to a wide range of musical styles. We are also available for supporting the singing at weddings held at the church, which has been our sole source of income to support our rehearsal costs and pay for new music. We are very blessed in that some benefactors have come forward to help meet these costs, which is hugely appreciated. We are also similarly thankful that we have Alex Best as our organist, whose gentle wisdom and direction is treasured. Finally, we thank the Church congregation for their support and encouragement – your feedback, whether it be good or bad, is always valued.

For the next year we pray that we continue to provide a positive contribution to the worship of God in our church, and that more people, of any age, would be inspired to join in the choir and/or the wider musical life of the church.

Graham Hinton, March 2020

St Mary's Youth Work

Element 4:12

During in the spring term 2019, Element 4:12 worked with Youth Focus, looking at a social action project with planning and running a community fun day in May. The group also took part in a Dragons Den where they pitched ideas to use funding that was given by Youth Focus. The Summer term 2019 the group was running with different activities using the equipment given, whilst starting to look at different community projects they could plan in the future.

In the Autumn term, marking a new academic year, a vision statement was agreed and sessions were devised exploring aspects of the vision of Element 4:12 as *a fun and safe space for young people to grow in confidence in speech, conduct, faith, love and purity and to voice their opinions without judgement.*

The -relatively consistent group of attenders- has contributed to shared church projects including adding angels to the Chapel nativity scene and running a stall of 'guess the' games for the Christmas Fair. The members enjoy the Monday night connection with the knitters group and are working together currently planning more 'outward looking' projects.

For prayer: Give thanks for the regular attenders and their willingness to participate and serve. Give thanks for faithful voluntary leaders for the group. Give thanks for the space to meet and the resources available. Please pray for God's continuing lead and vision for Element 4:12 and an openness amongst members to recognise God at work in the midst of the group.

Revd Laura Wild and Evie Strong

Scramblers

The Scramblers had another good year in 2019. The group continued to meet on Monday afternoons from 3:30 - 5pm. We are grateful for Graham Hassall's continued support in the kitchen and the help of parents and grandparents with the crafts and activities. The children have continued to enjoy creative and sometimes messy activities whilst learning more about God, Jesus and the Bible. Every session finishes with tea. New children have joined us and it's been good to see friendships developing between the children and the parents too. In the past the group was aimed at ages 4-7 but a wider age range now attend and in the coming year we would like to change the name of the group to reflect that.

Over the coming year we'd appreciate prayer for:

- The children and parents to grow in their relationship with God
- New leaders to emerge
- A new name that reflects the character of the group

Revd Tessa Stephens

PARISH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, NUNTHORPE-IN-CLEVELAND

Tuesday, 24th March 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

at St. Mary's Church Hall, Morton Carr Lane, Nunthorpe

MEETING OF THE PARISHIONERS - AGENDA

1. Prayers
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 26th March 2019 (published)
4. Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the meeting held on the 26th March 2019 (published)
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Report on finance and adoption of accounts (published)
5. Electoral Roll report
6. Churchwardens' report on the fabric, terrier & inventory of the church
7. Deanery Synod report (written)
8. Written reports on a) PCC Teams:
 - 1) Fabric
 - 2) Social Eventsb) Safeguarding
c) The Children's Society
d) Choir & Music
e) Church Hall Bookings
f) Churches Together in Marton & Nunthorpe
g) Nunthorpe News
h) Nunthorpe Players
a) St. Mary's Youth
b) St. Mary's Flower Guild
c) St. Mary's Ladies' Luncheon Club
d) St. Mary's Mothers' Union
e) St. Mary's Pram Service
f) St. Mary's Knitting Group
9. Election of Deanery Synod representatives
Parochial Church Council representatives
10. Appointment of a) Sidesmen
b) Independent examiner – Fred Hutchinson
11. Vicar's Address