



Our Parish Profile is as follows

## The Parish Church of St Anne, Kew – Brief Parish Profile



Please read this in conjunction with the pages on our website [www.saintanne-kew.org.uk](http://www.saintanne-kew.org.uk)

### **Brief History and setting**

Founded in 1714 in response to the need for the Royal Family and Court to have a church in which to worship St Anne's was built on land donated by Queen Anne who also donated £50 for the building of the church. The parish is a Crown Living and has about 5400 people living within its boundaries. The parish includes much of the Royal Botanic Gardens and the church and churchyard have monuments and graves to several Directors of Kew Gardens as well as many employees. Other notable graves include the artists Gainsborough and Zoffany. Many of the monuments inside the church are particularly fine. There are four primary schools within the parish, including a Church School which in June 2017 was rated as outstanding by Ofsted. Otherwise the parish of Kew is a leafy suburb of London with a strong sense of community, a station connected to the Overground and District Line, shops and offices along with National Archives. The parish is rated as 11505/12599 in the Church Urban Fund list of deprivation.

### **Churchmanship and Attendance**

We are an inclusive church rooted in the liberal Catholic tradition. We strive for excellence in our worship and fullness in our response to the Gospel. We offer a very high standard of Church music. On Sundays we offer two main Eucharistic services – at 08.00 a Said Eucharist (traditional language with sermon) which attracts between 25-40 communicants, and at 10.00 a Sung Eucharist which attracts between 110-140 communicants. We observe all of the Holy Week services and on Easter Day and at Christmas there is only standing room available. We have a flourishing Junior Church that meets in our Hall during the 10.00 Sung Eucharist. Our Electoral

Roll is 355 and our typical weekly attendance is 170 most of whom volunteer in some capacity. Our parish strapline is – Inclusive – Christ centred – Faithful – Outward Looking.

Our weekday services are centred around Morning Prayer at 07.45 and said Eucharists on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Most feasts falling on weekdays are transferred to Sunday when the calendar permits. Morning Prayer attracts between 3 and 4 people and provides a prayerful and reflective way in which to start the day.

### **Vision and Mission**

As an inclusive church we place a high emphasis on a ministry of welcome. We operate an open baptism policy. The church building is Grade II\* listed and its position and beauty attract many visitors and couples seeking to be married. Many couples who do not immediately qualify to be married under the Marriage Measure 2008 choose to join the congregation in order to qualify. Growth in our congregation comes in part from our ministry arising out of the occasional offices.

Over the past ten years pilgrimage has also played an important part in deepening the faith of our church – we have twice walked part of the Camino, we have visited the Holy Land, Jordan, Sinai and Syria. A visit to Oberammergau is planned in 2020.

As a Christ centred and faithful community we seek to offer a good quality weekly Bible Study group and other occasional courses to deepen our faith. Being Christ centred we have a strong Social Justice Forum which enables us to actively engage with working for social justice. In recent years we have focused both on the needs of refugees and climate change. Recognizing our need to care for others we also take part in the Deanery programme of offering lunch twice a year to homeless people.

As an outward looking community living in an area of some affluence we recognize our duty to serve the wider community, both at home and abroad. We recognize our duty to be generous in our giving as God is generous to us. Currently we aim to pledge the cost of 1.8 clergy to the diocese. In addition, we give away 5% of our income to charities. This is a two-way process as the charities that are chosen are also invited to visit us to raise our awareness of their work. In addition to our regular outward giving we also support Christian Aid, Welcare, SPEAR, The Avenue Club and the Queen's School.

As an outward looking community our summer Sunday afternoon programme offers homemade cakes and teas, whilst in Church we offer a 45minute music recital. Both events attract good numbers of people who would not necessarily engage with their local church.

The Church building is very well used by the four local schools for concerts as well as for carol services. And the excellent acoustic attracts top quality musicians.

### **Administration and Staff**

We have one priest, one retired priest as back up, one part time administrator and a paid Director of Music and Organist. We rely heavily upon the good will of our volunteers who enable everything else to happen including the maintenance and management of our website and weekly newsletter.