

Christ Church Lille

Chaplaincy Report for 2018



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For details of services and events, see the website.

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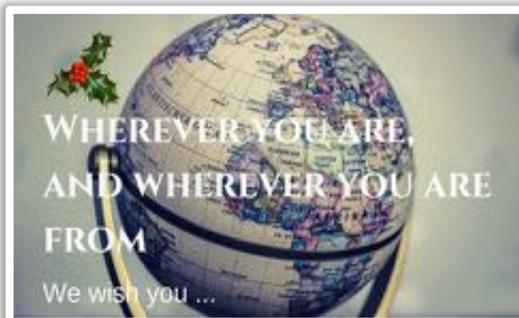
Highlights of the year

It's been another busy and interesting year in Lille.

Regular events such as the **Christmas market** and our pavement café at the **Lille Grande Braderie** attracted even more people than usual and helped our funds too.



There wasn't even standing room at the **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols** last year; this service and the evening carols are getting to be well known and popular in Lille.



Our third Christmas video card – getting to be a tradition!

We have also seen a steady increase in numbers attending the **different services** on a Sunday.

New groups have started up, from an Informal Bible Study to a new Men's Group adding to the range of **groups** available. The evening service is now reaching out to young professionals and we are also welcoming more young people to the traditional service on a Sunday morning.

We're making sure that the **different groups mix**; we now have "Coffee in-between" the two morning services once a month, and we'd like to do it more often, it's a popular chance to chat.



Outreach continues at our drop-in café once a week where we welcome

a wide range of visitors for coffee, a chat, a visit or just a quiet moment.

Events

We've been delighted to host **concerts**, a **quiz night** and an **art exhibition**. We want to do more, and all the work that has been done refurbishing the church hall will be worth it.

Everything got put on hold last autumn as



the Town Hall has been working on installing a **new heating system**. Exciting and, we hope, cheaper to run.

There has also been a lot of work done in the church renovating the Victorian floor tiles,

thanks to the volunteers. But further work will need professional help, so that's a project for the future.

Improving protection of personal information

On a practical level, we have worked hard on our GDPR compliance, and set up an online address book to safeguard people's private

information. And allow them to control access to it too.

Ways to Give

Our church wi-fi is not only used for groups and events, but we have now set up new ways to give – we have a card reader available in church which has proved popular with all ages. We have also introduced weekly and monthly envelopes for those who don't have easy access to banking, and this was part of our Stewardship and Giving project last year.



What's next?

We're going to be celebrating our **150th anniversary in May 2020** so there is a lot of preparation going on in advance. We hope to welcome many friends from around the world.

As part of our celebrations, we have some **major projects**:

- Glass inner doors for the church
- Stripping out the old carpet in the aisle and laying a new resin or polished concrete floor.

These will be a durable reminder of the past, and a commitment to the future of our church in Lille.
