

Wrentham Parish Council Annual Report – St. Nicholas Church
Monday 20th April 2026

Over the past year, the church has enjoyed a successful and encouraging period, marked by strong support from both the congregation and the wider village community. Key events such as Remembrance Day and our Christmas services were particularly well attended, reflecting the continued importance of the church in village life. A notable highlight of the festive season was the Carol service with the Wrentham Band, who once again delivered an outstanding performance. This was followed by refreshments, generously provided by our small but dedicated team, who demonstrated remarkable versatility in catering to 148 people, despite limited facilities.

We are fortunate to have Rev. Mark Bee, who has now been with us for well over a year and has become a popular and vital part of our community. Under his leadership, we have established a thriving mid-week Communion service held at 12 noon every Wednesday. This service has become an important and much-valued part of the week for the congregation. We would very much like to see this continue to grow and warmly welcome anyone who wishes to attend.

Regular Sunday services have been held consistently throughout the year, led either by Rev. Mark or members of his team, and have been faithfully supported by the congregation. Looking ahead, we are actively seeking ways to grow both our Sunday and mid-week services, and to explore new opportunities to serve the village more effectively.

One significant development this year has been the opening the church during all daylight hours. Having previously been locked, it is now once again accessible to the parish for quiet reflection, prayer, and visits, which has been very positively received.

We are also in the process of establishing a sub-committee of the PCC to consider how the church building can become a greater asset to the village, and how we can strengthen engagement with the local community in the service of God for all.

In terms of communication and outreach, we have developed an online presence through our church Facebook page, and have begun delivering cards to households at key times of the year, such as Christmas and Easter, to share service times and extend invitations to all.

Maintaining a historic building such as St. Nicholas Church continues to present significant challenges, particularly given limited financial resources. We are currently facing substantial repairs to the church tower, which are likely to run into six-figure costs. Despite this, we remain optimistic about the future.

Having come through a difficult period of interregnum and change, we are encouraged by the renewed sense of stability and purpose within the church. St. Nicholas continues to maintain a strong Christian presence in the village, and our doors remain open, as always, to all.

David Ulph
Churchwarden, St. Nicholas Church, Wrentham