

St Michael's Anglican Church in the Gard

Synod Report 2018

Our responsibilities as Church Wardens have taken on a new dimension, as our Priest-in-Charge started his well-earned retirement in 2017. We start by taking this opportunity to express our gratitude and thanks for the continuing support of the local clergy in Bagard and Uzes. Without their generosity we would not have a building to worship in.

We have spent a great deal of time this year considering our options and exploring different avenues after his retirement at the end of August 2017. We continue to focus on this and also consider our next steps together.

The added challenge we have this year, is that our reader Brenda Juntunen will be leaving to re-locate to the UK. Brenda has been part of St Michael's since the beginning and she will be sorely missed. However she leaves with our very best wishes.

Numbers have dropped in recent years and have not been replaced by new people moving to the area. This has stabilised recently and no doubt has been influenced by the 'B' word.

Among the developments this year, have been the training and appointment of five Lay Worship Assistants. With the commitment and dedication of these members of St Michael's, we have been able to continue the cycle of our twice a month services at Bagard and Uzes. We are also very grateful for the support of local visiting clergy who can offer Communion services.

We have taken the decision to move location in Uzes and starting in May 2018, we will meet at the Temple, rather than the cathedral. The facilities and practical arrangements there make it far more attractive venue for us.

The Church Council are committed to do their best for St Michael's during our interregnum and rely on the continued support of the fellowship.

Eddy Hurst & John Smith

(Church Wardens)