

St Marys Ethos

The background to this summary is available at www.stmarys-church.co.uk/church/pcc/

St Marys Core Beliefs and Behaviours

ETHOS	CORE BELIEF	CORE BEHAVIOURS
Care for Creation	We believe in God who is maker of heaven and earth, who has placed humankind in the world both to enjoy and care for creation.	We will seek to recognise both the abundance and the fragility in the world. We will be mindful of the impact of all our decisions and actions on our fragile and finite environment. We will measure and reduce the environmental impact of our activities
Creating Community in which everyone is valued	We believe that the nature of God is relational as expressed in an understanding of the Trinity and that human beings are made in the image of God and share in God's nature. Relationships and creativity are central to our being and flourishing.	We will strive to build and rebuild community that is inclusive, celebrating diversity, accepting and respecting of each other equally, recognising responsibility and seeking to respond to and resolve conflict where it may occur. We will be creative and innovative in our business.
Life in all its fullness	Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full – abundantly" (John 10.10)	We will work together with others to realise the God given potential of each person. Working to increase human flourishing and realising the abundance of underutilised human and material resources in order to create a better world.
Hope that things can change for the better.	The bible gives us images of both the vision and the realisation of hope. In the message of the Kingdom of God, which is a vision of justice and joy, health and abundance. (Isaiah 65.17f) and in the Incarnation of God; in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.	We will nurture and respect the dreams of each other and work together to achieve a better future for individuals and communities. We will live with the realistic hope that transformation is always possible and that even the darkest situations can be overcome.
Addressing injustice	God requires us to pursue justice with mercy. Jesus taught that our neighbours, whom we are to	We will support campaigning, lobbying and speaking out against injustice, especially on behalf of the poor. We will

	serve, are not the people most like us, but those who most need our help.	actively and preferentially seek ways in which we can provide services for those who are disadvantages, excluded, lonely, sick, bereaved, imprisoned or otherwise suffering.
Good News	We believe that God in Christ shares our human nature and so is able to redeem it to reflect the image of God in which we were made. We believe that the message of Christ is central to community transformation. At the same time we recognise and value the essential contribution that other faiths and those of no creedal faith make to this transformation	We will respect and celebrate the faith of others, listening to their faith stories. We will also continue to explore and seek to live out the faith that undergirds our values and actions and endeavour to make space for those who wish to explore this faith with us.

St Mary's will not impose our beliefs on anyone but we do expect those who work and volunteer for us to adopt these behaviours.