

## **THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

**TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2023**

### **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT**

Following the lockdown imposed on us during the previous two years, 2022 has been a successful year for All Saints with the Church being used on over 40 occasions including two baptisms, six weddings and four funeral/memorial services (several other baptisms took place during normal worship). We also recorded some 25 visits in the Visitors' Book.

We were delighted that our Houghton Choir took part in a revival of the Christmas Carol Service and we were honoured to have a military presence at the Remembrance Sunday service with many villagers joining us at the War Memorial. The bells were rung when required at Eucharist services and we welcomed visiting ringers from far and wide.

Throughout the year villagers joined us to tidy up the Churchyard together with regular cutting of the grass by a local contractor. We are grateful to the Parish Council for giving us a grant solely for the purpose of Churchyard maintenance and regular visitors are welcomed to admire our beautiful churchyard throughout the seasons.

We were also able to carry out work with a specialist contractor to the gutters, downpipes and chancel roof on the north elevation. The Friends of All Saints enabled us to carry out this work together with the building of a new shed to replace the dilapidated existing structure. Work to repair the flint wall to the Old Rectory was also carried out and we are grateful to Louise Bainbridge, the Diocesan Architect, who supervised the repair work. Our financial position remains relatively strong and we have once again been able to fund these essential works.

From both of the Church Wardens our grateful thanks to so many people who help to ensure our lovely Church is available to everyone every day of the week throughout the year.

Michael Woodhall / Iona Priestley  
Churchwardens