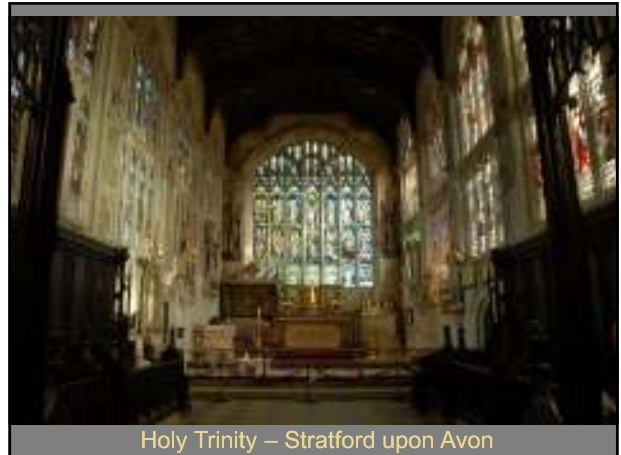


## Everyday Issues in a Honey Pot Church



Martin Gorick - Vicar of Stratford upon Avon  
Holy Trinity Church



Holy Trinity – Stratford upon Avon

## We have 250k visitors a year Most searching for Shakespeare



Who is buried near the high altar

## They bring many questions:

- ❑ Is Shakespeare really buried here?
- ❑ Are you really a church?
- ❑ Why should I pay to come into a church? (Even though they don't have to)
- ❑ Where is the toilet?
- ❑ Did they really build all this to film Shakespeare in Love?!
- ❑ My daughter is very ill, can you pray for her?

## We need staff to cater for them



## And to keep them safe



### Staff

- ▣ Need managing
- ▣ Paying
- ▣ Training
- ▣ Motivating
- ▣ Who will do all that?

### The press are often interested



### Who will handle them?



### The church is a multi use building



### With international tourists



### Regular worshippers



And people seeking peace and quiet



As well as the blessed builders!



Who are fine on the outside



But really complicate life inside



Balancing these needs is always a challenge e.g.

- ❑ Busy Saturdays with weddings in the middle
- ❑ Afternoon baptisms with ongoing access to Shakespeare's grave
- ❑ Good Friday "The Church is closed" !
- ❑ A coach load arriving during a Sunday service. How are they handled at the door?
- ❑ Wedding couple's dream day v people all the way from... v builders getting the job done

The pressures fall most on clergy and staff, the people at the centre of it all



You'll all have these issues

**AAARGH!!!**

What do we need to cope?



## Vision

- ▣ To be Bridge Builders – bringing people to God and God to people in the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ
- ▣ Your vision is the thread running through all you do. It reminds you what you're really about in and through the e-mails, meetings and hassles of daily life and helps you feel part of a greater whole.

## Values

- ▣ Holiness
- ▣ Humility
- ▣ Hospitality

## And a Capable and Cheerful Team

- ▣ Needs constant prayer and work
- ▣ Regular staff meetings and communication
- ▣ Loyalty to one another and to the vision
- ▣ Clear accountability for paid and volunteers
- ▣ Annual appraisals, handbook and procedures
- ▣ A ministry of encouragement - Who encourages you? Who do you go out of your way to encourage?

Holy Trinity has been a place of pilgrimage for 800 years



### With many familiar faces



- ▣ People may come looking for Shakespeare
- ▣ But we hope they go having found something of God
  
- ▣ We need to go on looking outwards if Stratford's oldest building is to go on bringing God to people and people to God for another 800 years

Thank you for listening  
Any questions?

