

The link between St Chad's in Taung and the Partnership Churches in Summertown & Wolvercote is in it's 24th year. The link group this side has always been led by a lay member from each of our four churches, this has helped the link to be ongoing through times of change when there are changes of ministers and clergy our churches. Visits have been made from both sides over the years and strong bonds of friendship made and sustained. We have partnered together with St Chad's in matching funds for security gates, a water tower. Books for adults and children were flown to Johannesburg, collected and delivered to St Chad's, and following the theft fom the priests car of altar linen some replacement linen was sent out. Some years ago there was serious flooding in the North West Province and many people lost their homes and belongings and St Chad's was raising money to help with the recovery and also provide clothing and blankets to those in most need. As I was in the country I contacted our link treasurer to request a payment to buy clothing and blankets to be distibuted to the most needy. St Chad's has demonstrated it's generosity many times and when it heard about a displaced community not far from Taung boxes of shoes and clothes were made up and taken to be distributed. The Mothers Union is strong and vibrant, giving hospitality to all whether neighbours or fom Oxford, we have always been well cared for by it's members.



There are many personal stories fom visits to St Chad's and here is one experience which has stayed with me. I was taken to visit a bereaved family ina nearby village, relatives of the deceased were huddled together in the dark sparsley furnished family room, after greeting each family member I was invited to say prayers for the deceased and for the bereaved. Taken aback I quickly recovered and found the words I needed to comfot the family around me. The generosity and trust shown to me was overwhelming and was a true blessing.



St Chad's has 6 chapelries some of which are in need of repair or rebuilding,



The covid epidemic has meant proposed visits have not been able to go ahead but has made us realise how important communication is to all of us so we continue to explore ways of improving this aspect of our link We continue to support eachother through exchange of news and prayer requests