

Pastoral Report 2022

Behind the scenes, the pastoral team was busy keeping in contact with many members of our congregation through emails, phone calls, or visiting.

Yvonne Gilbert has sent cards and messages to those who are unwell or in need of the support of extra prayers. Due to recent ill health, Yvonne has asked if there is anyone willing to take on this important role of outreach on behalf of the pastoral team. Please contact either Margaret King or Yvonne if you feel called to do it.

David Bennison, Hilary Baldwin, and Helen Hopper lead a prayer and praise service once a month in Solent Grange nursing home. Until recently, Rev. Sandie Osbourne was visiting a long stay resident with Holy Communion, forming a strong bond of faith and hope for her. Now someone else provides this service. John Terry and Margaret Frost regularly give people lifts when needed to services and functions.

Pastoral outreach comes in many different forms, especially the male-only "Mark's Brothers" group held on the second Tuesday of each month. Sue and Steve Beynon's "Open to All" coffee morning - with amazing cakes - is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Both take place in St Mark's coffee lounge and are well attended.

The pastoral team continues to be active in many different ways. For more information please read the pew sheets, the monthly Bridge magazine, or contact one of the team: John Terry, David Bennison, Hilary Baldwin, Yvonne Gilbert, Margaret Frost and Margaret King

Margaret King

Anna Chaplaincy

The Anna Chaplaincy role is now an established part of the structure of the Parish. The Chaplain takes an active part in numerous services, particularly the Café Communion Service on the first Wednesday of the month, which has attracted a steadily increasing attendance, mostly from our older parishioners. The Chaplain also attends services held at Solent Grange and Woodside nursing homes, and assists at the monthly Elephant Club meeting at St Mark's, an initiative for those dealing with Dementia and those who care for them. The Anna Chaplaincy role is very flexible and is adapted to suit the requirements of the Parish and the needs of its older parishioners. The role will continue to evolve and work alongside the Pastoral Care Team. The methods of contacting the Chaplain have been well advertised to the local community.

Hilary Baldwin