

Rector's Address

In his address, which is attached as an addendum to these minutes, the Rector reviewed the recent past of the Parish. He noted that the Parish, as it approaches the 150th Anniversary of the Consecration of St Mary's, is in a period of transition. In the past year the Parish had mourned the passing of several faithful members and had experienced a decline in attendance at some of our morning services and reduction in our income. We have seen the continued strength of the Youth Worker Programme under the leadership of our current Youth Worker, Elke Koker. He welcomed the continued development of the Family Service and the role of the singing group that has enabled us to widen the range of music played at this service. He also welcomed the reintroduction of the Sunday School under the leadership of Elke Koker, assisted by parents and the level of support this has received. As we move into the next era in the history of our parish he spoke of the need for younger families to engage and take up the roles played the older generation.

He then thanked the various people who have worked so hard in a voluntary capacity in the service of the Parish.

He concluded his address in announcing that Mr Denis Headon had agreed to act as Rector's Church Warden for the coming year and that Stephen Shaw had agreed to act as Rector's Glebe Warden.