

# Mission Action Plan for 2015 – 2020

## Generosity, Joy, Imagination, Courage

Parish of Norton

Denary of Hitchin

### Three things we have seen about our parish and our world

1. New homes on the Grange and Blackhorse Road will enlarge the Parish.
2. We continue to engage with families seeking baptism for their children and marriage.
3. It continues to be evident that people are searching for spiritual meaning in their life, not necessarily Christian.

### Three things we have seen about our church

1. Since 2011 we led Christianity Explored, some modules of the Pilgrim course and bible studies /home groups
2. The worship offered may need to expand beyond the church buildings.
3. We are still searching for new and better ways to care for and serve people in the community.

### Our Vision is

*How we want to be described in five years' time.*

By 2020 we will be a beacon in the community:

- Where the love of Jesus is seen in all we do.
- Where everything is based on teaching and prayer.
- Where there is a desire to live and share the gospel.

### Our Key Priorities for the next five years at St George's and St Nicholas are

1. **Communication: Between the leadership and congregations, getting congregation to see themselves as communicators.**
2. **Outreach – Messy church, Baptism visits, weddings, schools, care homes – building on what we do, Nippers, Cherubs. How can we do these better?**

3. Nurture – helping people to lead and use their gifts in the transformation of God’s church.

4. World Mission – How we as a Parish engage with what God is doing in the world

## Planning and Acting

### Goal number **1**

**Communication: Between the leadership and congregations, getting congregation to see themselves as communicators.**

#### Our plans

How we will do it	Who will do it	Time Period
<p><b>Electronic communications:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the Website up to date</li> <li>• Use Social media</li> <li>• Communicate using E-mail</li> <li>• Communication with baptism, wedding &amp; funeral families – link to the Church of England website</li> <li>• Teaching</li> <li>• New sound system</li> </ul>	<p>Communication team – Ask David Parry to lead</p>	<p>Review Autumn 2016</p>
<p><b>Written Notices to include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pew sheets</li> <li>• monthly magazine</li> <li>• one off service sheets, orders of service</li> <li>• school flyers, events flyers</li> <li>• leaflets with information of current groups at both churches</li> <li>• leaflets about support groups with contact details</li> </ul>	<p>Church wardens and treasurer</p>	<p>Summer 2016</p>
<p><b>Notice boards and displays in both churches.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase freestanding notice boards for church</li> <li>• Apply for a faculty to replace existing boards with bigger.</li> <li>• Apply for a faculty for a board in the Lady Chapel.</li> <li>• Apply for a faculty to put a new covered board of wood in the porch of St Nicholas.</li> <li>• New covered board on shed</li> </ul>	<p>MAP team will sort out the content of information leaflets; led by Sara Clarke &amp; Susan Taylor</p>	<p>Autumn 2016</p>
	<p>PCC apply for faculties</p>	<p>September 2016</p>
	<p>Email friends to ask if they want to choose a board at St Nicholas church?</p>	<p>achieved</p>

<b>Teaching</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about our faith more effectively</li> <li>• Follow up the work in May</li> </ul>	Have a teaching month –Going deeper into God  Selection of Bible notes to give away  Darren organize a course on evangelism	May 2017   June / July 2017
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<b>Our Actions</b>		
<i>Mile stones achieved</i>	<i>Communicated</i>	<i>Date</i>
The new sound system has been installed.	The sound system is being used. We are now able to make recordings of the sermon.	June 2016

## Goal number 2

**Outreach – Messy church, Baptism visits, weddings, schools, care homes – building on what we do, Nippers, Cherubs. How can we do these better?**

<b>Our Plans</b>		
How we will do it	Who will do it	Time period
Messy church will be run every half term	Maxine, Susan, Sara	Ongoing
We will continue to review the way we run Cherubs	Karen, Emma Hollis, Fr Nevsky & Angie Caldwell	Ongoing
Nippers will be reviewed through team meetings	Nippers team	Ongoing
All church based groups will report to the PCC	Sunday school Street dragons Nippers Cherubs In-betweeners Home groups Messy church	Annually
The baptism, wedding and funeral forms will be updated to ensure those filling them in are willing to receive information from the church, following these events.	Church Administrator & Darren	February 2016
We will go into school to help wherever it is needed, once we know who would like to do this.	Stewardship campaign Nevsky will contact the Grange school	Ongoing

We will offer help to care homes once we have an idea of those who would be prepared to give time for this	Susan will write a letter offering help to schools and care homes	Ongoing
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<b>Our Actions</b>		
<i>Mile stones achieved</i>	<i>Communicated</i>	<i>Date</i>
Messy Church is being run for one afternoon during every school holiday.	Leaflets Website Pew sheet Norton News	Ongoing since the February half term holiday 2016

## Goal number **3**

**Nurture – helping people to lead and use their gifts in the transformation of God’s church.**

<b>Our Plans</b>		
How we will do it	Who will do it	Time period
Fully engage with ‘Equipping God’s People’ from the Diocese	Darren will Invite Jeanette Gosney to explain all training that is available	Ongoing
During the course of the year we will celebrate the work of all in the different groups of volunteers in the church.	Standing committee/ PCC will organize this	Annually
Nurture the varying worship needs of the congregation	Music group & clergy will organize a non Eucharistic worship service on the third Sunday of the month.	Starting in May 2016
Help people to explore their calling to different forms of ministry within the church.	Ensure that someone on each committee is designated to encourage people to explore in greater depth the work of that committee. Part of the role is to ask people if they are interested in serving on the committee.	Ongoing
Allocate a group of church members who will be aware of newcomers in the congregation and welcome them	Susan Taylor & Sara Clark will coordinate this.	September 2016

<b>Our Actions</b>		
<i>Mile stones achieved</i>	<i>Communicated</i>	<i>Date</i>
A Contemporary Praise and Worship Service is now held once a month, led by the Music Group	Pew sheet Website Leaflets Norton News	Began May 2016

## Goal number **4**

**World Mission – How we as a Parish engage with what God is doing in the world**

<b>Our Plans</b>		
How we will do it	Who will do it	Time period
Raise the awareness of mission work and the groups the church already support.	MAP will organize representatives from the mission groups to speak in church / PCC	2016 ongoing
Monitor those missionary groups we engage with and give feedback to the PCC	MAP team	ongoing
We will aim to give away a minimum of 10% of our income to Missionary groups.	Teaching sessions about giving	2020
Updated information will be on the website & on notice boards about the mission groups we support.	MAP	Ongoing
Give members of the congregation a mission experience	Arrange this with the mission agency, Mission Direct	2017/18
Work to be a Fair Trade Parish	Sara Clark will continue to raise awareness of Trade Craft	2017
Start a monthly prayer meeting to pray for the mission groups we support.	Susan will organize this	September 2016

<b>Our Actions</b>		
<i>Mile stones achieved</i>	<i>Communicated</i>	<i>Date</i>