

Church Decorations

During 2025 you may recall that we began to have banners of various Liturgical Colours on the pillars at All Saints. This arose from a chance conversation with Simon saying that I had put a box of various material in the meeting room cupboard. This led to a 'can you do anything for the pillars' conversation, so I went away and had a think.

Previously at a flower demonstration I was shown how to use copper wire mesh to make banners and my brain began to work overtime! I started with the green banners with flowers, greenery included for 'new life' and then I made some plain mauve banners for Lent, and white for Easter, then red for Pentecost. I have made them either to fit onto the copper mesh with Velcro, or as a plain hanging, but all could have things hung from them – or pinned to them, to denote the different seasons and events. There is also a variety of colours of organza to use with them and in the Autumn, there were four different 'Creation' themed banners.

They have proved to be a great success, and the aim is to expand the number of people assisting with this project – just with ideas or to physically assist.

Another exciting project which proved amazingly successful were 'The Doves' Having seen a Dove creation from Durham and other cathedrals I began to think again! I knew it was possible to fold Origami doves and found a couple of patterns. We asked the congregation to start folding doves for us – and cutting out some too. They began to arrive thick and fast and Hazel, from the Choir, folded over 200 and Alex was not far behind!

Several people spent an afternoon in May attaching the doves on lengths of cotton and we slowly put together the hanging we have at the back of the church, and Richard attached doves along the suspended rope above the aisle. The result was stunning and beyond my wildest dreams – so good that it remains in situ for the time being and is a talking point for visitors.

Thank you to all who assisted and hopefully the banners on the pillars will continue to develop and help make All Saints into the welcoming space that it is. Any ideas always welcome!

Dorothy Toyn