

# St Mary and St Nicholas with All Saints Leatherhead - achieving the vision

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People have worshipped at St Mary's for over a thousand years. In that time they built many new futures for their church congregations and buildings to enable them to survive and to grow. Building on their history and tradition they adapted their work and worship to meet the challenges of their changing world.

We are now at the beginning of another series of changes as we try to ready our church for the challenges of its New Future.

Over the last two years we've all worked to create a vision for the kind of church that we'd like to see here in Leatherhead. We described this kind of church in our New Future document and prepared a pathway showing how we would work towards it.

Much progress has been made already. We have

- Agreed our vision and mission statement
- Set up seven Key Area Working Groups, each with a convenor, to move us forward towards our vision.
- Introduced and trialled new service patterns, and just completed a survey to get feedback about the preferred pattern of services and the features of our worship that are most valued by those who attend our Church.
- Completed a successful Parish Funding Programme that resulted in planned giving promises increasing by 25% for 2012 compared with 2011.
- Established Home Groups as a regular feature of our worship.
- Worked with other churches in Leatherhead to develop our faith together. This year over 100 people will follow a shared Lent course run in small groups in houses and churches.
- Filled our church on Remembrance Sunday, at the Christmas Carol Service and the children's Christingle Service.

But there is still more to do. Our very popular and much used church hall needs up grading – toilets, kitchen, boiler, windows and stage. The church itself needs to be completely reordered with better lighting, heating, seating, sound system, flooring and toilets. Several options are being considered to achieve this.

In due course a report will go to the PCC and there will then be a wider discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting in April.

If you have concerns please speak to a churchwarden. Nothing is fixed; we're at the exploration stage.