

My Journey to Faith by Vic Murray

My path to worship has taken place in three different churches in three different counties.

It started where I was born in the London Borough of Merton. I was 8 years old and had just joined the cub pack at my local church (St John the Divine). As a church pack it was mandatory to attend Sunday school. So every Sunday afternoon I would make my way to the church hall carrying my stamp book. When I reached eleven I transferred from Sunday school to Youth Church. Then four years later after being confirmed I started to attend Communion. The last big event for me at St John's was when we were married there in 1967. Sadly the housing situation in Merton made it almost impossible for us to stay in the area.

One year after we were married I was offered the opportunity to relocate to Ashford in the county of Kent. Four years on and with two toddlers running around we finally felt at home. Walking around the area one day we came across a church called St Francis of Assisi. We decided that we would attend their Communion service the following Sunday. As we felt at home there we went on to become regular members of the congregation. Given who the church was dedicated to it was no surprise that a frequent hymn we sang there was "Make me a channel of your peace".

After eighteen years living in Kent we were once more on the move. This time it was due to the company I worked for relocating to the Midlands. Although the company moved to Coventry we chose to live in Nuneaton. As before the plan was that once settled we would find a church in which to worship. Looking back now I can see that we never really put sufficient effort in to be successful.

In 2011 we heard about St Wilfrid's from a friend. From our first visit we were made to feel at home. Since 2015 I have been on my own and I pray that I will remain fit enough to continue to worship there for the rest of my life.

Looking back I can see how lucky we have been to find three churches in which we have been made so welcome. All of which have played a major part in our lives.