

Loving Father,

Pour out your Holy Spirit on our town, that Leamington may reverberate with your transforming love and thousands of people of all ages become passionate disciples of Jesus.

May St. Paul's be known as a place where you encounter your people, changing lives and bringing healing, joy and life.

Help us to unite with other Christians to continue the ministry of Jesus by proclaiming the good news of your kingdom and showing his love in practical ways.

May the gospel spread out from here and people be drawn to Leamington to encounter you and experience spiritual refreshment, just as people in the past came for physical refreshment.

Send revival on our town and start with us, that Jesus may be glorified. Amen.

## Our Purpose

Our purpose statement answers the question "why do we exist?" and has three aspects, expressed as follows:

### **Glory to Christ**

This is fundamental. We were created to glorify God and enjoy him forever. This means worshipping God & living lives that glorify him. In everything, we aim to please God not people.

### **Growth to His Church**

God intends his church to grow, both in depth & in numbers as more people become disciples of Jesus. In practice these two often go together: as a church is healthy, so it is more likely to grow. And as a church focuses outwards in mission, so it becomes more healthy.

### **Good News to the Community**

We are called to continue the ministry of Jesus, proclaiming the good news of his kingdom, & demonstrating it in practical ways. While we have a specific responsibility to our geographical parish, we are also called to play our role in bringing good news to the town and beyond.

## Our Values

These answer the question "how should we operate?" In all that we do, we will seek to be:

### **Biblical & Prayerful**

These are our foundation values, and underlie the other five.

### **Generous**

We will be generous and welcoming to all, so that others encounter God's transforming grace for themselves

### **Loving**

We will be real and loving with each other, so creating a safe place in which people feel free to seek wholeness in every area of their lives

### **Distinctive**

We will be wholehearted in learning to be more and more like Jesus

### **Outgoing**

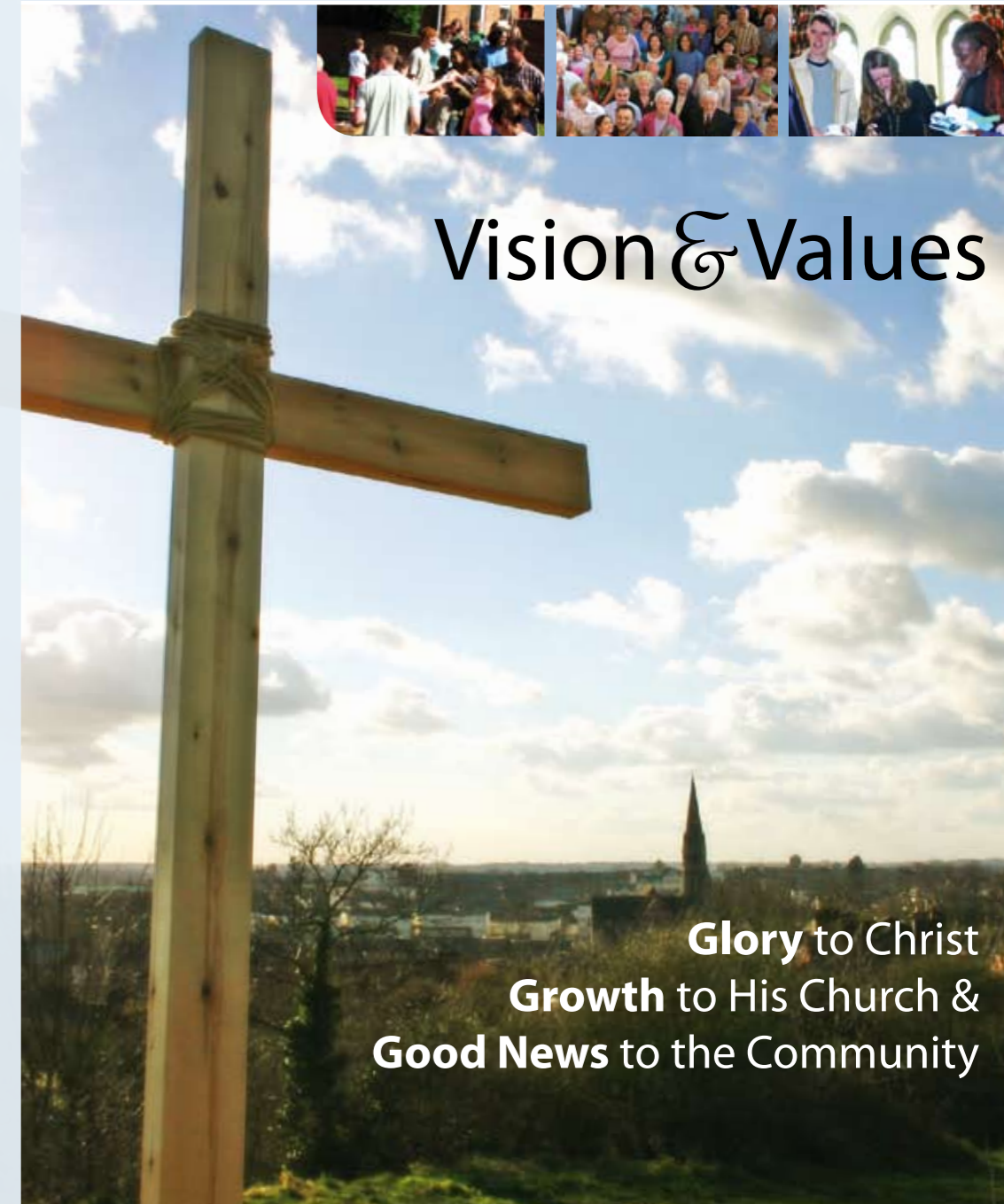
We are eager to go out to others, overflowing with the love of Christ, and determined to make the gospel accessible to all

### **Led by the Spirit**

We will be led and empowered by God's Holy Spirit, accepting risk and change for the sake of his kingdom.



# Vision & Values



**Glory to Christ**  
**Growth to His Church &**  
**Good News to the Community**

Since the year 2000, the vision has been to build a healthy church, across the ages and in every area of ministry. We want to grow in our worship, evangelism, discipleship, prayer and fellowship.

What now follows is a result of seeking God's vision for the next stage at St. Paul's. It is unashamedly big, because God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Eph 3:20). It gives us something to aim towards, to pray for and to give our best energies to. It flows from who God has called us to be, expressed in our purpose & values (see reverse of leaflet).

## *Our vision is to see Leamington changed, one life at a time*

### **Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will try to fulfil this vision by:**

- helping each member of St. Paul's to become a wholehearted disciple of Jesus
- working towards St. Paul's becoming a thriving centre for the Kingdom of God seven days a week
- working together with other churches to continue the ministry of Jesus: proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God, and demonstrating it in practical, caring ways

### *What will this look like in the town?*

We want to see:

- practical, caring & supportive ministries readily accessible across the town: help and support for parents, marriages, people recovering from separation, divorce and bereavement; those recovering from drugs, alcoholism, debt; for the poor and lonely, and others who are oppressed
- churches recognised as people of joy, love and generosity and for others to be drawn to God through us - just as they were drawn to Jesus when he walked this earth
- thousands of individuals becoming disciples of Jesus: their families, workplaces and local communities changed and the whole atmosphere in the town filled with the love of God
- the gospel spreading out from Leamington and people being drawn to the town to encounter God, not just for the shops & bars. People coming here for spiritual refreshment, just as in years gone by they came for physical refreshment



### *What will this look like for members of St Paul's?*

We want to see every Christian:

- become a wholehearted disciple of Jesus, daily growing in their relationship with God and becoming more like Jesus
- be set free from sin, hurts from the past and strongholds
- knowing their gifts, talents and strengths and discovering how God wants them to be used in his service; giving money and time freely and generously in serving the Kingdom of God and being well trained, equipped & supported
- being part of a loving small group or team, where lives are shared in depth and there is mutual support/accountability
- learning to hear God speak and obeying completely and joyfully
- seeing themselves as ambassadors for Christ and their home as an embassy for the Kingdom of God

### *What will this look like for St Paul's?*

We want to see our church:

- filled to overflowing several times a week with people of all ages, worshipping God with all their heart, soul, mind & strength
- as a place where God is known to encounter his people as we worship him, changing lives, bringing healing, joy and life
- re-ordered to be an attractive, welcoming place, which can be used flexibly seven days a week for the good of the church & community
- be like a spiritual health centre/gym where individuals can pray at any time, and there are spiritual 'exercise classes' for people at different stages on their spiritual journey
- have a thriving ministry amongst people of all ages and especially loving those who need to be loved the most
- develop ministries, small groups and clusters which multiply in exciting and innovative expressions of church
- training and equipping people for their ministries and growing leaders at every level
- breaking down the barriers that separate people from God and from each other
- sharing our resources with other churches and ministries; doing together what is best done together & separately the things that are best done separately

