

# All Saints Alive

## VICAR'S VIEWPOINT



### ***“What shall we say of ourselves?”***

Dear Friends,

*“I decided to sell my Hoover .....  
well it was just collecting dust!”*

This was the funniest joke at the Edinburgh festival last month. Tim Vine also won the prize in 2010 for his joke: “I’ve just been on a once-in-a- life time holiday. I tell you what, never again!”

In a society where we are so busy it is useful to have short pithy sentences which express a whole lot more. Many people are very experienced in this kind of writing by using Twitter, where only 140 characters can be used, and perhaps in texting where only 160 are allowed.

This has helped a lot of people become more succinct in their use of language and perhaps it means that we are all a bit more restless when it comes to people expressing themselves at length, perhaps in sermons and lectures?

For some time now our Diocese has also used a one liner: “Living God’s Love” as its mission statement. This vision is grounded in our love for God and our neighbour flowing from God’s love for us. The diocese then suggests our three priorities are:

going deeper into God,  
transforming communities and  
making new disciples.

We based our Hertford Team logo on this and it is *Working Together to share God’s Love*.

I wonder what we might say if we were asked to describe ourselves, personally, in a sentence or two? For example I could say: *Ginni, a person of warmth, strength and character.* But would that really be enough and shouldn’t our faith also feature in the words we might choose?

Perhaps we could all think about a sentence that describes ourselves and one which also includes our commitment to discipleship, or our faith or our Church?

I’d love to hear your ideas.

In the meantime here is one for each of us .....

*(our name), working with the family of All Saints’ living in God’s love.*

Love,  
Jo

Here is the Diocesan prayer to help us along.....

*Living God, draw us deeper into your love;  
Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve;  
Holy Spirit, make us herald of good news.  
Stir us, strengthen us, teach and inspire us  
to live your love with generosity and joy,  
imagination and courage;  
for the sake of your world and in the name  
of Jesus, Amen.*