

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST NICOLAS, NUNEATON

England & Wales · Charity number 1126349

Details

Other names ST. NICOLAS PCC, NUNEATON

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2008-10-20

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Warwickshire
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Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH. REGULAR PUBLIC WORSHIP OPEN TO ALL. THE PROVISION OF A SACRED SPACE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION. PASTORAL WORK, INCLUDING VISITING THE SICK AND BEREAVED. TEACHING OF CHRISTIANITY THROUGH SERMONS, COURSES AND SMALL GROUPS. TAKING OF RELIGIOUS ASSEMBLIES IN SCHOOLS. THE PROVISION OF A YOUTH CLUB WITH A CHRISTIAN ETHOS. PROMOTION OF CHRISTIANITY THROUGH THE STAGING OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE. SUPPORTING OTHER CHARITIES IN THE UK AND OVERSEAS.

Activities: PROMOTING CHRISTIANITY THROUGH OUR VISION OF GOING DEEPER, SOWING YOUNGER AND GROWING COMMUNITY. PUBLIC WORSHIP WEEKLY AND OTHER TIMES. COMMUNITY CENTRE USED BY LOCAL GROUPS. PASTORAL WORK AND TEACHING. SUPPORT OTHER CHARITIES INCLUDING THOSE OVERSEAS. KEEPING CHRIST AT THE CENTRE OF OUR

WORSHIP, BEING OPEN TO SERVE GOD AND ONE ANOTHER.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE LOCAL
- Warwickshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£108,894	£121,004	-	-
2024-12-31	£139,734	£129,844	-	-
2023-12-31	£112,572	£104,845	-	-
2022-12-31	£88,656	£96,714	-	-
2021-12-31	£87,079	£103,451	-	-
2020-12-31	£89,465	£106,890	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Christopher Joseph Routledge	Chair	2022-09-26
Adam Joseph Fielder		2021-04-25
Anna-Marie Whitmore		2026-04-26
Anneka Marie Moore		2023-04-23
Catherine Jane Robbins		2025-05-20
DR JOHN HITCHCOCK BDS		
Felicity Jayne Hey		2025-05-20
GARRY RICHARD CLARKE		2014-04-06
JIM KEELEY		2021-04-25
Jamie Liam Blakemore		2026-04-26
Julie Bannister		2021-04-25
LYNN KEELEY		2025-05-04
Leon Peter Robbins		2025-05-20
Linda Werrett		2023-04-23
NICHOLAS HELIER SHAW		2012-06-24
Sally-Ann Veasey		2024-04-21
Vikki Louise Townsend		2024-04-21

Accounts

Worshipping God, Making Disciples, Transforming Community

St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton

Serving Nuneaton since 1155

Annual Report

and Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

for the year ending 31st December 2025

Registered Charity Number 1126349

Incumbent:

Rev Chris Routledge

The Vicarage

61 Ambleside Way

Nuneaton

CV11 6AU

Bank:

Cooperative Bank

Independent Examiner:

Neil Screaton

Screatons Chartered Accountants

Midlands Accountants

Screatons Ltd

Atherstone College

Ratcliffe Road

Atherstone

Warwickshire

CV9 1LF



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Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton 2025

Aim and purposes

St. Nicolas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Chris Routledge, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church Centre complex of St. Nicolas.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Nicolas as we serve St Nicolas Parish and the town of Nuneaton. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services and activities can involve and reach out to the many groups that live within our parish. Our services, worship and activities put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

In particular, we try to enable everybody to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- **Worshipping God:** Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- **Making Disciples:** Provision of pastoral care, Evangelism and discipleship for people living in the parish and their networks.
- **Transforming Community:** Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicolas and the Church Centre.

To help us with this goal, during 2025 as in the previous year, St Nicolas PCC have met with St James PCC on a number of occasions and have continued to develop and work on the Mission Action Plan and a shared missional priority - namely **'to develop a culture within the churches of invitation and welcome'**. We have held less of the LYCiG meetings but held an away day in November where new ways of working as PCCs, seeking to incorporate ideas, input and involvement from the wider congregations was discussed and approved at the start of 2026. In addition to this, the two churches share an Incumbent, two curates in training, Leadership Team, Administrator, Treasurer and Safeguarding Team.

Charitable Public Benefit:

Statement of Compliance

The PCC has had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

How we deliver Public Benefit

In planning our activities for the year, the PCC has considered the Commission's guidance to ensure that our mission remains open and accessible to the community. We provide a benefit to the public by:

- **Public Worship:** Providing facilities for public worship, prayer, and spiritual reflection. All our services are open to the general public regardless of their faith or background.
- **Pastoral Rites:** Officiating at "occasional offices" (baptisms, weddings, and funerals) and providing pastoral support to the bereaved and those in need within the parish.

- **Community Engagement:** Ministries held at St Nicolas Church such as Swans, bereavement point (in partnership with GEH chaplaincy), host the Nuneaton Child Contact Centre as well as hosting community groups and activities in the church hall/lounge all of which provides a social lifeline to residents and reduces isolation.
- **Education:** Maintaining a close relationship with our church school **St Nicolas Academy**, including leading assemblies and hosting school visits to the church to support the RE curriculum as well as being available for all schools and places of education for our town
- **Heritage & Space:** Maintaining this significant grade 1 listed church building as a place of peace and historical significance for the local community to visit and enjoy.

Safeguarding Report

Legal Compliance Statement

The PCC has complied with the requirements imposed by the code under section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Summary of Activities 2025 To demonstrate this commitment, the PCC has undertaken the following actions during the reporting year:

- **Policy & Governance:** The PCC formally adopted the House of Bishops' "Promoting a Safer Church" policy statement at its first meeting of the year. Safeguarding remains a standing agenda item at every PCC meeting to ensure ongoing oversight.
- **Personnel:** **Catherine Robbins** continues to serve as our Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), working with Phil Healy and the Safeguarding team which provides a key point of contact for the congregation and ensuring we stay up to date with national requirements.
- **Training:** We have celebrated learning this year. Currently, **87%** of our eligible volunteers and staff have completed the required Safeguarding Training (Basic, Foundation, or Leadership levels) as specified by the National Learning and Development Framework. At our annual Safeguarding Sunday we had an afternoon tea thanking all those who have been involved in training across the two churches: over 80 invitations were sent out!
- **Safe Recruitment:** All new appointments for roles involving children or vulnerable adults have been conducted in accordance with the *Safer Recruitment and People Management* guidance, including appropriate DBS checks and references.
- **Environment:** Safeguarding posters with contact details for the PSO and Diocesan Safeguarding Team are clearly displayed in the **Church, Hall, foyer, all toilets** and on our website.
- **Monitoring:** We use the **National Parish Safeguarding Dashboard** to monitor our progress. Our current status is **100%**, showing that we have addressed all key priority actions.

Achievements and Performance

In our review of 2025, PCC members commented on the following as highlights for the year (in no particular order):

- working together with St James, MLT, Away day & joint initiatives
- Hall lettings increase raising over £40,000 (best ever) along with larger number of community bookings and use of hall
- Growth of connection with the Church school and the church: Open the book and YWAM integration

- Discipleship opportunities developing baptisms, Alpha, strongmen conference, sunday evening church
- Range and type of services availables
- Younger and growing congregations
- Giving to mission support: our 6 partner missions with St James & Christmas generosity (Salvation Army and Children's society)
- Development of band on second sundays, Community Christmas service
- Nuneaton Carnival outreach, St Nicolas Festival, remembrance service with St Nicolas year 6 & Swans
- Baby Jammers expansion at St Nicolas

Worshipping God: Worship and Prayer

Sunday Worship

Worship is overseen by the Vicar and led by a strong and growing Lay team of Service Leaders (7 members), supported by active participation from church members with Bible Reading, Welcome, Refreshments and hospitality, AV and intercessions. St Nicolas Church is also well supported with music during worship with a growing **Worship Singing Team** (10 regular members) supported by Organist, Anthony Newborough (until Jan 2026). We also have a locally Commissioned Lay Leader (Sally-Ann Veasey) with a remit to support our development in becoming more accessible in our worship. Sally Ann has supported the All Age Services specifically with Music and plays an active role on the Leadership Team and leading services.

During 2025, the PCC has continued the worship pattern as follows:

1st & 3rd Sundays - Holy Communion (with Children's groups)

2nd Sunday - during 2025 we have decided not to run children's groups on the 2nd Sunday and from Oct 2025 introduced a worship band for contemporary worship on this Sunday

4th Sunday - Altogether (All Age Worship)

Children's, Families and adults with additional needs Work

Children's and adults-with-additional-needs inclusion work remains available most weeks through a dedicated team who provide supported activities that help young people explore faith topics at an age and stage appropriate level. A number of this team are also part of the All Age Service Leaders Team which works across both St James and St Nicolas Churches: The leadership of the All Age Team is by Sally-Ann Veasey is building up a strong team of co-leaders Carole Harris and Suzzie Blakemore

Seasonal Worship

Seasonal Worship (i.e. Christmas, Harvest, Easter etc) often has additional/seasonal liturgical elements as appropriate and additional opportunities such as Christmas Community Choir, Handbell Ring and Sing team, Taize Singers etc These are open more broadly as they are occasional (not regular). In 2025 we introduced a community Christmas carol service involving local schools and music students and this was a great success.

Wednesday Worship (Book of Common Prayer)

During 2025 we continued a weekly Service in this more traditional format. We regularly get between 10-15 people at this each week:

1st & 3rd Wednesday is Holy Communion (BCP)

2nd & 4th Wednesday is Bible study and discussion led by our PTO Readers: John Hitchcock and Terry Lenton

Home Communions & Visiting

In addition to this we take Holy Communion to those who can't attend worship regularly any longer due to ill health. Currently there are about 6 people we regularly visit as well as around 15 at Caldwell Lodge and Grange Nursing homes. Visiting is coordinated by Terry Lenton. We are grateful for Terry's ministry and continued support.

Prayer Circle Team

A small team of dedicated intercessors are available to pray for specific requests as and when they are requested. This is coordinated by Terry Lenton

Occasional Offices & Special Services and Events

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated 14 baptisms and. There were 3 weddings and have been 21 funerals in 2025: 10 in church, and 11 at the crematorium conducted by ministers from St Nicolas. We also have occasional special services, often in the evening, to mark particular events or seasons such as, Taize Healing service in Lent, Memorial services etc.

Making Disciples: Evangelism, Vocation and Pastoral Care

Courses

During Lent 2025 we ran the 'Prayer Course' on Sunday Evenings as well as Alpha on Thursday Evenings. We ran a second course later in the year with 15-20 on it initially: this resulted in 3 baptisms in 2026 and a number of people exploring confirmations

Pastoral Visiting, Prayer and vocational discussions

The Vicar is available to meet with anyone in the church or community who wants to explore faith and God's calling on your life further or if someone is unwell and would benefit from prayer for healing and/or a visit. A number of such visits took place during 2025 and remain available into the future.

Serving & Transforming Community: Mission and Outreach

Community Service:

During 2025, we continued to run **SWANS** weekly, led by Sally-Ann Veasey. This aims to provide activities and support for those suffering with or caring for those with Dementia and also provides a useful support and activity for those who are feeling isolated for other and varied reasons. The St Nicolas Group is one of two such groups run in the Nuneaton Area (the other run at St James Church). We also began Baby Jammers at St James Church hall during 2025 and this is planning to expand to St Nicolas in January 2026.

We support (though do not formally manage) the long standing Nuneaton **Child Contact Centre** which provides free (donation based and volunteer-led) supported access for families who, through court orders would not be otherwise able to have direct contact with each other. A number of volunteers come from our congregation and we are pleased to partner with this fantastic organisation.

Community Events 2025:

Throughout 2025 we have run a variety of events and concerts designed to help members of our existing church family invite their friends and contacts and welcome those who might not ordinarily come into the church building. These have ranged from fundraising events such as Summer Barn Dance & Fish and chips for the Megan Newborough foundation; Spring Concerts at St James; Atherstone Choral Society; Quiz nights, Historic Churches Open days; St Nicolas Festival and Harvest Supper etc

Community Investment: Mission Giving

Mission Support Partnerships have been initiated during 2025 and a strong initial donations to these organisations (see Finance Report) who have been very grateful. In order to maximise this support it is vital that we have link members of the congregation to ensure that the congregations are receiving the updates so we can be praying more specifically for them.

- 1) **Nuneaton Foodbank:** <https://nuneaton.foodbank.org.uk/>
- 2) **Nuneaton CAP:** <https://mcbcnuneaton.org.uk/cap-christians-against-poverty/>
- 3) **Saints: Student Lounge** <https://www.saintsnuneaton.org/student-lounge>
- 4) **Signers & Speakers United: Fielders ' Deaf Hearing United' mission in Uganda** (on Facebook)
- 5) **Tearfund:** <https://www.tearfund.org/>
- 6) **Bible Society** <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/>

Community Spaces: St Nicolas Parish Centre

The centre is a very popular venue and used every day by a wide range of community groups in Nuneaton and beyond (church, social services, children, etc.) for functions, meetings, and classes. Feedback is always positive from users who value the social support and opportunity to meet like minded groups of people.

An example list of the regular hirers is below:

- Contact Centre – weekly group sessions for supported contact
- SWANS – Nuneaton based dementia group providing a fun outlet through singing for carers and those they care for.
- U3A – an association for people who have finished working full time or raising their families, who want to pursue other interests or try something new. Bridge Club
- GKR - Karate Classes - Thursday Evening
- **Baby Jammers - Monday Morning**
- Sahil – Asian Community Support Group Monday afternoon
- **Xyla Services - Diabetes Prevention**
- Yoga – Wednesday & Thursday
- Accord – Women's Specialist offenders support group
- Warwickshire Tai chi – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday evenings
- Paul Gannon Karate – Saturday afternoon
- SWFT NHS Child Health Clinic – Weekly Friday mornings & Tuesday Day
- Narcotics Anonymous Recovery Meetings - Wednesday Evenings
- Bereavement Hub - Alternate Friday Afternoons
- Narcotics Anonymous - Friday Evenings
- Pilates Group - Tuesday Evenings
- Juggling - John Parnell Friday Evenings
- Praconia - Polish Language Group - Thursday Evenings
- **Quirky Kids**

There are also rooms used for private parties and celebrations.

The centre is now thriving and in use most days and nights. This is very positive for the future.

Community Partnerships:

St Nicolas School Partnership:

St Nicolas School is a Church of England Academy with strong historic links. These links have been developing well with Dawn Beasley, an active member of our Congregation as Chair of Governors. The vicar is regularly involved in school collective worship and year groups visit the church at least once each year. During 2024, two visits during the year for most year groups happened with summer term visits as well as seasonal visits. The Church gifted a bible to each year 6 leaver as a reminder of their time at St Nicolas School.

Deanery Synod

Within Coventry diocese, St Nicolas is in the Nuneaton Deanery. This is led by Area Dean Rev Dave Poultney and Assistant Area Dean Rev Alison Shaw alongside lay Chair Dave Spiers. Three members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between

the parish and the wider structures of the church. The Deanery also operates a local Mission Hub to support deanery churches through All Saints Bedworth.

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a part of Churches Together network in Nuneaton, and is involved with the Saints project, with the Vicar on the Saints advisory committee. We are working with Saints on a number of projects as well for a student lounge project which we are involved with developing youth and pastoral work in KE6. The Vicar regularly meets church leaders of the Nuneaton Churches and seeks to explore opportunities for collaborative work and ministry.

Interfaith Relationships

During 2025 St Nicolas was involved with a walk of faith organised by the Bahai community in Nuneaton, featuring a number of the faith communities of Nuneaton and the newly established interfaith forum for Nuneaton

Civic Relationships

As Nuneaton's longest serving Church of England church, St Nicolas has an important role within the civic life of the local community. During 2025 we have been involved in events with the George Eliot Society, Nuneaton Historical Association, local councillors, MP, Local Schools (Higham Lane, Etone, Milby), Nuneaton District Guides, Nuneaton 11th Scouts and the town's Civic Remembrance Sunday event.

How many church members do we have?

It is difficult to gauge an accurate number as there are varying ways to understand membership of a church like St Nicolas. All are welcome to attend our services and events. Some identify with St Nicolas because it is their Parish Church, others because it is the Town Church, others still because it is their spiritual home.

The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 87, but this number increased at festivals and Christmas carol services with recording 261 during our Christmas Eve/Day Services 2025 and 81 during our Easter Services 2025

Our Facebook Account has 582 followers

Electoral Roll Report:

Our Electoral Roll shows the following membership:

Year	Resident	Non residents	Total on roll
2019	62	31	93
2020	68	39	107
2021	69	39	108
2022	69	39	108
2023	70	39	109
2024	68	38	106
2025	45	34	79
2026	46	44	90

Our Electoral Roll for 2026 has had 4 members taken off due to death, 15 new members added giving a total of 90 with 46 members resident in the parish and 44 non resident.

If you worship with us regularly and see St Nicolas Church as your church we'd love you to join the electoral roll. Please see Lyn Werret, our Electoral Roll officer for more information. Thank you to Lyn and Marina for preparing the Electoral Roll for 2026.

Report on the Fabric, goods and ornaments of the Church

See Dashboard.

A huge number of tasks have been done to ensure that the church is safe, watertight, warm and welcoming. Our Churchwardens run a fabric dashboard to enable the PCC to see the progress and status of the many projects undertaken on their behalf.

St Nicolas Church DASHBOARD - FABRIC

KEY

	Urgent Job to be completed
	Project ongoing / still to be completed
	Project completed and paid in full
	Project rejected

Number	Project / Repairs	Reference Area	Aim of Project	Cost	Status
1	Lighting System	Internal	To upgrade the internal lighting system in the main Church	New LED bulbs to be purchased and fitted by Members of the congregations using a safety tower.	Decision from MLT/SLT given.
2	Security Lock on Internal door to Office Suite	Internal - Church Centre	To give added security and stop any people entering the lounge area when Hall users are in the building	No Costs	Decision from MLT/SLT given, John has a number key lock and will fit himself

3	Pathway from Car Park to Main Church	External	To clear small area of mud left by heavy winter rain and insert a drain away channel into the grass area.	Minimal cost of supplies to complete the job	Project undertaken by Leon
4	Main Car Park	External	Fill in or replace surface of Car Par once the weather is better	Not yet obtained	Awaiting decision from MLT & SLT once quotes received
5	Main Glass entrance doors to Church centre	External - Replace main glass entrance doors in the Church centre	Replace glass doors with Disabled access and more robust glass and new locking system, until funds available a Thumb lock to be inserted giving added security	Quote received from JB of £8499.00 + vat	Project on hold until funds are available
6	Glass Rooms	Internal - Church	New Cabinets to be fitted so all items currently in the room can be stores away and locked, room can then be used as a meeting room	First quote received was for £4,000.00	Other quotes being obtained via Cartwrights & IKEA
7	Glass Rooms	Internal - Church	To hang blinds in order privacy so as to encourage new groups to rent out the rooms		Waiting for new cabinets to be completed
8	New Access Path	External - Rear of Church Building	Clear and lay new hard core path to the rear of the building to enable access in the event of a Fire	Gravel has been donated, only other cost will be hiring of equipment	Ground work completed, gravel to be laid
9	External Wooden Window Frames	External - Front of Church Centre	Sand down and re varnish all frames	Cost of Varnish	Dean to lead project

10	Service to Clock	Internal - Main Tower	Main Clock not working and needs to be taken away to be repaired	Report and quote now received for £13,340. Project put on hold until sufficient funds are in place	SLT have put the project on hold
11	ECO Project	Outside / Inside Church Building	ECO Group to look at Trial for infra red heating zones in Church.	Grants may be available up to £10.000	Project Group to meet up during 2026
12	Extension to Fire Alarm	Internal - Main Church & Church Centre	Following FRA recommendations upgrade to Current Fire Alarm System	Invoices paid for stages 1 & 2 = £753.00	All work completed 04/12/25
13	Rear Sheds	Courtyard	Replace both wooden sheds and purchase two new plastic sheds and move side wall	Grants plus £2000,00 from funds	New paved area and sheds now in place
14	Leake Chapel	Internal / outside Church	Replace broken glass in leake chapel and cracked panes in South aisle windows	£528.00	Repairs completed by 3spires on 27th August 2025
15	To switch on the 6 current flood lights around the church	External - Existing flood lights to be changed to LED	To flood light the the front and north aisle of the Church Building	John now looking at installed lights as replacement	John and Leon have now finished replacing the the out door flood lights

16	Bell Frame in Tower to be painted	Internal - Main Tower	Re-painting of Horizontal RSJ's and the metal vertical supports	Price agreed by SC & PCC of £5122. 00	Project completed by Space Creators
17	New Controls to Heating Controls in Church Centre	Internal - Church Centre	To provide zone1 controls to various parts of the Church Centre	Agree between Nick and Daly Engineering	Heating now working in Church Centre
18	Small Infrared Heater for the Church Building e.g. Leake Chapel	Internal - Church Building	To heat small areas in the church without putting the main heating on	£109.95	Heater purchased from Castle Heaters for trial in the Leake Chapel and the Chancel
19	3 Small Heaters for the Church Building & Church Centre Hall	Internal - Church Building & Hall	To heat small areas in the church without putting the main heating on	£90.00	Heater purchased & now in use around the Church Building
20	Fire Risk Assessment	Internal - Church Building	To bring the Church building up to Fire Safety Regulations	£475.00	Completed in February 2024
21	Repair to Kitchen Roof	Church Centre	Urgent repairs carried following leak into Kitchen	£3,754.80	Completed 27/06/24
22	Repair to Roof in OGS	Old Grammer School	Urgent repairs carried out following leak into Cupboard in office over electrical switches	Final Invoice now paid	Completed in May 2024

23	Fire Doors	Church Centre	Following Fire Risk Assessment new fire door required in the Kitchen and all Fire doors in Church Centre to be taken off and rehung with a 3mm gap between door and frame. The underneath stairs in the OGS to be boxed in to bring up to date to Fire Regulations and cables in the cupboard in the office to be boxed in to fire standards	All invoices now paid	All work now completed 16/12/24
24	Organ Repairs	Internal - main Church	Repairs & tuning carried out to Organ	£408.00	Completed by Peter Spencer - Dec 2024
25	Boiler Repairs	Church Centre	Urgent repairs carried out to Boiler in Church Centre	Final Invoice paid	Completed by Daly Engineering
26	Bell Number 5	Internal - Bell Tower	Repair to 5th Bell and all other bells to be accessed for wear & tear	Deposit and final invoice paid £6806.00 Awaiting outcome of grants submitted to Coventry Guild & Sharp Trust	Project Completed 4th September 2024
27	Aluminium Doors exit & entrance door	Internal - Porch	The closure mechanism on one door has failed resulting in it slamming shut	Standing Committee have approved to have both doors replaced at a cost of £2,200	Completed 28th February 2025

28	Fire Escape Door	Internal - Door in corridor leading to outside sheds	The push down bar has failed resulting in the door unable to be opened	Final Invoice of £389.00 now paid	Completed 29th April 2025
29	Small Infrared Heater for the Church Building e.g. Glass Rooms	Internal - Church Building	To heat small areas in the church without putting the main heating on	£62.00	Heater purchased from Castle Heaters for the Glass Rooms
30	Parish Office	Internal - Church Centre	New Carpet or Carpet Tiles	£672.99	Completed 3rd April 2025

Any Quinquennial repairs have been removed from Dashboard as a new quinquennial Inspection has been arranged for the Summer 2026 by Simon Bird of Flying Buttress Architecture

Financial Report & Accounts

Financial Review

In terms of Operational Income and Expenditure, there was a small deficit in 2025 of £154, an improvement on the deficit of £1,890 in 2024.

Income was down by £3,219 as a result of reduced voluntary giving offset by an increase in Hall Lettings.

Expenditure was also down by £4,995 largely due to reduced maintenance and Salary charges (Salary in 2025 was especially low because of Tax Refunds from 2024)

A highlight of 2025 was our Mission Support Programme combining with St James to give a total of £22,800 between 6 charities.

Another highlight of 2025 is the redevelopment of the Courtyard mostly funded by a generous grant of £5000 directly paid by Quirky Kids and a donation of £500 from the thriving Swans programme.

Looking ahead to 2026, we will incur higher energy costs as a result of a change in provider and we need to focus on increasing voluntary giving to previous levels or higher.

Please refer to these reports for more detail.

1. Operational Income and Expenditure 2025
2. Balance Sheet for 2025
3. Independent Examiner's Report
4. Donations to Charity in 2025

Thank you to everyone at St Nicolas for your continued support and also for your generosity in giving over the year.

Finally, I would like to thank Screatons accountants of Atherstone for reviewing our accounts for 2025.

Jim Keeley Treasurer St Nicolas Church

Operational Income and Expenditure 2025

Analysis Code	2025	2024	2025-2024	Percentage
Income				
200 - Planned Giving	£41,403	£45,823	-£4,420	-9.6%
201 - Collections	£5,201	£4,912	£289	5.9%
202 - Donations	£3,588	£4,809	-£1,221	-25.4%
204 - Income Tax Credits	£10,688	£11,853	-£1,165	-9.8%
210 - Church Hall Lettings	£40,671	£37,328	£3,343	9.0%
215 - PCC Fees - Retained	£2,225	£2,438	-£213	-8.7%
230 - Interest Received	£959	£1,069	-£110	-10.3%
245 - Insurance Claims	£278	£0	£278	n/a
Total Income	£105,013	£108,232	-£3,219	-3.0%
Expenditure				
501 - Donations and Grants other than Mission Support (see below)	£720	£0	£720	n/a
505 - Heat and Light	£11,667	£11,955	-£288	-2.4%
506 - Rates and Water	£112	£95	£17	17.9%
507 - Insurance	£6,935	£6,778	£157	2.3%
508 - Repairs and Maintenance	£7,743	£12,032	-£4,289	-35.6%
510 - Cleaning	£9,651	£9,066	£585	6.5%
515 - Church Hall and Office Refreshments	£0	£154	-£154	n/a
521 - Weekly Service Costs	£3,536	£3,580	-£44	-1.2%
525 - Clergy Expenses	£1,453	£2,170	-£717	-33.0%
527 - Salary Secretary	£9,972	£11,725	-£1,753	-15.0%
528 - Printing, Postage Admin etc.	£2,514	£1,821	£693	38.1%
530 - Telephone	£655	£2,014	-£1,359	-67.5%
535 - Parish Share	£47,074	£44,412	£2,662	6.0%
550 - Mission/Outreach	£2,835	£2,520	£315	12.5%
555 - Fund Raising	£0	£1,500	-£1,500	n/a
565 - Independent Examination Fee	£300	£300	£0	0.0%
Total Expenditure	£105,167	£110,122	-£4,955	-4.5%
Income - Expenditure	-£154	-£1,890		

St Nicolas Mission Support Partnership Donations 2025

St Nicolas Charity Donations in 2025

Charity	Amount
Mission Support 6 charities in conjunction with St James	
Tear Fund	£2,320
Signers & Speakers United	£2,320
Bible Society	£2,320
Saints: Student Lounge Project	£2,320
Nuneaton Food Bank	£2,320
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	£2,320
Total Mission Support Charities	£13,920
Additional Donations	
Nuneaton Foodbank	£455
Salvation Army	£658
The Children's Society	£256
Additional Donations Total	£1,369
St Nicolas Total	£15,289

Balance Sheet of Accounts (Summary)

St. Nicolas Church

Balance Sheet (Summary)

	As at 31/12/2025	As at 31/12/2024
Fixed assets		
Tangible Assets	786,719	786,719
	786,719	786,719
Current assets		
Cash At Bank And In Hand	61,738	73,981
	61,738	73,981
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year	1,995	2,128
	1,995	2,128
Net current assets less current liabilities	59,743	71,853
Total assets less current liabilities	846,462	858,572
Liabilities		
	0	0
Total net assets less liabilities	846,462	858,572
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General Funds	807,411	822,386
Designated		
Designated - Ann Parkes Donations for Childrens Activities	180	180
Designated - Choir Social Fund	135	0
Designated - Clergy Discretionary Fund	341	0
Designated - Mission Support Fund	9,318	8,614
Designated - Swans St Nicolas	1,658	1,781
Restricted		
Restricted - Agency collection	150	150
Restricted - Choir Fund	413	413
Restricted - Hall Chairs	0	(0)
Restricted - Heritage Fund	183	183
Restricted - Open Book	108	108
Restricted - PCC Bells Fund	1,154	0
Restricted - Restoration	25,413	24,758
Fund Totals	846,462	858,572

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider that the liquid unrestricted reserves required by the Church should ideally be equivalent to a minimum of 3 months operating costs to cover the costs of winding up that would be incurred in the case of the Church ceasing to operate. Please ask me about the various ways that you can give to the church. Email jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com mobile 07906 220330 or ask me in church. Thank you

Jim Keeley Treasurer

Additional Information

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to mention our churchwardens Garry Clark and Nick Shaw who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf and Jim Keeley who has helped us all to understand the church's accounts and its finances.

Structure, governance and management

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either *ex-officio* (Clergy, Readers & Deanery/diocesan synod members), co-opted to fulfil a certain role (currently up to 2 members), or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) [Currently up to 12 members] in accordance with the Church Representation Rules as revised in 2022. Elected, co-opted and *ex-officio* members are the trustees of the Church, registered with the Charity Commission.

The PCC members are responsible for making strategic decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

		Serving Until	
Chair	Rev Chris Routledge	Vicar (<i>ex officio</i>)	(from September 2022)
	Rev Modupe Adeoye	2024 - 2029	(From July 2024)
	Rev Dave Jones	2025 - 2028	(from July 2025)
Church Wardens	Nicholas Shaw	APCM 2026	
	Garry Clarke	APCM 2026	
Deanery Synod Members	John Hitchcock	APCM 2026	
	Leon Robbins	APCM 2026	
	Adam Fielder	APCM 2026	
Elected Members	Jim Keeley	APCM 2027	PCC Treasurer
	David Bailey	APCM 2026	
	Lynn Keeley	APCM 2028	
	Sally-Anne Veasey	APCM 2027	
	Carole Harris	APCM 2026	Lay Chair of PCC
	Marina Betteridge	APCM 2026	
	Vikki Townsend	APCM 2027	
	Helen Fielder	APCM 2026	
	Julie Bannister	APCM 2027	
	Lynn Werrett	APCM 2026	
	Anneka Moore	APCM 2028	
Co-Opted	Felicity Hey	APCM 2026	
	Catherine Robbins	APCM 2026	

PCC Officers:

PCC Secretary - Felicity Hey

PCC Treasurer - Jim Keeley

Electoral Roll Officer - Lynn Werrett

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) - Catherine Robbins

PCC Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law, it has the power, delegated by the PCC, to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to directions given by the Council.

Members: Chris Routledge (Vicar), Nick Shaw (Warden), Garry Clarke (Warden), Felicity Hey (PCC Secretary), Jim Keeley (Treasurer), Carole Harris (Lay Chair of PCC).

Ministry Leadership Team (MLT):

This involves key leaders (Clergy, Lay and staff) involved in the day to day church ministry. The MLT is responsible to the PCC but handles day to day management-level decisions, providing support and accountability for each other and the various church ministries across both Churches.

Members:

Chris Routledge (Vicar: St Nicolas/Priest-in-charge: St James),

Modupe Adeoye (Curate, SSM)

Dave Jones (Curate), *From July 2025*

Martin Butt (Retired Clergy PTO),

Nick Shaw (Warden: St Nics),

Garry Clarke (Warden: St Nicolas),

Brenda Gardiner (Warden: St James),

Sally-Ann Veasey (Local Lay Leader),

Dean Moore (Senior Sidesperson: St Nicolas)

Paul Ingram (Senior Sidesperson: St James)

Terry Lenton (Reader PTO),

John Hitchcock (Reader PTO),

Marina Betteridge (Parish Administrator)

Catherine Robbins (Parish Safeguarding Officer & Legal Compliance Team Lead)

Jim Keeley (Treasurer St Nicolas PCC; Treasure St James PCC)

Joint Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team usually meets monthly to monitor and set Actions related to the Parish Safeguarding dashboards and safer recruitment requirements supporting the ministry opportunities across both churches and ensure that the PCC fulfills the duty to comply to the house of Bishops safeguarding guidance and regularly presents reports to the PCC.

Members:

Chris Routledge, Catherine Robbins (St Nicolas PSO) Phil Healey (St Nics PSO), Sue Harris (St James PSO),

Non-attending Team: Marina Betteridge (DBS Admin), Dawn Beasley (Assistant PSO), Garry Clarke (Warden: St Nics), Brenda Gardiner (Warden: ST James).

The Parish Office:

The Parish Office Is the initial contact point for all enquiries: in person; by telephone and email. It is managed by our part-time Administrator, Marina Betteridge. It is where many church functions are arranged and organised (weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.). It is also the administration hub for events, the centre, invoicing, bookings, resolving issues and generally responsible for all day-to-day activities.

Administrative information

How you can get in touch with us:

The Church and the Office are situated on Vicarage Street. Please visit us on Sunday for any of our services

St Nicolas Church

Vicarage Street

Nuneaton

CV11 4AZ

You may phone:

Telephone: 02476 344553

Email: office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

Website: www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk

St. Nicolas Church is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2025) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission.

Registered Charity Number 1126349

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

Screatons Ltd.
Chartered Accountants
Former Atherstone College
Ratcliffe Road
ATHERSTONE
Warwickshire
CV9 1LF

26th March 2026

Independent Examiner's Report To the PCC of St. Nicolas Church Nuneaton

This report on the accounts of the PCC of St. Nicolas Church Nuneaton for the year ended 31st December 2025 is in respect of an examination carried out under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF.

That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 have not been met; or
2. to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Screatons Ltd.
Chartered Accounts
Former Atherstone College
Ratcliffe Road
ATHERSTONE
Warwickshire
CV9 1LF

26th March 2026

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

	2025
	£
<u>Income</u>	
Planned Giving	41,403
Collections	5,201
Donations	3,088
Restricted Grants	1,134
Restricted Donations	72
Designated Donations	2,552
Income Tax Credits (Gift Aid)	10,688
Income Tax Credits (Gift Aid) (Restricted)	-
Church Hall Lettings	40,671
PCC Fees - Retained	2,225
Insurance Claims	278
Interest Received	1,581
	108,893
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Mission Support	14,154
Donations & Grants	720
Heat & Light	11,667
Rates & Water	112
Insurance	6,935
Repairs & Maintenance	7,743
Cleaning	9,651
Church Hall & Office Refreshments	-
Weekly Service Costs	3,536
Clergy Expenses	1,450
Salary Secretary	9,972
Printing, Postage & Admin.	2,514
Telephone	655
Parish Share	47,074
Mission/Outreach	1,800
Mission/Outreach (Designated)	2,540
Mission/Outreach (Restricted)	20
Independent Examination Fee	300
Clergy Discretionary (Restricted)	159
	121,002
Excess of Expenditure Over Income	
/(Shortfall of Payments Over Receipts)	-12,109

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON
BALANCE SHEET
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	<u>786,719</u>	<u>786,719</u>
	<u>786,719</u>	<u>786,719</u>
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and In Hand	<u>61,738</u>	<u>73,980</u>
	<u>61,738</u>	<u>73,980</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	<u>1,995</u>	<u>2,128</u>
	<u>1,995</u>	<u>2,128</u>
Net Current Assets less Current Liabilities	<u>59,743</u>	<u>71,852</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	<u>846,462</u>	<u>858,571</u>
Total Net Assets less Liabilities	<u>846,462</u>	<u>858,571</u>
Represented By:		
Unrestricted		
General Fund	808,617	822,388
Designated		
Ann Parkes Donations for Children's Activities	180	180
Choir Social Fund	135	0
Clergy Discretionary Fund	341	0
Swans St. Nicolas	1,658	1,781
Mission Support Fund	8,110	8,614
Restricted		
PCC Bells Fund	1,154	0
Agency Collection	150	149
Restoration	25,413	24,758
Open Book	108	107
Choir Fund	413	412
Heritage Fund	183	182
FUNDS OF THE CHURCH	<u><u>846,462</u></u>	<u><u>858,571</u></u>

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

Screatons Ltd.
Chartered Accountants
Former Atherstone College
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ATHERSTONE
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CV9 1LF

26th March 2026

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2. to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Screatons Ltd.
Chartered Accounts
Former Atherstone College
Ratcliffe Road
ATHERSTONE
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CV9 1LF

26th March 2026

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

	2025
	£
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Restricted Donations	72
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Insurance Claims	278
Interest Received	1,581
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<u>Expenditure</u>	
Mission Support	14,154
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Clergy Discretionary (Restricted)	159
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Excess of Expenditure Over Income	
/(Shortfall of Payments Over Receipts)	-12,109

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON
BALANCE SHEET
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	<u>786,719</u>	<u>786,719</u>
	<u>786,719</u>	<u>786,719</u>
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and In Hand	<u>61,738</u>	<u>73,980</u>
	<u>61,738</u>	<u>73,980</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	<u>1,995</u>	<u>2,128</u>
	<u>1,995</u>	<u>2,128</u>
Net Current Assets less Current Liabilities	<u>59,743</u>	<u>71,852</u>
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PCC Bells Fund	1,154	0
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Restoration	25,413	24,758
Open Book	108	107
Choir Fund	413	412
Heritage Fund	183	182
FUNDS OF THE CHURCH	<u><u>846,462</u></u>	<u><u>858,571</u></u>

Accounts

Worshipping God, Making Disciples, Transforming Community

St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton

Serving Nuneaton since 1155

Annual Report

and Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

for the year ending 31st December 2024

Registered Charity Number 1126349

Incumbent:

Rev Chris Routledge

The Vicarage

61 Ambleside Way

Nuneaton

CV11 6AU

Bank:

Cooperative Bank

Independent Examiner:

Neil Screatton

Screattons Chartered Accountants

Midlands Accountants

Screattons Ltd

Atherstone College

Ratcliffe Road

Atherstone



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Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton 2024

Aim and purposes

St. Nicolas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Chris Routledge, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church Centre complex of St. Nicolas.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Nicolas as we serve St Nicolas Parish and the town of Nuneaton. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services and activities can involve and reach out to the many groups that live within our parish. Our services, worship and activities put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

To help us with this goal, during 2024 as in the previous year, St Nicolas PCC have met with St James PCC on a number of occasions and have continued to develop and work on the Mission Action Plan and a shared missional priority - namely ***'to develop a culture within the churches of invitation and welcome'***. In addition to this, the two churches share an Incumbent, Leadership Team, Administrator, Treasurer and Safeguarding Team.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The PCC has also regularly considered its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and received regular Safeguarding reports from the Safeguarding Team. The Church is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of its ministry and mission, promoting a safer culture and the welfare of every child, young person and adult. As such, the Church has robust policies, procedures and guidelines in place, to ensure good practice throughout the central organisation, its 42 dioceses and other Church bodies.

The Church of England will:



Promote a safer environment and culture



•

Safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults within the Church



•

Respond promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation



•

Care pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons



•

Care pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons



•

Respond to those that may pose a present risk to others

In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- **Worshipping God:** Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- **Making Disciples:** Provision of pastoral care, Evangelism and discipleship for people living in the parish and their networks.
- **Transforming Community:** Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicolas and the Church Centre.

Achievements and Performance

In our review of 2024, PCC members commented on the following as highlights for the year (in no particular order):

- working together with St James
- Increase in people's involvement in socials and concerts
- Growth of connection with the Church school and the church
- The Heritage weekends
- New Curate: Modupe
- Harvest collections for the Food Bank
- Lent Quiet Day
- Collecting for the Salvation Army Toy service
- New Piano
- Derek Paravicini Concert
- Eco Church
- The handbell ringers

Worshipping God: Worship and Prayer

Sunday Worship

Worship is overseen by the Vicar and led by a strong and growing Lay team of Service Leaders (7 members), supported by active participation from church members with Bible Reading, Welcome, Refreshments and hospitality, AV and intercessions. St Nicolas Church is also well supported with music during worship with a growing **Worship Singing Team** (10 regular members) supported by dedicated Organist, Anthony Newborough. We also have a locally Commissioned Lay Leader (Sally-Ann Veasey) with a remit to support our development in becoming more accessible in our worship. Sally Ann has supported the All Age Services specifically with Music and plays an active role on the Leadership Team and leading services.

During 2024, the PCC has continued the worship pattern as follows:

1st & 3rd Sundays - Holy Communion (with Children's groups)

2nd Sunday - Morning Praise (with Children's groups) - during 2025 we have decided not to run children's groups on the 2nd Sunday

4th Sunday - Altogether (All Age Worship)

Children's, Families and adults with additional needs Work

Children's and adults-with-additional-needs inclusion work remains available most weeks through a dedicated team who provide supported activities that help young people explore faith topics at an age and stage appropriate level. A number of this team are also part of the All Age Service Leaders Team which works across both St James and St Nicolas Churches: The leadership of the All Age Team was initially from our associate minister, Adrian Guthrie and was passed on to Sally-Ann Veasey when he retired at the end of September 2024.

Seasonal Worship

Seasonal Worship (i.e. Christmas, Harvest, Easter etc) often has additional/seasonal liturgical elements as appropriate and additional opportunities such as Christmas Community Choir, Handbell Ring and Sing team, Taize Singers etc These are open more broadly as they are occasional (not regular).

Wednesday Worship (Book of Common Prayer)

During 2024 we continued a weekly Service in this more traditional format. We regularly get between 10-15 people at this each week:

1st & 3rd Wednesday is Holy Communion (BCP)

2nd & 4th Wednesday is Bible study and discussion led by our PTO Readers: John Hitchcock and Terry Lenton

Home Communion & Visiting

In addition to this we take Holy Communion to those who can't attend worship regularly any longer due to ill health. Currently there are about 7 people we regularly visit as well as around 10 at Caldwell Lodge and 15 at Caldwell Grange Nursing homes. Visiting is coordinated by Terry & the late Jean Lenton until her death in August 2024. We are grateful for their ministry and for Terry's continued support.

Prayer Circle Team

A small team of dedicated intercessors are available to pray for specific requests as and when they are requested. This is coordinated by Jean and Terry Lenton

Occasional Offices & Special Services and Events

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated 7 baptisms (2 of which were Adult baptisms) and 8 confirmations by the Acting Bishop of Coventry Bishop Ruth. There were 5 weddings and have been 7 funerals in 2024: 3 in church, and 4 at the crematorium conducted by ministers from St Nicolas. We also have occasional special services, often in the evening, to mark particular events or seasons such as the Coronation, Taizé Healing service in Lent, Memorial services etc.

Making Disciples: Evangelism, Vocation and Pastoral Care

Courses

During Lent 2024 two lent groups were run across the two Parishes both using material from the York course. This precipitated a home group which continued to meet throughout 2024 and beyond. Alpha continued in January and beyond and a follow up group enabled participants to continue meeting and number of which went on to confirmation in October 2024.

Pastoral Visiting, Prayer and vocational discussions

The Vicar is available to meet with anyone in the church or community who wants to explore faith and God's calling on your life further or if someone is unwell and would benefit from prayer for healing and/or a visit. A number of such visits took place during 2024 and remain available into the future.

Serving & Transforming Community: Mission and Outreach

Community Service:

During 2024, we continued to run **SWANS** weekly, led by Sally-Ann Veasey. This aims to provide activities and support for those suffering with or caring for those with Dementia and also provides a useful support and activity for those who are feeling isolated for other and varied reasons. The St Nicolas Group is one of two such groups run in the Nuneaton Area (the other run at St James Church). We also began Baby Jammers at St James Church hall during 2024.

Two other key groups that we have supported (though do not formally manage) are **Baby Hub** (a stay and play activity-based group) to help new parents find support, activity and socialisation for their preschool children. The other group is the long standing **Child Contact Centre** which provides free (donation based and volunteer-led) supported access for families who, through court orders would not be otherwise able to have direct contact with each other.

Community Events 2024:

Throughout 2024 we have run a variety of events and concerts designed to help members of our existing church family invite their friends and contacts and welcome those who might not ordinarily come into the church building. These have ranged from fundraising events such as Summer Barn Dance & Fish and chips for the Megan Newborough foundation; Spring Concerts at St James; Atherstone Choral Society; Quiz nights, Historic Churches Open days; St Nicolas Festival and Harvest Supper etc

Community Investment: Mission Giving

On hold during 2024 - payments to made and updates during 2025

Community Spaces: St Nicolas Parish Centre

The centre is a very popular venue and used every day by a wide range of community groups in Nuneaton and beyond (church, social services, children, etc.) for functions, meetings, and classes. Feedback is always positive from users who value the social support and opportunity to meet like minded groups of people.

Some of the long-established groups who use the centre include:

- Contact Centre – weekly group sessions for supported contact
- SWANS – Nuneaton based dementia group providing a fun outlet through singing for carers and those they care for.
- U3A – an association for people who have finished working full time or raising their families, who want to pursue other interests or try something new. Bridge Club
- GKR - Karate Classes
- Baby Hubs - play groups, baby massage, mummy meets, baby art sessions, etc.
- Sahil – Asian Community Support Group
- Royal Osteoporosis Society – Quarterly meetings, talks, etc.
- Yoga – Wednesday & Thursday
- Accord – Women's Specialist offenders support group
- Warwickshire Tai chi – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday evenings
- Paul Gannon Karate – Saturday afternoon
- SWFT NHS Child Health Clinic – Weekly Friday mornings
- Narcotics Anonymous Recovery Meetings - Wednesday Evenings
- Bereavement Hub - Alternate Friday Afternoons

There are also rooms used for private parties and celebrations.

The centre is now thriving and in use most days and nights. This is very positive for the future.

Community Partnerships:

St Nicolas School Partnership:

St Nicolas School is a Church of England Academy with strong historic links. These links have been developing well with Dawn Beasley, an active member of our Congregation as Chair of Governors. The vicar is regularly involved in school collective worship and year groups visit the church at least once each year. During 2024, two visits during the year for most year groups happened with summer term visits as well as seasonal visits. The Church gifted a bible to each year 6 leaver as a reminder of their time at St Nicolas School. The school had a very positive SIAMS inspection, and the church is actively involved in supporting the school with this. In 2024, a new headteacher Ian Meickle was welcomed at St Nicolas Church in September 2024

Deanery Synod

Within Coventry diocese, St Nicolas is in the Nuneaton Deanery. This is led by Area Dean Rev Dave Poultney and Assistant Area Dean Rev Alison Shaw alongside lay Chair Dave Spiers. Three members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. The Deanery also operates a local Mission Hub to support deanery churches through All Saints Bedworth.

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a part of Churches Together network in Nuneaton, and is involved with the Saints project, with the Vicar on the Saints advisory committee. Saints hosted a Christmas Family fund day using St Nicolas Church at Christmas 2024 as well for a student lounge project which we are involved with developing youth and pastoral work in KE6. The Vicar regularly meets church leaders of the Nuneaton Churches and seeks to explore opportunities for collaborative work and ministry.

Interfaith Relationships

During 2024 St Nicolas was involved with a walk of faith organised by the Bahai community in Nuneaton, featuring a number of the faith communities of Nuneaton.

Civic Relationships

As Nuneaton's longest serving Church of England church, St Nicolas has an important role within the civic life of the local community. During 2024 we have been involved in events with the George Eliot Society, Nuneaton Historical Association, local councillors, MP, Local Schools (Higham Lane, Etone, Milby), Nuneaton District Guides and the town's Civic Remembrance Sunday event.

How many church members do we have?

It is difficult to gauge an accurate number as there are varying ways to understand membership of a church like St Nicolas.

All are welcome to attend our services and events. Some identify with St Nicolas because it is the Parish Church, others because it is the Town Church, others still because it is their spiritual home.

The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 84, but this number increased at festivals and Christmas carol services with recording 181 during our Christmas Services 2024 and 130 during our Easter Services 2024

Our Electoral Roll shows the following membership:

Year	Resident	Non residents	Total on roll
2019	62	31	93
2020	68	39	107
2021	69	39	108
2022	69	39	108
2023	70	39	109
2024	68	38	106

Our Facebook Account has 434 likes and 548 followers

Report on the Fabric, goods and ornaments of the Church

See Dashboard.

A huge number of tasks have been done to ensure that the church is safe, watertight, warm and welcoming. Our Churchwardens run a fabric dashboard to enable the PCC to see the progress and status of the many projects undertaken on their behalf.

St. Nicolas Parish Church

DASHBOARD - FABRIC

KEY

	Urgent Job to be completed
	Project ongoing / still to be complete
	Project completed and paid in full
	Project rejected

Number	Project / Repairs	Reference Area	Aim of Project	Cost	Status
1	Repair to Large TV screen	Internal - Front of Church	To enable the screen to go flat to the wall	£1,300.00	Repair cancelled due costs to high
2	Transfer of fuse box / contents from NBCC to St. Nicolas Church	External - by main entrance to driveway	To give flood lighting to path from the Church to the Car park	£4,783.70	Standing Committee rejected costs. Will be part of a new project in 2024
3	To illuminate to trees outside the Church Centre	External - Outside main glass doors to CC	To give flood lighting effect to large trees especially around the Advent season		Project on hold until funding in place

4	To switch on the 6 current flood lights around the church	External - Existing flood lights to be changed to LED	To flood light the front and north aisle of the Church Building	John now looking at installed lights as replacement	John and Leon have now finished replacing the the outdoor flood lights
5	ECO Project	Outside / Inside Church Building	ECO Group to look at Trial for infra red heating zones in Church. Replacing inside Lighting & upgrade to Coutyard	Grants may be available up to £10.000	Project Group to meet up during 2025
6	Bell Frame in Tower to be painted	Internal - Main Tower	Re-painting of Horizontal RSJ's and the metal vertical supports	Price agreed by SC & PCC of £5122. 00	Project completed by Space Creators
7	Service to Clock	Internal - Main Tower	Main Clock not working and needs to be taken away to be repaired	Report and quote now received for£13,340. Project put on hold until sufficient funds are in place	SLT have put the project on hold
8	New Controls to Heating Controls in Church Centre	Internal - Church Centre	To provide zonel controls to various parts of the Church Centre	Agree between Nick and Daly Enginnering	Heating now working in Church Centre
9	Small Infrared Heater for the Church Building e.g. Leake Chapel	Internal - Church Building	To heat small areas in the church without putting the main heating on	£109.95	Heater purchased from Castle Heaters for trial in the Leake Chapel and the Chancel

10	3 Small Heaters for the Church Building & Church Centre Hall	Internal - Church Building & Hall	To heat small areas in the church without putting the main heating on	£90.00	Heater purchased & now in use around the Church Building
11	Stone Mason Repairs to various parts of the Church Building	External - Church Building	As per Quinquennial report Septemebr 2020	*Est cost by Parkinson, Dodson & Associates £10,550. Nick obtaining quotes for urgent stone repairs	on-going, discussed at SLT to leave all outstanding repairs until after the Quinquennia I next year
12	Repairs to Church Building as per Quinquennia I Report 2020 (various)	External - Church Building	As per Quinquennial report Septemebr 2020	*Est cost by Parkinson, Dodson & Associates £16,700.	on-going, discussed at SLT to leave all outstanding repairs until after the Quinquennia I next year
13	Fire Risk Assessment	Internal - Church Building	To bring the Church building up to Fire Safety Regulations	£475.00	Completed in February 2024
14	Repair to Kitchen Roof	Church Centre	Urgent repairs carried following leak into Kitchen	£3,754.80	Completed 27/06/24
15	Repair to Roof in OGS	Old Grammer School	Urgent repairs carried out following leak into Cupboard in office over electrical switches	Final Invoice now paid	Completed in May 2024

16	Fire Doors	Church Centre	Following Fire Risk Assessment new fire door required in the Kitchen and all Fire doors in Church Centre to be taken off and rehung with a 3mm gap between door and frame. The underneath stairs in the OGS to be boxed in to bring up to date to Fire Regulations and cables in the cupboard in the office to be boxed in to fire standards	All invoices now paid	All work now completed 16/12/24
17	Organ Repairs	Internal - main Church	Repairs & tuning carried out to Organ	£408.00	Completed by Peter Spencer - Dec 2024
18	Boiler Repairs	Church Centre	Urgent repairs carried out to Boiler in Church Centre	Final Invoice paid	Completed by Daly Engineering
19	Extension to Fire Alarm	Internal - Main Church & Church Centre	Following FRA recommendation upgrade to Current Fire Alarm System	Invoices paid for stages 1 & 2 = £753.00	1st Stage completed 18/07/24. 2nd stage completed 19/09/24. Awaiting dates for final date which will be the Office and lounge area

20	Bell Number 5	Internal - Bell Tower	Repair to 5th Bell and all other bells to be accessed for wear & tear	Deposit and final invoice paid £6806.00 Awaiting outcome of grants submitted to Coventry Guild & Sharp Trust	Project Completed 4th September 2024
21	External Wooden Window Frames	External - Front of Church Centre	Sand down and re varnish all frames	Cost of Varnish	Dean to lead project
22	New Access Path	External - Rear of Church Building	Clear and lay new hard core path to the rear of the building to enable access in the event of a Fire	Gravel has been donated, only other cost will be hiring of equipment	Dean leading the Project
23	Aluminium Doors exit & entrance door	Internal - Porch	The closure mechanism on one door has failed resulting in it slamming shut	Standing Committee have approved to have both doors replace at a cost of £2,200	Completed 28th February 2025
24	Fire Escape Door	Internal - Door in corridor leading to outside sheds	The push down bar has failed resulting in the door unable to be opened	Karl beebie given authority to go ahead and order what is necessary. Left hand door has been taken down and plained so it now opens and shuts properly	A new door mechanism has been ordered by Karl Beebie and will be fitted as soon as it arrives

25	Glass Rooms	Internal - Church	To hang blinds in order privacy so as to encourage new groups to rent out the rooms		Awaiting quotes from suppliers
26	Small Infrared Heater for the Church Building e.g. Glass Rooms	Internal - Church Building	To heat small areas in the church without putting the main heating on	£62.00	Heater purchased from Castle Heaters for the Glass Rooms
27	Parish Office	Internal - Church Centre	New Carpet or Carpet Tiles	£672.99	Completed 3rd Apeil 2025
28	Glass Rooms	Internal - Church	New Cabinets to be fitted so all items currently in the room can be stores away and locked, room can then be used as a meeting room		Awaiting quotes from suppliers

*** Est costs from Parkinson Dodson and Associates the company that carried out the Inspection**

Financial Review

St Nicolas P.C.C Treasurer's Annual Report for 2024

The results from 2024 show a surplus of £16,756. Please see the Operational Income and Expenditure Report for more detail.

Giving has remained consistent with slightly reduced regular giving and increased giving on the collection plate. Thank you to everyone who has given to the church.

We also received a generous legacy of £20,000 which was very welcome and has significantly contributed to our results in 2024.

The hall continues to make an excellent contribution to our income as well as to our community. The income increased and we have increased the number of organisations who use the hall.

Expenditure has increased overall, generally with annual price increases on regular items such as cleaning and insurance. We also incurred additional expenditure on essential items, a new fire door and roof repairs to the office and the hall.

A highlight of 2024 was the new piano (£4000) which was entirely funded by a combination of individual donations, subscriptions from our Swans sessions, concerts at St Nicolas and St James Churches, and a very successful concert by the pianist Derek Pavacini.

We spent a reduced amount on Mission Giving to other charities in 2024 and we plan to catch up in 2025 with a programme of donations to selected charities that serve the community.

I would like to thank everyone at St Nicolas for your friendship and support, also thank you to Neil Screation of Screation Ltd who has kindly reviewed our accounts for 2024.

Operational Income and Expenditure 2024

Income	2024	2023	2024 - 2023	% Diff	Comments
200 - Planned Giving	45,823	46,215	-392	-1	
201 - Collections	4,912	4,274	638	15	Generally higher collections
202 - Donations	24,808	7,578	17,230	227	Includes £20,000 legacy
204 - Income Tax Credits	11,852	12,112	-260	-2	
210 - Church Hall Lettings	37,327	35,611	1,716	5	More customers for lettings
215 - PCC Fees - Retained	2,438	3,209	-771	-24	Fewer weddings and funerals
230 - Interest Received	1,068	871	197	23	Higher rate of interest
Totals	128,228	109,870	18,358	17	
Expenditure			0		
500 - Donations inc Mission Giving	1,352	3,552	-2,200	-62	Lower than planned, catch up in 2025
505 - Heat and Light	11,955	12,031	-76	-1	
506 - Rates and Water	94	81	13	16	
507 - Insurance	6,778	6,059	719	12	
508 - Repairs and Maintenance	12,031	8,360	3,671	44	Includes roof repair and fire door
510 - Cleaning	9,066	8,035	1,031	13	
521 - Weekly Service Costs	3,580	4,436	-856	-19	
525 - Clergy Expenses	2,170	1,300	870	67	Timing of claims

527 - Salary Secretary	11,725	8,372	3,353	40	Increased hours and rate
528 - Printing, Postage Admin etc.	1,975	1,880	95	5	
530 - Telephone	2,014	1,513	501	33	Includes an incorrect charge from Tesco mobile
535 - Parish Share	44,412	42,297	2,115	5	
550 - Mission/Outreach/Fundraising	4,020	913	3,107	340	Increase in Mission/Outreach activity and includes Derek Paravicini Concert
565 - Independent Examination Fee	300	1,308	-1,008	-77	Change of Examiner
Totals	111,472	100,137	11,335	11	
Income - Expenditure	16,756	9,733	7,023		

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider that the liquid unrestricted reserves required by the Church should ideally be equivalent to a minimum of 3 months operating costs to cover the costs of winding up that would be incurred in the case of the Church ceasing to operate.

Thank you

Jim Keeley Treasurer

Please ask me about the various ways that you can give to the church.

Email jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com mobile 07906 220330 or ask me in church.

Additional Information

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to mention our churchwardens Garry Clark and Nick Shaw who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf and Jim Keeley who has helped us all to understand the church's accounts and its finances.

Structure, governance and management

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either *ex-officio* (Clergy, Readers & Deanery/diocesan synod members), co-opted to fulfil a certain role (currently up to 2 members), or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) [Currently up to 12 members] in accordance with the Church Representation Rules as revised in 2022. Elected, co-opted and *ex-officio* members are the trustees of the Church, registered with the Charity Commission.

The PCC members are responsible for making strategic decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

PCC Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law, it has the power, delegated by the PCC, to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to directions given by the Council.

Members: Chris Routledge (Vicar), Nick Shaw (Warden), Garry Clarke (Warden), David Bailey (PCC Secretary), Jim Keeley (Treasurer), Carole Harris (Lay Chair of PCC).

Leadership Team (LT):

This involves key leaders (Clergy, Lay and staff) involved in the day to day church ministry. The SLT is responsible to the PCC but handles day to day management-level decisions, providing support and accountability for each other and the various church ministries across both Churches.

Members:

Chris Routledge (vicar: St Nicolas/Priest-in-charge: St James),
 Adrian Guthrie (Associate Minister: St James), *Until September 2024*
 Modupe Adeoye (Curate, SSM)
 Martin Butt (Retired Clergy PTO),
 Nick Shaw (Warden: St Nics),
 Garry Clarke (Warden: St Nicolas),
 Brenda Gardiner (Warden: St James),
 Sally-Ann Veasey (Local Lay Leader),
 Terry Lenton (Reader PTO),
 John Hitchcock (Reader PTO),
 Marina Betteridge (Parish Administrator)

Joint Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team usually meets monthly to monitor and set Actions related to the Parish Safeguarding dashboards and safer recruitment requirements supporting the ministry opportunities across both churches and ensure that the PCC has due regard to the house of Bishops safeguarding guidance and regularly presents reports to the PCC.

Members: Chris Routledge, Phil Healey (St Nics PSO), Sue Harris (St James PSO), Lynn Keeley (Assistant PSO) Catherine Robbins (Assistant PSO)

Non-attending Team: Marina Betteridge (DBS Admin), Dawn Beasley (Assistant PSO), Garry Clarke (Warden: St Nics), Brenda Gardiner (Warden: ST James).

The Parish Office:

The Parish Office is the initial contact point for all enquiries: in person; by telephone and email. It is managed by our part-time Administrator, Marina Betteridge. It is where many church functions are arranged and organised (weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.). It is also the administration hub for events, the centre, invoicing, bookings, resolving issues and generally responsible for all day-to-day activities.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

		Serving Until	
Chair	Rev Chris Routledge	Vicar (<i>ex officio</i>)	(from September 2022)
	Rev Modupe Adeoye	2024 - 2029	(From July 2024)
Church Wardens	Nicholas Shaw	APCM 2024	
	Garry Clarke	APCM 2024	
Deanery Synod Members	John Hitchcock	APCM 2026	
	Peter Rogers	APCM 2026	
	Adam Fielder	APCM 2026	
Elected Members	Jim Keeley	APCM 2027	PCC Treasurer
	David Bailey	APCM 2026	

	Dawn Beasley	APCM 2027	
	Lynn Keeley	APCM 2025	Assistant Parish Safeguarding Officer
	Sally-Anne Veasey	APCM 2027	
	Carole Harris	APCM 2026	Lay Chair of PCC
	Jean Bailey	APCM 2026	
	Marina Betteridge	APCM 2026	
	Vikki Townsend	APCM 2027	
	Helen Fielder	APCM 2026	
	Julie Bannister	APCM 2027	
	Lynn Werrett	APCM 2026	

PCC Officers:

PCC Secretary (Acting) - Marina Betteridge

PCC Treasurer - Jim Keeley

Electoral Roll Officer - Ian Miskin (Left Dec 2024)

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) - Phil Healey

Administrative information

How you can get in touch with us:

The Church and the Office are situated on Vicarage Street. Please visit us on Sunday for any of our services

St Nicolas Church

Vicarage Street

Nuneaton

CV11 4AZ

You may phone:

Telephone: 02476 344553

Email: office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

Website: www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk

*St. Nicolas Church is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission.
Registered Charity Number 1126349*

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

Screatons Ltd.
Chartered Accountants
Former Atherstone College
Ratcliffe Road
ATHERSTONE
Warwickshire
CV9 1LF

13th March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report To the PCC of St. Nicolas Church Nuneaton

This report on the accounts of the PCC of St. Nicolas Church Nuneaton for the year ended 31st December 2024 is in respect of an examination carried out under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF.

That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 have not been met; or
2. to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Screatons Ltd.
Chartered Accounts
Former Atherstone College
Ratcliffe Road
ATHERSTONE
Warwickshire
CV9 1LF

13th March 2025

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

	2024
	£
<u>Income</u>	
Planned Giving	45,823
Collections	4,912
Donations	34,760
Restricted Donations	-
Income Tax Credits (Gift Aid)	12,169
Income Tax Credits (Gift Aid) (Restricted)	-
Church Hall Lettings	37,328
PCC Fees - Retained	2,518
Interest Received	2,224
	139,734
 <u>Expenditure</u>	
10% Giving	1,352
Donations & Grants	-
Heat & Light	11,953
Rates & Water	95
Insurance	6,778
Repairs & Maintenance	23,961
Cleaning	9,066
Church Hall & Office Refreshments	154
Weekly Service Costs	3,731
Clergy Expenses	2,170
Salary Secretary	11,725
Printing, Postage & Admin.	1,821
Telephone	2,014
Parish Share	44,412
Mission/Outreach	8,282
Fundraising	1,500
Independent Examination Fee	300
Clergy Discretionary	530
	129,844
 Excess of Income Over Expenditure	
/(Shortfall of Receipts Over Payments)	9,890

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH NUNEATON

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	786,719	786,719
	<u>786,719</u>	<u>786,719</u>
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and In Hand	73,980	63,984
	<u>73,980</u>	<u>63,984</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,128	2,022
	<u>2,128</u>	<u>2,022</u>
Net Current Assets less Current Liabilities	<u>858,571</u>	<u>61,962</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	<u>858,571</u>	<u>848,681</u>
Total Net Assets less Liabilities	<u>858,571</u>	<u>848,681</u>
Represented By:		
Unrestricted		
General Fund	822,388	814,734
Designated		
Ann Parkes Donations for Children's Activities	180	180
In Memory of Richard Lenton	0	387
Swans St. Nicolas	1,781	754
Ten Percent Giving Fund	8,614	2,948
Restricted		
PCC Bells Fund	0	6,054
Agency Collection	149	0
Restoration	24,758	22,935
Open Book	107	107
Choir Fund	412	412
Flowers Fund	0	41
Heritage Fund	182	129
FUNDS OF THE CHURCH	<u><u>858,571</u></u>	<u><u>848,681</u></u>

Accounts



Worshipping God, Making Disciples, Transforming Community

St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton

Serving Nuneaton since 1155

Annual Report

and Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

for the year ending 31st December 2023

Registered Charity Number 1126349

Incumbent:

Rev Chris Routledge

The Vicarage

61 Ambleside Way

Nuneaton

CV11 6AU

Bank:

Cooperative Bank

Independent Examiner:

Neil Screaton

Screatons Chartered Accountants

Midlands Accountants

Screatons Ltd

Atherstone College

Ratcliffe Road

Atherstone

Warwickshire

CV9 1LF

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Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton 2023

Aim and purposes

St. Nicolas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Chris Routledge, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church Centre complex of St. Nicolas.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Nicolas as we serve St Nicolas Parish and the town of Nuneaton. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services and activities can involve and reach out to the many groups that live within our parish. Our services, worship and activities put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

To help us with this goal, during 2023, St Nicolas PCC have met with St James PCC (A church we work in close partnership with) on a number of occasions and have agreed to share a Mission Action Plan and a shared missional priority - namely **'to develop a culture within the churches of invitation and welcome'**. In addition to this, the two churches share an Incumbent, Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Administrator, Treasurer and Safeguarding Team.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. The PCC has also regularly considered its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- **Worshipping God:** Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- **Making Disciples:** Provision of pastoral care, Evangelism and discipleship for people living in the parish and their networks.
- **Transforming Community:** Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicolas and the Church Centre.

Achievements and Performance

As a review of 2023 at our January 2024 meeting, PCC members commented on the following as highlights for the year (in no particular order):

- working together with St James
- St Nicolas Festival & Christmas Lights
- Growth of connection with the Church school and the church
- New Church sign/notice board/ communication - Serving Nuneaton & Vision
- Joint worship with St James - live services in the church grounds
- visits to the bell tower during heritage week (September) - Great community Event
- Vicar
- Raising St Nicolas Church profile in the local community/diocese
- Worship Services - Community Groups celebrating with St Nics
- The handbell ringers
- Improved organisation: Documentation, Audits & Action Plans, Dashboards, Role descriptions, safer Recruitment etc
- Carols in the community
- The Service Leaders Team

- The open afternoon - crafts etc (Heritage week?)
- Social get-togethers - ladies group, gents group etc

Worshipping God: Worship and Prayer

Sunday Worship

Worship is overseen by the Vicar and led by a strong and growing Lay team of Service Leaders (7 members), supported by active participation from church members with Bible Reading, Welcome, Refreshments and hospitality, AV and intercessions. St Nicolas Church is also well supported with music during worship with a growing **Worship Singing Team** (10 regular members) supported by dedicated Organist, Anthony Newborough and, during the first quarter of 2023, a Diocesan Funded position of Music Missioner, Sally-Ann Veasey. For the rest of 2023 Sally Ann has supported the All Age Services specifically with Music and plays an active role on the Senior Leadership Team and leading services.

During 2023, the PCC has regularised the worship pattern as follows, with a slight rearrangement in the structure of worship from Order 1 Holy Communion to Service of the Word (with/without Holy Communion):

1st & 3rd Sundays - Holy Communion (with Children's groups)

2nd Sunday - Morning Praise (with Children's groups)

4th Sunday - Altogether (All Age Worship)

Children's, Families and adults with additional needs Work

Children's and adults-with-additional-needs inclusion work is available most weeks through a dedicated team who provide supported activities that help young people explore faith topics at an age and stage appropriate level. A number of this team are also part of the All Age Service Leaders Team which works across both St James and St Nicolas Churches

Seasonal Worship

Seasonal Worship (i.e. Christmas, Harvest, Easter etc) often has additional/seasonal liturgical elements as appropriate and additional opportunities such as Christmas Community Choir, Handbell Ring and Sing team, Taize Singers etc These are open more broadly as they are occasional (not regular).

Wednesday Worship (Book of Common Prayer)

During 2023 we also extended the monthly Wednesday BCP service to have a weekly Service in this more traditional format. We regularly get between 10-15 people at this each week.

Home Communions & Visiting

In addition to this we take Holy Communion to those who can't attend worship regularly any longer due to ill health. Currently there are about 7 people we regularly visit as well as around 10 at Caldwell Lodge and 15 at Caldwell Grange Nursing homes. Visiting is coordinated by Terry & Jean Lenton and is currently undertaken by members of the visiting team.

Prayer Circle Team

A small team of dedicated intercessors are available to pray for specific requests as and when they are requested. This is coordinated by Jean and Terry Lenton

Occasional Offices & Special Services and Events

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated 7 baptisms and 4 weddings. There have been 15 funerals in 2023: 9 in church, and 6 at the crematorium conducted by ministers from St Nicolas. We also have occasional special services, often in the evening, to mark particular events or seasons such as the Coronation, Taize Healing service in Lent, Memorial services etc.

Making Disciples: Evangelism, Vocation and Pastoral Care

Lent Courses

During Lent 2023 two lent groups were run across the two Parishes both using material from the 'Everybody Welcome' course. This facilitated input and discussion around how we can make the buildings, services and ministry more welcoming and formed the basis for later PCC discussions in July which adopted a shared priority across both churches of developing a culture of invitation and welcome and producing our shared MAP.

Alpha Courses

Though Alpha had been run at St Nics in the past, Holy Trinity, Attleborough, in conversation with Saints, Nuneaton wanted to host a daytime Alpha course at Saints to run after Easter 2023. St Nicolas Church was invited to be involved and so supported this with a small number of members of the congregations of both St James (2) and St Nicolas (3) churches initially coming along to it as well as Chris being a small group leader. A Youth Alpha course began in July 2023 and continued until October with 6 young people ages 10-17 attending.

An evening Alpha course began in November for 5 adults. The away evening was held at St James Church and jointly hosted by Holy Trinity, Attleborough.

Pastoral Visiting, Prayer and vocational discussions

The Vicar is available to meet with anyone in the church or community who wants to explore faith and God's calling on your life further or if someone is unwell and would benefit from prayer for healing and/or a visit. A number of such visits took place during 2023 and are available into the future.

Serving & Transforming Community: Mission and Outreach

Community Service:

During 2023, we continued to run **SWANS** weekly, led by Sally-Ann Veasey. This aims to provide activities and support for those suffering with or caring for those with Dementia and also provides a useful support and activity for those who are feeling isolated for other and varied reasons. The St Nicolas Group is one of two such groups run in the Nuneaton Area (the other run at St James Church).

Two other key groups that we have supported (though do not formally manage) are **Baby Hub** (a stay and play activity-based group) to help new parents find support, activity and socialisation for their preschool children. The other group is the long standing **Child Contact Centre** which provides free (donation based and volunteer-led) supported access for families who, through court orders would not be otherwise able to have direct contact with each other.

Community Events 2023:

Throughout 2023 we have run a variety of events and concerts designed to help members of our existing church family invite their friends and contacts and welcome those who might not ordinarily come into the church building. These have ranged from fundraising events such as Women in Concert event and Summer Barn Dance & Fish and chips for the Megan Newborough foundation; Bulkington Brass Concert; Atherstone Choral Society; Historic Churches Open days; St Nicolas Festival and Harvest Barn Dance

Community Investment: Mission Giving

Every year St Nicolas Church gives away a percentage of its income to charity, this is a part of the money given either on the collection plate or through people's bank accounts. It is 10% because there is a biblical precedent for a 10% 'tithe' to be made.

In the past the 10% group made suggestions to the PCC about organisations to support but the work of this group has been paused as it has been under review during 2023. The PCC are very grateful to Ian Miskin for his leadership of this group for a number of years. Despite being under review, the PCC have made donations to a number of organisations but there will be additional money for the renewed version of this group to be able to invest.

In addition, we have a long-term commitment to support Evelyn, a student living in Peru, through the Charity Compassion.

Community Spaces: St Nicolas Parish Centre

The centre is a very popular venue and used every day by a wide range of community groups in Nuneaton and beyond (church, social services, children, etc.) for functions, meetings, and classes. Feedback is always positive from users who value the social support and opportunity to meet like minded groups of people.

Some of the long-established groups who use the centre include:

- Contact Centre – weekly group sessions for supported contact
- SWANS – Nuneaton based dementia group providing a fun outlet through singing for carers and those they care for.
- U3A – an association for people who have finished working full time or raising their families, who want to pursue other interests or try something new. Bridge Club
- GKR - Karate Classes
- Baby Hubs - play groups, baby massage, mummy meets, baby art sessions, etc.

- Sahil – Asian Community Support Group
- Royal Osteoporosis Society – Quarterly meetings, talks, etc.
- Yoga – Wednesday & Thursday
- Accord – Women's Specialist offenders support group

New groups in 2022

- Change Grow Live – Support Group. Weekly All-day Thursday
- Warwickshire Tai chi – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday evenings
- Paul Gannon Karate – Saturday afternoon
- SWFT NHS Child Health Clinic – Weekly Friday mornings

New groups in 2023

- Narcotics Anonymous Recovery Meetings - Wednesday Evenings

There are also rooms used for private parties and celebrations.

The centre is now thriving and in use most days and nights. This is very positive for the future.

Community Partnerships:

St Nicolas School Partnership:

St Nicolas School is a Church of England Academy with strong historic links. These links have been developing well with Dawn Beasley, an active member of our Congregation as Chair of Governors. The vicar is regularly involved in school collective worship and year groups visit the church at least once each year. During 2023, two visits during the year for most year groups happened with summer term visits as well as seasonal visits. For the first time in 2023, the Church gifted a bible to each year 6 leaver as a reminder of their time at St Nicolas School. The school is preparing for a SIAMS inspection, and the church is actively involved in supporting the school with this. In 2024, the headteacher of the last 6 years, Sharon Thorpe is relocating to a new area and has therefore had to say goodbye to St Nicolas School. The MAT and Governors are actively recruiting a new head and request the prayers of the local church for this appointment.

Deanery Synod

Within Coventry diocese, St Nicolas is in the Nuneaton Deanery. This is led by Area Dean Rev Dave Poultney and Assistant Area Dean Rev Alison Shaw alongside lay Chair Dave Spiers. Three members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. The Deanery also operates a local Mission Hub to support deanery churches through All Saints Bedworth.

Working with other parishes

I reported at the last APCM on the difficulties numerous other parishes in the Deanery were experiencing due to lack of an incumbent and depleted resources. The overall situation is better but those same parishes are still struggling from lack of their own incumbent, Holy Communion services being conducted by clergy from other parishes on average once a month on a rota.

There is little opportunity for outreach of any sort in these parishes and they remain largely in survival mode. We are so fortunate here in St Nicolas and St James Churches to have such strong leadership teams and those of us that can help out elsewhere when we can do so. Jesus knew the same situation when he said "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." This should be our prayer too.

John Hitchcock

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a part of Churches Together community in Nuneaton, and is involved with the Saints project, with the Vicar on the Saints advisory committee. Saints hosted a Christmas Meal for 50 at St Nicolas Church at Christmas 2023. An Alpha group was held at Saints. The Vicar regularly meets church leaders of the Nuneaton Churches and seeks to explore opportunities for collaborative work and ministry.



Serving Nuneaton since 1155
*Worshipping God, Making Disciples,
Transforming Community*

Interfaith Relationships

During May 2023 St Nicolas represented a number of other churches at an interfaith gathering organised by the local Police called 'Food and Faith'. The aim of this was to provide an environment to learn from and about the various faith communities in this area. It is the hope of many of the faith groups that this would be the start of other such events.

Civic Relationships

As Nuneaton's longest serving Church of England church, St Nicolas has an important role within the civic life of the local community. During 2023 we have been involved in events with the George Eliot Society, Nuneaton Historical Association, local councillors, MP, Local Schools (Higham Lane, Etone, Milby), Nuneaton District Guides, the town's Civic Remembrance Sunday event and the vigil for the Knife Angel visit to Nuneaton.

How many church members do we have?

It is difficult to gauge an accurate number as there are varying ways to understand membership of a church like St Nicolas. All are welcome to attend our services and events. Some identify with St Nicolas because it is the Parish Church, others because it is the Town Church, others still because it is their spiritual home.

The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 87, but this number increased at festivals and Christmas carol services with recording 109 during our Christmas Services 2023 and 154 during our Easter Services 2023.

Our Electoral Roll shows the following membership:

Year	Resident	Non residents	Total on roll
2019	62	31	93
2020	68	39	107
2021	69	39	108
2022	69	39	108
2023	70	39	109

Our Facebook Account has 413 likes and 516 followers

Report on the Fabric, goods and ornaments of the Church

See Dashboard.

A huge number of tasks have been done to ensure that the church is safe, watertight, warm and welcoming. Our Churchwardens run a fabric dashboard to enable the PCC to see the progress and status of the many projects undertaken on their behalf. This was not started at the beginning of 2023 but is indicative of a number of different projects that have been explored during 2023.

 St. Nicolas Parish Church DASHBOARD - FABRIC									
Project / Repairs	Reference Area	Aim of Project	Cost	Status					
Repair to Large TV screen	Internal - Front of Church	To enable the screen to go flat to the wall	£1,300.00	Repair cancelled due costs to high					
Transfer of fuse box / contents from NBCC to St. Nicolas Church	External - by main entrance to driveway	To give flood lighting to path from the Church to the Car park	£4,783.70	Standing Committee rejected costs. Will be part of a new project in 2024					
To illuminate to trees outside the Church Centre	External - Outside main glass doors to CC	To give flood lighting effect to large trees especially around the Advent season		Project on hold until funding in place					
To switch on the 6 current flood lights around the church	External - Existing flood lights to be changed to LED	To flood light the the front and north aisle of the Church Building	£6,674.63	NBCC given go ahead with regards to the metre cupboard, project put back to 2024 to try and secure funding					
To upgraded all the internal light in the Church	Church Building	To give lighting to all parts of the Church Building	£16000 +	Project on hold due costs					
Bell Frame in Tower to be painted	Internal - Main Tower	Re-painting of Horizontal RSJ's and the metal vertical supports	Price agreed by SC & PCC of £5122. 00	Project completed by Space Creators					
Service to Clock	Internal - Main Tower	Awaiting Conor at clock company to set up date with Dean	Service costs agreed.	Service repairs carried out but clock needs to be taken away to complete repairs. There have been 4 requests for quotes but company has not yet replied					
New Controls to Heating Controls in Church Centre	Internal - Church Centre	To provide zonel controls to various parts of the Church Centre	Agree between Nick and Daly Engineering	Heating now working in Church Centre					
Small Infrared Heater for the Church Building e.g. Leake Chapel	Internal - Church Building	To heat small areas in the church without putting the main heating on	£109.95	Heater purchased from Castle Heaters for trial in the Leake Chapel and the Chancel					
3 Small Heaters for the Church Building & Church Centre Hall	Internal - Church Building & Hall	To heat small areas in the church without putting the main heating on	£90.00	Heater purchased & now in use around the Church Building					
Stone Mason Repairs to various parts of the Church Building	External - Church Building	As per Quinquennial report Septemehr 2020	*Est cost by Parkinson, Dodson & Associates £10,550. Nick obtaining quotes for urgent stone repairs	on-going					
Repairs to Church Building as per Quinquennial Report 2020 (various)	External - Church Building	As per Quinquennial report Septemehr 2020	*Est cost by Parkinson, Dodson & Associates £16,700.	on-going					
Fire Risk Assessment	Internal - Church Building	To bring the Church building up to Fire Safety Regulations	£475.00	Completed in February					
Repair to Kitchen Roof	Church Centre	Urgent repairs carried following leak into Kitchen	£4000+ (awaiting final invoice)	Completed in March / April					
Repair to Roof in OGS	Old Grammer School	Urgent repairs carried out following leak into Cupboard in office over electrical switches	Awaiting final Invoice	Completed in March / April					
Fire Doors	Church Centre	Following Fire Risk Assessment new fire door required in the Kitchen and all Fire doors in Church Centre to be taken off and rehung with a 3mm gap between door and frame. The underneath stairs in the OGS to be boxed in to bring up to date to Fire Regulations and cables in the cupboard in the office to be boxed in to fire standards	Approx cost around £1500.00	Work agreed with Karl Beebe but as yet not started					
Organ Repairs	Main Church	Upgent repairs carried out to Organ	£408.00	Completed by Peter Spencer					
Boiler Repairs	Church Centre	Upgent repairs carried out to Boiler in Church Centre	Awaitng final Invoice	Completed by Daly Engineering					

* Est costs from Parkinson Dodson and Associates the company that carried out the inspection

Financial Review

St Nicolas P.C.C Treasurer's Annual Report for 2023

The results from 2023 are encouraging, our income has increased and we have a surplus of income over expenditure of £9,731. In more detail, giving has increased significantly, thank you to everyone who has given to the church. Income from letting the hall has also increased by 50%.

Expenditure has increased overall, energy costs remain high, and we had high maintenance expenditure which has included much needed improvement to the car park.

Coventry Diocese agreed to a substantial reduction in Parish Share and this has enabled us to achieve a surplus.

Looking ahead to 2024, we plan to continue our mission with more community events and by increasing our giving to other organisations.

I would like to thank everyone at St Nicolas for your continued friendship and support, also thank you to Neil Screaton of Screatons Ltd who has kindly reviewed our accounts for 2023.

Description	2022	2023	Difference	% Diff	Comment
Income					
200 - Planned Giving	44,926	46,215	1,290	3	General increase in giving
201 - Collections	3,190	4,275	1,085	34	
202 - Donations	2,484	7,578	5,094	205	significant individual donations
204 - Income Tax Credits	11,469	12,113	644	6	
210 - Church Hall Lettings	23,759	35,611	11,852	50	Bookings near capacity
215 - PCC Fees - Retained	2,529	3,209	680	27	More weddings and funerals
230 - Interest Received	260	872	612	236	Higher interest rates in 2023
Totals	88,616	109,873	21,257	24	Encouraging increase of both giving and hall lettings
Expenditure					
501 - Donations inc 10% Giving	9,505	3,552	-5,953	-63	Significant reduction, to be addressed in 2024
505 - Heat and Light	6,680	12,031	5,351	80	Energy bills remain high
506 - Rates and Water	47	82	35	73	
507 - Insurance	6,997	6,059	-938	-13	Timing of monthly payments
508 - Repairs and Maintenance	2,502	8,360	5,859	234	Includes car park, alarm, hall lights
510 - Cleaning	5,477	8,036	2,558	47	Increase after caretaker left and increase in cleaning costs
511 - Caretaker	1,264	0	-1,264		No caretaker in 2023
521 - Weekly Service Costs	3,362	4,436	1,074	32	Higher cost of organ maintenance
525 - Clergy Expenses	0	1,301	1,301		2022 expenses claimed in 2023
527 - Salary Secretary	7,338	8,373	1,034	14	Increase in rate and hours
528 - Printing, Postage Admin etc.	1,068	1,881	813	76	Replaced old copier, new copier shared with St James
530 - Telephone	739	1,514	775	105	includes clergy telephone in 2023, and new office mobile
535 - Parish Share	50,516	42,297	-8,219	-16	Reduction agreed by Coventry Diocese
550 - Mission/Outreach	55	913	858	1,557	Increase in community activity/events

565 - Independent Examination Fee	1,164	1,308	144	12	
Totals	96,714	100,143	3,429	4	Higher expenses, reduced Parish Share, lower donations to other organisations
Income - Expenditure	-8,097	9,731			

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider that the liquid unrestricted reserves required by the Church should ideally be equivalent to a minimum of 3 months operating costs to cover the costs of winding up that would be incurred in the case of the Church ceasing to operate.

Thank you
Jim Keeley Treasurer

Please ask me about the various ways that you can give to the church.
Email jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com mobile 07906 220330 or ask me in church.

Additional Information

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to mention our churchwardens Garry Clark and Nick Shaw who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf and Jim Keeley who has helped us all to understand the church's accounts and its finances.

Structure, governance and management

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either *ex-officio* (Clergy, Readers & Deanery/diocesan synod members), co-opted to fulfil a certain role (currently up to 2 members), or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) [Currently up to 12 members] in accordance with the Church Representation Rules as revised in 2022. Elected, co-opted and *ex-officio* members are the trustees of the Church, registered with the Charity Commission.

The PCC members are responsible for making strategic decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

PCC Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law, it has the power, delegated by the PCC, to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to directions given by the Council.

Members: Chris Routledge (Vicar), Nick Shaw (Warden), Garry Clarke (Warden), Peter Rogers (Deanery Synod member), David Bailey (PCC Secretary), Jim Keeley (Treasurer), Carole Harris (Lay Chair of PCC).

Senior Leadership Team (SLT):

This involves key leaders (Clergy, Lay and staff) involved in the day to day church ministry. The SLT is responsible to the PCC but handles day to day management-level decisions, providing support and accountability for each other and the various church ministries across both Churches.

Members: Chris Routledge (vicar: St Nicolas/Priest-in-charge: St James), Adrian Guthrie (Associate Minister: St James), Martin Butt (Retired Clergy PTO), Nick Shaw (Warden: St Nics), Garry Clarke (Warden: St Nicolas), Brenda Gardiner (Warden: St James), Sally-Ann Veasey (Music Missioner/ Local Lay Leader), Terry Lenton (Reader PTO), John Hitchcock (Reader PTO), Marina Betteridge (Parish Administrator)

Joint Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team usually meets monthly to monitor and set Actions related to the Parish Safeguarding dashboards and safer recruitment requirements supporting the ministry opportunities across both churches and ensure that the PCC has due regard to the house of Bishops safeguarding guidance and

Members: Chris Routledge, Phil Healey (St Nics PSO), Sue Harris (St James PSO), Lynn Keeley (Assistant PSO)

Non-attending Team: Marina Betteridge (DBS Admin), Dawn Beasley (Assistant PSO), Garry Clarke (Warden: St Nics), Brenda Gardiner (Warden: ST James).

The Parish Office is the initial contact point for all enquiries: in person; by telephone and email. It is managed by our part-time Administrator, Marina Betteridge. It is where many church functions are arranged and organised (weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.). It is also the administration hub for events, the centre, invoicing, bookings, resolving issues and generally responsible for all day-to-day activities.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

		Serving Until	
Chair	Rev Chris Routledge	Vicar (<i>ex officio</i>)	(from September 2022)
Church Wardens	Nicholas Shaw	APCM 2024	
	Garry Clarke	APCM 2024	
Deanery Synod Members	John Hitchcock	APCM 2026	
	Peter Rogers	APCM 2026	
	Adam Fielder	APCM 2026	
Elected Members	Jim Keeley	APCM 2024	PCC Treasurer
	David Bailey	APCM 2026	PCC Secretary
	Dawn Beasley	APCM 2024	
	Lynn Keeley	APCM 2025	Assistant Parish Safeguarding Officer
	Sally-Anne Veasey	APCM 2023	Came off PCC at APCM 2023
	Carole Harris	APCM 2026	Lay Chair of PCC
	Jean Bailey	APCM 2026	
	Marina Betteridge	APCM 2026	
	Adam Fielder	APCM 2023	became a member of deanery Synod 2023 -2026 so is ex-officio on PCC
	Helen Fielder	APCM 2026	
	Julie Bannister	APCM 2024	
	Lynn Werrett	APCM 2026	

PCC Officers:

PCC Secretary - David Bailey

PCC Treasurer - Jim Keeley

Electoral Roll Officer - Ian Miskin

Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) - Phil Healey



Serving Nuneaton since 1155
*Worshipping God, Making Disciples,
Transforming Community*

Administrative information

How you can get in touch with us:

The Church and the Office are situated on Vicarage Street. Please visit us on Sunday for any of our services

St Nicolas Church

Vicarage Street

Nuneaton

CV11 4AZ

You may phone:

Telephone: 02476 344553

Email: office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

Website: www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk

St. Nicolas Church is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number 1126349

**ST. NICOLAS CHURCH, NUNEATON
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

Screatons Limited
Chartered Accountants
Atherstone College
Ratcliffe Road
Atherstone College
Warwickshire
CV9 1LF

3rd April 2024

Independent Examiner's Report To the PCC of St Nicolas Church Nuneaton

This report on the accounts of the PCC Building Fund for the year ended 31st December 2020 is in respect of an examination carried out under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Church Accounting regulations 2006 and section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF.

That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting Regulations 2006have not been met; or
- 2 to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Screatons Ltd.

Screatons Limited
Chartered Accountants
Atherstone College
Ratcliffe Road
ATHERSTONE
Warwickshire
CV9 1LF

3rd April 2024

**St Nicolas Church Nuneaton
Income and Expenditure
Year Ended 31st December 2023**

	Total 2023 £
<u>INCOME</u>	
Planned Giving	46,215.41
Collections	4,284.94
Donations	9,366.34
Restricted Donations	271.00
Income Tax Credits (Gift Aid)	12,126.24
Income Tax Credits (Gift Aid) (Restricted)	59.00
Church Hall Lettings	35,611.25
PCC Fees - Retained	3,249.00
Interest Received	1,388.56
	112,571.74
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
10% Giving	3,427.00
Donations and Grants	420.00
Heat and Light	12,031.24
Rates and Water	81.51
Insurance	6,059.23
Repairs and Maintenance	9,476.46
Cleanng	8,035.71
Church Hall and Office Refreshments	114.49
Weekly Service Costs	4,638.50
Clergy Expenses	1,300.75
Salary Secretary	8,372.60
Printing, Postage and Admin	1,811.55
Telephone	1,513.74
Parish Share	42,297.00
Mission/Outreach	1,583.42
Fundraising	250.00
Independent Exmaination Fee	1,308.00
Music Missioner Expenditure	2,123.92
	104,845.12
Excess of Income over Expenditure	7,726.62
/ (Shortfall of Receipts over Payments)	

**St Nicolas Church Nuneaton
Balance Sheet
As at 31st December 2023**

	As at 31/12/2023	As at 31/12/2022
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	786,719	786,719
	<u>786,719</u>	<u>786,719</u>
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	63,984	56,530
	<u>63,984</u>	<u>56,530</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,022	2,294
	<u>2,022</u>	<u>2,294</u>
Net current assets less current liabilities	<u>61,962</u>	<u>54,236</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>848,681</u>	<u>840,955</u>
Total net assets less liabilities	<u>848,681</u>	<u>840,955</u>
Represented by:		
Unrestricted		
General Fund	814,734	808,586
Designated		
Ann Parkes Donations for Childrens Activities	180	180
In Memory of Richard Lenton	387	387
Swans St Nicolas	754	0
Ten Percent Giving Fund	2,948	37
Restricted		
PCC Bells Fund	6,054	6,244
Restoration	22,935	23,198
Open Book	107	107
Choir Fund	412	484
Flowers Fund	41	197
Heritage Fund	129	93
Music Missioner Restricted	0	1,442
Funds of the church	<u>848,681</u>	<u>840,955</u>

Accounts

St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ending 31st December 2022

Registered Charity Number 1126349

Incumbent:

Rev Chris Routledge
The Vicarage
61 Ambleside Way
Nuneaton
CV11 6AU

Bank:

Cooperative Bank

Independent Examiner:

J S Farnell (FCA)
Burgis & Bullock
1 The Courtyard
Goldsmith Way
Eliot Business Park
Nuneaton
CV10 7RJ

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Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton 2022

Aim and purposes

St. Nicolas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Chris Routledge, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church Centre complex of St. Nicolas.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Nicolas. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicolas and the Church Centre.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

For much of the year, St. Nicolas was without a vicar so the Sunday morning services are now led by a small leadership team, with one of the team taking responsibility for the service each week, coordinating the service planning, liaising with visiting preachers and preparing the PowerPoint. This has been successful as each of the leaders has increased their knowledge and become familiar with the planning process and the services are now running smoothly due to careful preparation and forward planning. It has been notable that the service leaders have grown in confidence leading the service. The team meet regularly to share ideas and experiences and to encourage each other. This has taken the form of regular monthly breakfast meetings, planning the rota for the upcoming period and discussing any concerns or suggestions for improvement. The team have also undertaken some training in terms of how to conduct a service and with regards to some of the practicalities involved in organising the service, as well as offering each other spiritual encouragement, praying and reading the bible together. The team hope to undertake further training going forward, to help them to grow as spiritual leaders, and are encouraging other people to get involved in the service leadership role, offering mentoring as appropriate.

How many church members do we have?

Year	Resident	Non residents	Total on roll
2019	62	31	93
2020	68	39	107
2021	69	39	108
2022	69	39	108

All are welcome to attend our regular services. The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was about 50, but this number increased at festivals and Christmas carol services.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated 8 baptisms and 1 wedding. There have been 8 funerals in 2022: 4 in church, and 4 at the crematorium conducted by ministers from St Nicolas. We also have occasional special services, often in the evening, to mark particular events or seasons. This year on Advent Sunday we hosted a Carol Service for the High Sheriff of Warwickshire.

Deanery Synod

Three members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

St Nicolas Church office and centre

The centre is a very popular venue and used every day by a wide range of community groups in Nuneaton and beyond (church, social services, children, etc.) for functions, meetings, and classes. Feedback is always positive from users who value the social support and opportunity to meet likeminded groups of people.

Some of the long-established groups who use the centre include:

- Contact Centre – weekly group sessions for supported contact
- SWANS – Nuneaton based dementia group providing a fun outlet through singing for carers and those they care for.
- U3A – an association for people who have finished working full time or raising their families, who want to pursue other interests or try something new. Bridge Club
- GKR - Karate Classes
- Baby Hubs - play groups, baby massage, mummy meets, baby art sessions, etc.
- Sahil – Asian Community Support Group
- Royal Osteoporosis Society – Quarterly meetings, talks, etc.
- Yoga – Wednesday & Thursday
- Accord – Women's Specialist offenders support group

New groups in 2022

- Change Grow Live – Support Group. Weekly All-day Thursday
- Warwickshire Tai chi – Monday, Wednesday & Friday evenings
- Paul Gannon Karate – Saturday afternoon
- SWFT NHS Child Health Clinic – Weekly Friday mornings

There are also rooms used for private parties and celebrations.

The centre is now thriving and in use most days and nights. This is very positive for the future.

The office is the initial contact point for all enquiries: in person; by telephone and email. It is where many church functions are arranged and organised (weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.). It is also the administration hub for events, the centre, invoicing, bookings, resolving issues and generally responsible for all day-to-day activities.

Mission and Evangelism

Every year St Nicolas Church gives away a percentage of its income to charity, this is a part of the money given either on the collection plate or through people's bank accounts. It is 10% because there is a biblical precedent for a 10% 'tithe' to be made.

The nominated charities are chosen by the 10% group and then with the approval of the PCC, our treasurer sends the funds to each of those charities.

We have previously chosen 3 charities, one international, one national and one local which have a spread of interests both practical and spiritual and are representative of the mission of the Church.

In addition, we have a long-term commitment to support Evelyn, a student living in Peru, through the charity Compassion.

Working with other parishes

At St Nicolas Church we have had our problems resulting from the onslaught of the Covid pandemic and also being in interregnum. For my part, I believe that we have managed our worship and general administration remarkably well, all through the corporate efforts of church members. One way or another we have maintained the continuity of our services, both online for a time and now back in person again. We have remained undaunted.

This has not been the case with so many other churches locally, in particular the more rural parishes with smaller congregations and less resources than ourselves. They have been struggling to keep their worship going with any continuity and desperate for people to help with their services.

The supporting team at St Nicolas has been such a blessing to us all and it has freed me from some duties at St Nicolas to be of help to some of these struggling parishes, particularly in the leading and preaching at their services. Some parishes who are part of a benefice have held combined services to reduce the requirement for people to lead. Even then, it has been a major problem for the churchwardens to fill all the gaps. The whole situation has been exacerbated by there being numerous other vacancies in the deanery. The provision of Holy Communion has been especially difficult due to this shortfall in ordained clergy. From progress made so far, or lack of it, it seems that this is a situation for the long term and these parishes need our prayers and help where we can. I would find it no surprise to see a number of churches closing their doors in the not too distant future.

On a brighter note, these churches have dedicated members who work hard to maintain and bring their faith alive in their churches and communities and will be the core of any restoration and revival as we return to more 'normal' living and, hopefully, we will see the induction of more clergy to fill the vacancies within the Deanery. I have also learned that the 'St Nicolas way' is not the only way to worship. There is a refreshing variety of form and style in the worship of different churches. Bringing to mind the fact that our God is only interested in our true, heartfelt worship – it is us who pick the place and style. God will meet with us anywhere, anytime.

John Hitchcock

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a member of Churches Together in Nuneaton, and is involved with the Saints project.

Financial Review

St Nicolas P.C.C Treasurer's Annual Report for 2022

I am pleased to say that 2022 was a better year than 2021; after the Covid restrictions were lifted we have been meeting in person at church and more activities have been resumed.

In financial terms we have still made a loss unfortunately, but it is significantly less than it was in 2021 and 2020.

Overall our income increased by £6,767. The hall income was £17,500 higher now that our user groups are all back with new ones starting too. Unfortunately giving has reduced by £7,616 mostly because of a reduction in our planned giving.

Our expenditure was £95,886, only £828 more than 2021. Our Parish Share was reduced in 2022 and this helped us to keep overall expenditure down.

Our energy bills rose sharply towards the end of 2022 and that trend has continued into 2023.

Looking ahead to 2023 we need to address how we can increase our income and manage our expenditure carefully.

Description	2021	2022	Difference	% Diff	Comment
Income					
200 - Planned Giving	£52,610	£44,926	£-7,684	-15%	Fewer regular givers than in 2021
201 - Collections	£1,406	£3,190	£1,784	127%	People now back in church
202 - Donations	£3,067	£2,484	£-583	-19%	A few more high individual donations in 2021
204 - Income Tax Credits	£12,602	£11,469	£-1,132	-9%	Reduction in line with reduced giving
210 - Church Hall Lettings	£6,259	£23,759	£17,500	280%	Lettings now higher than pre Covid
215 - PCC Fees - Retained	£2,180	£2,569	£389	18%	More services in church
225 - Clergy Expenses	£101	£0	£-101	-100%	No vicar's expense claims in 2022
230 - Interest Received	£27	£260	£233	877%	Higher interest rates in 2022
247 - HMRC Furlough Grant	£3,639	£0	£-3,639	-100%	Furlough finished in 2021
Total Income	£81,890	£88,656	£6,767	8%	Overall Income increased with much higher Hall Lettings but significantly less Planned Giving than in 2021
Expenditure					
500 - 10% Giving	£6,630	£8,694	£2,065	31%	10% Giving in 2022 includes some catch up from 2021
501 - Donations and Grants	£213	£811	£598	281%	Eco Church donations and welcome to new vicar
505 - Heat and Light	£4,318	£6,680	£2,409	56%	Steep increase in energy costs in late 2022
506 - Rates and Water	£40	£47	£-40	-100%	No water bill in 2022
507 - Insurance	£6,332	£6,997	£665	10%	General premium increase

508 - Church Repairs	£3,580	£2,502	-£1,079	-30%	Fewer repairs in 2022
510 - Cleaning	£1,622	£5,477	£3,855	238%	Contract cleaners instead of Caretaker from April 2022
511 - Caretaker	£5,026	£1,264	-£3,762	-75%	Caretaker left on 31 March 2022
521 - Weekly Service Costs	£3,360	£3,362	£2	0%	
525 - Clergy Expenses	£78	£0	-£78	-100%	No vicar's expense claims in 2022
527 - Salary Secretary	£5,933	£7,338	£1,406	24%	Increase in hourly rate and hours from April 2022
528 - Printing, Postage Admin etc.	£851	£1,046	£195	23%	Additional software support cost in 2022
530 - Telephone	£877	£739	-£138	-16%	Reduced vicarage telephone cost in 2022
532 - Computer related	£972	£0	-£972	-100%	No specific computer expense in 2022
535 - Parish Share	£54,315	£50,516	-£3,799	-7%	Reduced Parish Share requested by Coventry Diocese
550 - Outreach	£0	£55	£55	0%	Christmas Service cards in 2022
565 - Independent Examination Fee	£1,116	£1,164	£48	4%	Inflationary increase
567 - Recruitment Costs	£624	£21	-£603	-97%	Recruitment costs for new vicar in 2021
Total Expenditure	£95,886	£96,714	£828	1%	Total expenses close to 2021 largely because of lower Parish Share
Income - Expenditure	-£13,996	-£8,057	£5,939	-42%	Lower loss than in 2021, would have broken even if Planned Giving had been maintained at 2021 level

I would like to thank everyone at church and our PCC for their generosity and support during the year, and again we are grateful to Burgis and Bullock for completing their review of our finances.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider that the liquid unrestricted reserves required by the Church should ideally be equivalent to a minimum of 3 months operating costs to cover the costs of winding up that would be incurred in the case of the Church ceasing to operate.

Thank you

Jim Keeley Treasurer

Please ask me about the various ways that you can give to the church.
Email jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com mobile 07906 220330 or ask me in church.

Optional Information

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to mention our churchwardens Garry Clark and Nick Shaw who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf and Jim Keeley who has helped us all to understand the church's accounts and its finances.

Structure, governance and management

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either *ex-officio*, co-opted to fulfil a certain role, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules as revised in 2022. Elected, co-opted and *ex-officio* members are the trustees of the Church, registered with the Charity Commission.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

PCC Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law, it has the power, delegated by the PCC, to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to directions given by the Council.

Members: Chris Routledge (Vicar), Nick Shaw (Warden), Garry Clarke (Warden), Peter Rogers (Deanery Synod member), David Bailey (PCC Secretary), Jim Keeley (Treasurer), Carole Harris (Lay Chair of PCC).

Administrative information

How you can get in touch with us:

The Church and the Office are situated on Vicarage Street. Please visit us on Sunday for any of our services

St Nicolas Church

Vicarage Street

Nuneaton

CV11 4AZ

You may phone:

Telephone: 02476 344553

Email: office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

Website: www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk

St. Nicolas Church is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number 1126349

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

		Serving Until	
Chair	Rev Chris Routledge	Vicar (<i>ex officio</i>)	(from September 2022)
Church Wardens	Nicholas Shaw	APCM 2023	
	Garry Clarke	APCM 2023	
Deanery Synod Members	John Hitchcock	APCM 2023	
	Peter Rogers	APCM 2023	
	Dean Moore	APCM 2023	
Elected Members	Jim Keeley	APCM 2024	PCC Treasurer
	David Bailey	APCM 2023	PCC Secretary
	Dawn Beasley	APCM 2024	
	Lynn Keeley	APCM 2025	Safeguarding Officer
	Sally-Anne Veasey	APCM 2023	
	Carole Harris	APCM 2023	Lay Chair of PCC
	Jean Bailey	APCM 2023	
	Marina Betteridge	APCM 2023	
	Adam Fielder	APCM 2023	
	Helen Fielder	APCM 2023	
	Julie Bannister	APCM 2024	

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE PCC OF ST NICOLAS CHURCH, NUNEATON

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiners statement

I have completed my examination, I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 130 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J S Farnell FCA
BURGIS & BULLOCK
Chartered Accountants
1 The Courtyard
Goldsmith Way
Eliot Park
Nuneaton
Warwickshire
CV10 7RJ

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 December 2022

RECEIPTS	Note 2	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2022	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary income		62,069		6,343		-		68,412	79,361
Income from investments		260		309		-		569	35
Income from Church activities		32,710		25		-		32,735	13,160
Other income		<u>758</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		758	2,171
TOTAL RECEIPTS			95,797		6,677		-	102,474	94,727
PAYMENTS	3	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2022	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church activities		101,543		6,609		-		108,152	109,289
Governance costs		1,164		-		-		1,164	1,116
Fixed asset costs		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		-	814
TOTAL PAYMENTS			102,707		6,609		-	109,316	111,219
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS) BEFORE TRANSFERS			(6,910)		68		-	(6,842)	(16,492)
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS			(46)		46		-	-	-
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)			(6,956)		114		-	(6,842)	(16,492)
CASH & BANK BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD 1/1/2022			29,720		33,090		567	63,377	79,869
CASH & BANK BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD 31/12/2022			<u>22,764</u>		<u>33,204</u>		<u>567</u>	<u>56,535</u>	<u>63,377</u>

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER
2022**

Cash and bank balances	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank current accounts	3,267	9,379	567	13,213	10,624
CBF deposit accounts	19,497	23,825	-	43,322	52,753
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-	-
Total cash and bank balances	22,764	33,204	567	56,535	63,377
Other monetary debtors					
Outstanding invoices and other debtors	4,616	-	-	4,616	1,870
Income tax recoverable	792	-	-	792	926
	5,408	-	-	5,408	2,796
Monetary liabilities					
Salaries and PAYE	(300)	-	-	(300)	-
Other creditors	(1,195)	-	-	(1,195)	(1,439)
	(1,495)	-	-	(1,495)	(1,439)
Total net monetary assets	26,677	33,204	567	60,448	64,734
Non-monetary assets					
	Original cost		Original cost		
	2022		2021		
	£		£		
Land and buildings - Church Centre	831,040		831,040		
Building improvements to Old Grammar School	53,908		53,908		
Fixtures and equipment (excluding moveable church furnishings held in special trust)	14,301		14,301		
Church AV system	41,153		41,153		
Computer	814		814		
	941,216		941,216		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts and payments basis.

In previous years the financial statements were prepared on an accruals basis, however the Church can now take advantage of preparing financial statements on a receipts and payments basis and has accordingly adopted this basis.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted funds relate to funds which must be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the PCC for particular purposes. Details of the funds held are provided in note 4.

Other monetary debtors

Other monetary debtors include income tax recoverable and amounts invoiced by the PCC which were unpaid at the year end.

Other monetary liabilities

Other monetary liabilities relate to amounts actually owed by the Church at the year end (or best estimate).

2. RECEIPTS

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2021	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary receipts								
Planned giving	44,926		-		-		44,926	52,610
Collections and other giving	3,190		343		-		3,533	4,800
Donations/Grants	2,484		6,000		-		8,484	9,349
Income tax recovered	11,469		-		-		11,469	12,602
	<u>62,069</u>		<u>6,343</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>68,412</u>	<u>78,361</u>
Investment income								
Bank and investment interest	<u>260</u>		<u>309</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>569</u>	<u>35</u>
Receipts from Church activities								
Church & Room Lettings/contributions	23,759		-		-		23,759	6,259
PCC & Assigned Fees	8,951		25		-		8,976	6,800
Clergy contributions	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>1101</u>
	<u>32,710</u>		<u>25</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>32,735</u>	<u>13,160</u>
Other receipts								
Insurance claim	-		-		-		-	-
Salary recharge - St James Church	<u>758</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>758</u>	<u>2,171</u>
	<u>758</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>758</u>	<u>2,171</u>
Total receipts	<u>95,797</u>		<u>6,677</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>102,474</u>	<u>94,547</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

3. PAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church activities								
10% Giving	8,694		-		-		8,694	6,629
Donations & special collections	811		429		-		1,240	354
Parish share	50,516		-		-		50,516	54,315
Assigned and service fees	5,235		-		-		5,235	4,688
Out reach	55		-		-		55	-
Water rates	47		-		-		47	40
Heat and light	6,680		-		-		6,680	4,318
Clergy, verger and other expenses	-		-		-		-	78
Insurance	6,997		-		-		6,997	6,332
Repairs & maintenance	2,502		-		-		2,502	5,358
Cleaning	6,742		-		-		6,742	6,648
Hall/Office Refreshments	-		-		-		-	170
Music	-		-		-		-	-
Service costs	3,362		145		-		3,507	3,360
Printing, Postage etc	1,046		-		-		1,046	681
Office telephone	739		-		-		739	877
Computer costs	-		-		-		-	158
Education	-		-		-		-	-
Secretary salary	7,338		-		-		7,338	5,933
Secretary salary - St James Church	758						758	2,940
Recruitment costs	21						21	624
Music Missioner expenditure	-		6,035		-		6,035	5,786
	101,543		6,609		-		108,152	109,289
Governance costs								
Legal fees	-		-		-		-	-
Independent examiners fees	1,164		-		-		1,164	1,116
	1,164		-		-		1,164	1,116
Asset purchases								
Fixed asset purchases	-		-		-		-	814
	-		-		-		-	814
Total payments	102,707		6,609		-		109,316	111,219

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted Fund Movements	Balance at				Balance at
	01-Jan-22	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31-Dec-22
	£	£	£	£	£
Bells Fund	6,025	96	-	-	6,121
Restoration Fund	25,893	309	-	-	26,202
Flowers Fund	341	-	(145)	-	196
Choir Fund	484	-	-	-	484
Organ Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage Fund	93	-	-	-	93
Open Book Fund	108	-	-	-	108
Special collections	146	272	(429)	11	-
Music Missioner Fund	-	6,000	(6,035)	35	-
	33,090	6,677	(6,609)	46	33,204

5. DESIGNATED FUNDS

Designated Fund Movements

Designated Fund Movements	Balance at				Balance at
	01-Jan-22	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31-Dec-22
	£	£	£	£	£
Lenton Family Fund	387	-	-	-	387
Ann Parkes for Childrens Activities	180	-	-	-	180
	567	-	-	-	567

5. CONTROLLING PARTY

St Nicolas Church is under the control of its PCC.

Accounts

St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ending 31st December 2021

Registered Charity Number 1126349

Incumbent:

Vacant
The Vicarage
61 Ambleside Way
Nuneaton
CV11 6AU

Bank:

Cooperative Bank

Independent Examiner:

J S Farnell (FCA)
Burgis & Bullock
1 The Courtyard
Goldsmith Way
Eliot Business Park
Nuneaton
CV10 7RJ

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**Going Deeper
Sowing Younger
Growing Community
...with Jesus at the centre.**



St Nicolas, Nuneaton

Introduction to the 2021 Report

Our Vision and Activities

Promoting Christianity through our vision of Going Deeper, Sowing Younger and Growing Community.

Our activities are summarised below:

- Public Worship weekly and other times.
- Community Centre used by local groups.
- Pastoral work and teaching.
- Support other charities including those overseas
- A new service pattern started in 2019 to further our Mission (service pattern temporarily suspended due to COVID restrictions).

Keeping Christ at the centre of our worship, being open to serve God and one another.

Wardens Report 2021

This year, following on from 2020, has definitely been the most unusual and challenging time that most of us can remember and had a considerable impact on our church life.

The changes due to Covid in 2020 continued into 2021 and meant a constant review of how we were able to function as a church. We were able to open, early on with restricted numbers and limited services. Sadly our hall users were unable to partake of the facility until much later in the year which has had a major impact of the church finances.

The departure of Kelly to Cornwall in April was a severe blow to the church community at St Nicolas and something of a shock to us all – we must thank her for her service here over many years as both curate and vicar, and wish her well in her new role.

After 10 years of dedicated service Roger decided to retire as Warden and Garry kindly agreed to step up to that role. Roger will be embarrassed if we say much – just need to record how valued all that he has done is, and long may he continue to set the church heating each week as the boilers are a mystery to everyone else!!

A small band of dedicated service leaders and helpers kept 'the show on the road' whilst maintaining their distance due to the virus risk. We have also been blessed with many visiting clergy to assist with Communion and other services. Huge thanks to Sally-Ann for all she has done for the service leadership team.

Thankfully the wonders of modern technology, Facebook and Zoom has enabled services to continue online and keep many in touch with each other, particularly those less able to get out and about.

Many special services were unable to take place such as the annual Mencap service, and the lunchtime carols. Only one school carol service managed to be arranged.

Many thanks to Terry, who, despite his advancing years, still comes up with some wonderful Flower arrangements to enhance special services.

Maintaining and running the church and hall buildings did manage to continue as normal, with the invaluable help of Marina & Colin.....plus the excellent gardening services by Ron earlier in the year before he moved to a different church. Anyone who wishes to pick up a fork and spade to continue Ron's superb work will be most appreciated.

Also thanks are due to Alan Sandford who still had to respond to alarms and various maintenance tasks for much of 2021. Sadly Alan has been incapacitated following major heart surgery and needs time to recover his strength – this meant that Nick had to learn the art of rodding a drain to unblock the toilets!!

Some urgent stonework and roofing repairs, highlighted in the 2020 Quinquennial report need to be done during 2022 as other issues prevented these during the year. Drains and gutters were still cleaned out, minor repairs still made and various servicing needs were still met.

We thank everyone for their huge contribution to church life, not only over the past year, for many years previously, and pray for God's blessing upon us all, now in the coming years ahead.

Garry Clarke & Nick Shaw Church Wardens

Service Leaders Report

The Sunday morning services are now led by a small leadership team, with one of the team taking responsibility for the service each week, coordinating the service planning, liaising with visiting preachers and preparing the PowerPoint. This has been successful as each of the leaders has increased their knowledge and become familiar with the planning process and the services are now running smoothly due to careful preparation and forward planning.

It has been notable that the service leaders have grown in confidence leading the service. The team meet regularly to share ideas and experiences and to encourage each other. This has taken the form of regular monthly breakfast meetings, planning the rota for the upcoming period and discussing any concerns or suggestions for improvement. The team have also undertaken some training in terms of how to conduct a service and with regards to some of the practicalities involved in organising the service, as well as offering each other spiritual encouragement, praying and reading the bible together. The team hope to undertake further training going forward, to help them to grow as spiritual leaders, and are encouraging other people to get involved in the service leadership role, offering mentoring as appropriate.

Sally-Ann, Carole, Dawn, Phil and John

Electoral Roll Information

How many church members do we have?

Year	Resident	Non residents	Total on roll
2018	84	58	142
2019	62	31	93
2020	68	39	107
2021	69	39	108

PCC Report for the Year

How many people attend our services on a Sunday? In 2015 we changed our pattern of services, and the way in which we record attendance, so the figures look a little different since 2015.

	2021**	2020**	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Sunday services	41	75	75	75	88	88	82	88	111
Easter	60	0	141	139	152	185	190		
Christmas + Advent	133	159	295	325	324	358	471		
Occasional Services	n/a	n/a	1283*	1043*	610*	978*	865*	47	65
Electoral Roll	108	107	93	142	138	132	121	119	113

* includes school carol services – the 2017 figure is reduced as bad weather caused 2 school services to be cancelled

**In 2020 we were open as normal until March, when the country and most of the world, went into lockdown, and at times we were forced to close. This is the reason for zero attendance at Easter, and due to restrictions at Christmas. When we were allowed to open it was with restricted capacity, and at a distance from one-another to maintain the 2 metre rule imposed by the government. The wearing of face coverings has become mandatory. Throughout, we have streamed our services over Facebook and have often achieved viewing figures of 2 to 300! Restrictions continued in 2021, and were gradually eased as far as church services were concerned.

PCC Responsibilities

St Nicolas PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church building and the Church Hall. During the COVID 19 pandemic the PCC has met online using Zoom.

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either *ex-officio*, co-opted to fulfil a certain role, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules as revised in 2001. Elected, co-opted and *ex-officio* members are the trustees of the Church, registered with the Charity Commission.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

		Serving Until	
Chair	(vacancy)	Vicar (<i>ex officio</i>)	
Church Wardens	Nicholas Shaw	APCM 2022	
	Garry Clarke	APCM 2022	
Deanery Synod Members	John Hitchcock	APCM 2023	
	Peter Rogers	APCM 2023	
	Dean Moore	APCM 2023	
Elected Members	Jim Keeley	APCM 2024	PCC Treasurer
	David Bailey	APCM 2023	PCC Secretary
	David Sedgewick	APCM 2024	
	Dawn Beasley	APCM 2024	
	Lynn Keeley	APCM 2022	Safeguarding Officer
	Sally-Anne Veasey	APCM 2023	
	Carole Harris	APCM 2023	Lay Chair of PCC
	Jean Bailey	APCM 2023	
	Marina Betteridge	APCM 2023	
	Adam Fielder	APCM 2023	
	Helen Fielder	APCM 2023	
	Julie Bannister	APCM 2024	

PCC Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law, it has the power, delegated by the PCC, to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to directions given by the Council.

Members: (Vicar), Nick Shaw (Warden), Garry Clarke (Warden), Peter Rogers (Deanery Synod member), David Bailey (PCC Secretary), Jim Keeley (Treasurer), Carole Harris (Lay Chair of PCC).

How you can get in touch with us at:

The Church and the Office are situated on Vicarage Street. Please visit us on Sunday for any of our services

St Nicolas Church

Vicarage Street

Nuneaton

CV11 4AZ

You may phone:

Telephone: 02476 344553

Email: office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

Website: www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk

or to:

David Bailey, PCC Secretary, 95 Grasmere Crescent, Nuneaton, CV11 6EB

Telephone: 02476 741209

Email: pccsecretary@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

David Bailey PCC Secretary

St Nicolas Church office and centre

The centre is a very popular venue and used every day by a wide range of community groups in Nuneaton and beyond (church, social services, children, etc.) for functions, meetings, and classes. Feedback is always positive from users who value the social support and opportunity to meet likeminded groups of people.

Some of the long-established groups who use the centre include:

- Contact Centre – weekly group sessions for supervised contact
- SWANS – Nuneaton based dementia group providing a fun outlet through singing for carers and those they care for.
- U3A – an association for people who have finished working full time or raising their families, who want to pursue other interests or try something new. Bridge Club
- GKR - Karate Classes
- Baby Hubs - play groups, baby massage, mummy meets, baby art sessions, etc.
- Sahil – Asian Community Support Group
- Royal Osteoporosis Society – Quarterly meetings, talks, etc.
- Yoga – Wednesday & Thursday
- Accord – Women’s Specialist offenders support group

New groups in 2022

- Change Grow Live – Support Group. Weekly All-day Thursday
- Warwickshire Tai chi – Monday, Wednesday & Friday evenings
- Paul Gannon Karate – Saturday afternoon
- SWFT NHS Child Health Clinic – Weekly Friday mornings

There are also rooms used for private parties and celebrations.

The centre is now thriving and in use most days and nights. This is very positive for the future.

The office Is the initial contact point for all enquiries: in person; by telephone and email. It is where many church functions are arranged and organised (weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.). It is also the administration hub for events, the centre, invoicing, bookings, resolving issues and generally responsible for all day-to-day activities.

Marina Betteridge Parish Administrator

Working with other parishes

At St Nicolas Church we have had our problems resulting from the onslaught of the Covid pandemic and also being in interregnum.

For my part, I believe that we have managed our worship and general administration remarkably well, all through the corporate efforts of church members. One way or another we have maintained the continuity of our services, both online for a time and now back in person again. We have remained undaunted.

This has not been the case with so many other churches locally, in particular the more rural parishes with smaller congregations and less resources than ourselves. They have been struggling to keep their worship going with any continuity and desperate for people to help with their services.

The supporting team at St Nicolas has been such a blessing to us all and it has freed me from some duties at St Nicolas to be of help to some of these struggling parishes, particularly in the leading and preaching at their services. Some parishes who are part of a benefice have held combined services to reduce the requirement for people to lead. Even then, it has been a major problem for the churchwardens to fill all the gaps. The whole situation has been exacerbated by there being numerous other vacancies in the deanery. The provision of Holy Communion has been especially difficult due to this shortfall in ordained clergy. From progress made so far, or lack of it, it seems that this is a situation for the long term and these parishes need our prayers and help where we can. I would find it no surprise to see a number of churches closing their doors in the not too distant future.

On a brighter note, these churches have dedicated members who work hard to maintain and bring their faith alive in their churches and communities and will be the core of any restoration and revival as we return to more ‘normal’ living and, hopefully, we will see the induction of more clergy to fill the vacancies within the Deanery. I have also learned that the ‘St Nicolas way’ is not the only way to worship. There is a refreshing variety of form and style in the worship of different churches. Bringing to mind the fact that our God is only interested in our true, heartfelt worship – it is us who pick the place and style. God will meet with us anywhere, anytime.

John Hitchcock

Children's activities - Messy Church

During 2021, we continued to organise Messy Church zoom sessions on a monthly basis, including: Palm Sunday in April; Pentecost in May; and God's creation (with a holiday theme) in July. We delivered goody bags beforehand, containing the resources needed for the activities, to our church families to encourage them to take part. The zoom sessions were well-attended, with around 10-15 children joining each time and we enjoyed a variety of online activities, stories, and songs – they were fun times connecting with our church families virtually, although noisy and chaotic on occasion!

We also set up a Messy Church WhatsApp group to keep families informed of upcoming events and used this forum to share links to activities, songs, and stories that families could enjoy together at home.

As Covid restrictions eased, we started to return to face-to-face Messy Church events, including a Messy Church light party in October. Attendance was initially low, and we decided to focus our efforts on encouraging families back to church through Messy Church type services on Sunday mornings. We incorporated messy activities, children's songs, interactive prayers, and godly play into the Sunday morning services. The Harvest Service in September and the Nativity service in December were well-attended, with children taking part in readings and prayers and in January, the Christingle service was very successful, a joyful service celebrating Jesus as light of the world. We are planning a Mothering Sunday service and a Palm Sunday service following the same pattern, encouraging children to get involved through readings, drama, playing music etc.

In 2022, we started to introduce children's activities at the 1st and 3rd Sundays (Holy Communion), with the children leaving the service during the reflection for their own story-telling or activity, and re-joining the main service to share the Peace. We hope this will encourage more families back to church on a regular basis.

Carole, Vicky, Anneka and Erin

Music at St Nicolas

Music Missioner

This was to be my last year in post as Music Missioner at St Nicolas, but due to the pandemic the PCC felt I had been unable to fulfil the original outcomes for this post and have been successful in gaining a year's funding from the diocese. Therefore, my post continues for a further year. I am grateful to this as the community aspect of this position had been curtailed. I continue to support the music at St Nicolas and at the moment trying to provide new and old music that supports the liturgy but also is inclusive to our intergenerational congregation.

Baby hub

I continued to support Mandy with online music sessions which appeared very popular. However, once we were able, I have now been able to forge face to face links and at Christmas the group came into church and I shared the Christmas story and some simple songs. Since January I now support the group with a fortnightly music session on a Monday, which after Easter will also happen on a Thursday.

St Nicolas Academy

I have supported the return of the school into church. Year 4 performed for family and friends with a harvest festival. In November Year 6 came to church for a remembrance service, where Nick and I led an interactive session including our own little World War 2 soldier and some singing.

At Christmas Year 3 performed a lovely nativity to family and friends. We look forward to welcoming a year group for Easter. I have met with the head, and I am looking forward to supporting a weekly lunchtime faith club along with YWAM for KS2 and every Monday till the summer term a class will come into church for an informal service.

SWANS (Singing With A New spirit)

St Nicolas SWANS has had, along with other organisations, a difficult time. However, we can now see our members beginning to return and new members joining us.

In April 2021 I continued to lead our sessions in an ONLINE (Facebook capacity) format. I was encouraged to see so many engaging with this form of communication and once we were able, I also led sessions from members gardens and homes. I am so grateful to the support I have continued to receive in delivering our weekly sessions to those living with Dementia and their carer's. But also, to our wonderful team of volunteers who rang our members throughout the pandemic. We really are blessed to have such a huge team of caring people.

At the end of August 2021, we decided to see how a face-to-face session would be received and initially we only had 9 members return. Then we had to close again due to Sally-Ann having covid. As I said it has been a very inconsistent time.

At Christmas we held our joint Christmas party at St Nicolas Church. We had almost 30 people altogether from both sessions attend. A little competition was organised by which everyone would bring their own packed lunch, but set it out to astound and impress linked to a Christmas theme. I didn't foresee how much excitement this would invoke. It was a huge success and a wonderful festive, and time of fun and fellowship was had by all.

Jan 2022 has been a time where old members have returned, and new members have been joining us. Our weekly numbers are between 20-30 each week.

Our wonderful PAT dog Daisy and her owner Judy continue to join us voluntarily basis each week. Well, she certainly enjoys her snack time from every member that's for sure.

Sadly, over the past year we have had to say goodbye to some of our members who have passed away. The beauty of SWANS is that their carers and family members continue to support each other with that SWANS family love and care, which is fantastic. Some members are now housebound, and others are in hospital or care homes with long-term conditions.

I am so grateful to our volunteers who prepare the refreshments, help to set up, and tidy away but most importantly engage with each other so admirably.

The situation in the Ukraine touched all our hearts and we as a group donated £250 towards to crisis.

We pray now that as we move away from the pandemic that we can rebuild SWANS and continue to be a great resource for those living with dementia, depression, bereavement, and loneliness.

Singing group

The continuation of the covid rules in 2021 meant we still had to be cautious whilst singing. However, I think we now don't take singing for services for granted. Singing is a great privilege and to be able to use our God-given gifts is a pleasure.

We continued to sing in a small group of 4 people for each service until we felt it was safe to build the numbers.

With PCC backing I produced a document outlining the roles and responsibilities of those wishing to sing for our worship. This has involved the teams getting together and discussing our faith and how music and singing enhances the worship but also helps us to engage with God on our life's journey. This is ongoing and we look forward to involving other church members in the future.

In November we held our first community choir for many years. We had 30 members

And began preparing for our Christmas tour. We performed at St James Christmas community fair, we then sang outside at Harmony House care home and our final community performance was at the Chines. All were gratefully received, and The Chines gave a donation to the church too.

Our final community performance was ably led and supported by Elaine and Anthony Newborough for our annual 9 Lessons and carols.

After our successful community choir our next venture came in the form of a TAIZE singing workshop day. We had 12 participants on the Saturday followed by a beautiful Taize healing service led by Rev Adrian Guthrie on the Sunday evening.

I am looking forward to planning a Gospel Choir workshop at the beginning of April to support our Easter services.

I continue to be thankful to the flexibility and positive attitude of all the singers of our team. Also, thanks to Anthony during this hard year for him and his family as he continues to support the music at our church.

Sally-Ann Veasey Music Missioner

10% Giving at St Nicolas 2021

Every year St Nicolas Church gives away a percentage of its income to charity, this is a part of the money given either on the collection plate or through people's bank accounts. It is 10% because there is a biblical precedent for a 10% 'tithe' to be made.

The nominated charities are chosen by the 10% group and then with the approval of the PCC, our treasurer sends the funds to each of those charities.

We have previously chosen 3 charities, one international, one national and one local which have a spread of interests both practical and spiritual and are representative of the mission of the Church.

It was decided early in 2021 in light of the Pandemic and other major global crises to make an immediate donation to the British Red Cross Global Coronavirus Appeal, and then later donations to other charities that were supporting a current crisis.

In addition, we have a long-term commitment to support Evelyn, a student living in Peru, through the charity Compassion.

a) In May 2021 our donation to the **British Red Cross Global Coronavirus Appeal** was £1389.

British Red Cross will help anyone, anywhere in the UK and around the world to get the support they need if a crisis strikes. They work around the world to help people facing hunger, who are caught up in conflict, and who had to flee their homes, in such places as Myanmar, Yemen and many other countries that are facing crises.

b) In September 2021 we then donated £1725 to the **Christian Aid for Haiti Appeal**

An earthquake in 2010 and then again another in 2021 had a devastating effect on Haiti, which was already the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. However, Haiti is now slowly rebuilding and moving on thanks to the help given by Christian Aid.

c) In November 2021 our next donation was £1725 to **Médecins Sans Frontières (UK)**.

On 11 November 2021, the Human Rights Watch reported that Afghanistan was facing widespread famine due to a collapsed economy and broken banking system".

Despite all of this, the charity Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is still providing emergency, paediatric and maternal healthcare in Afghanistan, the country which has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world.

d) In February 2022 we donated £950 to sponsor three DHU members for a five-month residential YWAM SAS 2022 course.

Ian Miskin

Safeguarding at St Nicolas 2021

We are fortunate that we have not had any safeguarding issues during the last year.

Two Lay Readers are booked to renew their level 3 training and our Church Wardens are completing their required training.

Our records with Coventry Diocese are up to date, and I joined a Coventry Diocese conference and had a one to one Zoom meeting with our delegated Safeguarding Officer where no concerns were raised.

Thank you to all the people in our Church who care for our children and young people.

Lynn Keeley Safeguarding Officer

Eco Church



In December 2020 St Nicolas registered its interest to participate in Eco Church.

- The five categories associated with the project are: Worship and Teaching, Buildings, Land, Community and Global Engagement.
 - In March 2021 we gained our bronze award in recognition of the efforts of the church.
 - As the land does not belong to us we can put bees on our roof, ask the local authority to maintain the graveyard in an ecological friendly manner and plant some biodiversity flowers such as corn flowers.
 - As we work towards our Silver award we need to:
1. Increase our virtual presence and regularly promote eco tips.
 2. Engage more with projects such as Fairtrade.
 3. Organise environmental awareness-raising events.
 4. Participate in local conservation work e.g ARocha.
 5. Promote walking and cycling.

6. Encourage the congregation to undertake a personal carbon footprint audit.
7. Encourage members to use food at home –LOAF.
8. Undertake an environmental lifestyle audit.

Dean Moore

St Nicolas C of E Academy

There are close links between St Nicolas Church and our local C of E primary school with visits from several members of the church to the school to help with various activities and assemblies, and visits from the school to the church over the year, and especially at Christmas. The PCC is responsible for nominating the Foundation Governors, and several church members are governors of the school. It is to be hoped that as things continue to get back to normal, more links will be formed between St Nicolas Church and St Nicolas Academy.

Report on the proceedings of Nuneaton Deanery Synod, 2021

The first meeting of the synod on 24 February was held on the Zoom platform.

The synod was welcomed to the meeting by Revd, David Poultney, Area Dean and opening prayer was led by Revd. Gail Philip

The first item on the agenda was the election of officers as follows:

Mr David Spiers: Lay Chair

Secretary: Anne Dickinson

Lay members of Standing Committee: Pat Hathaway, Sam Margrave, Geoff Popejoy

Clergy members of Standing Committee: Revd. David Poultney (Area Dean), Revd. Gail Philip (Asst. Area Dean), Revd. Michael Brandsma, Revd. Alison Evans, Revd, Heather Barnes

Terms of reference for the Standing Committee and the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Committee were then agreed.

Gail Philip then shared a presentation on Living in Love and Faith which recently featured as a Wednesday Evening Group at St Nicolas.

Sam Margrave, a Diocesan Representative on General Synod then spoke on “What has been going on at General Synod”

Finally, there was a discussion on Covid and its impact on the churches and parishes in our deanery before closing worship.

The second meeting of the synod on 27 May was also held on the Zoom platform.

Members were welcomed By David Spiers, lay Chair

The Venerable Sue Field, Archdeacon Pastor and Dr Yvonne Warren presented an initiative on Clergy Wellbeing followed by discussions and questions.

The Reverend Tim Mitchell, Healthy Churches Development Mentor talked about a proposed Deanery Mission and Ministry Plan about creating a vision for the future; following a discussion it was agreed that this would be discussed at a Deanery Away morning in July.

The meeting was closed with worship led by Revd. Michael Brandsma.

The final meeting of the synod on 3 November was held in the Saints building.

Revd. Dave Poultney gave a warm welcome to everybody attending. Jet Jones (Together for Change) welcomed everybody to Saints Nuneaton and shared the vision and progress of the project. She prayed for the Synod members and the meeting.

Motions on Child Friendly liturgy for The Eucharist and on the use of single cups for the administration of Holy Communion were discussed; these will be sent up to Diocesan Synod for discussion there.

The Revd. Dave Poultney (Area Dean) introduced the Nuneaton Mission and Ministry Plan, explaining how it had been developed and following a discussion and suggestions, the Deanery Standing Committee will review these and incorporate them into a future version of the plan.

Finally, Revd. Dave Poultney closed the meeting in prayer.

Clergy Vacancies:

Fillongley & Corley are once more in interregnum and obviously St Nicolas is still in interregnum.

The PCC at Camp Hill have recommended that the Church be closed; this is under discussion at Diocesan level and a plan is under discussion for the future.

The vacancy at St Mary Abbey has now been filled by Father Roger Butcher.

Finally, I would like to conclude by thanking your other synod representatives Dean Moore and John Hitchcock for their support during the last Deanery year.

Peter Rogers 7 March 2022

St Nicolas P.C.C Treasurer's Annual Report for 2021

Income and Expenditure

The table shows the operational income and expenditure for 2021 and a comparison with 2020. There are explanations for the differences.

The Coronavirus pandemic continued to have a major effect on church income, especially for Hall bookings which were very low for a second year.

We claimed Furlough for our staff until September and this helped our income by £3,639.

Most expenditure items continued as for 2020 with some annual increases.

The net deficit for 2021 was £13,996. This is an improvement on 2020 which was £17,443. We continue to use savings to bridge the gap between income and expenditure.

Income	2021	2020	Difference	%	Comment
Voluntary Giving	£69,685	£69,020	£665	0.96%	
Church and Room Lettings	£6,259	£6,560	-£301	-4.59%	Reduced operation in both years
Fees (weddings, funerals)	£2,180	£1,028	£1,152	112.06%	Reduced restrictions later in 2021
HMRC Furlough	£3,639	£3,088	£550	17.82%	More Furlough months in 2021
Grants	£0	£450	-£450		No grants in 2021
Other Income	£127	£437	-£309	-70.87%	Less bank interest because we have used savings to bridge the income and expenditure gap
Total Income	£81,890	£80,583	£1,306	1.62%	
Expenditure					
10% Giving and small donations	£6,843	£5,691	£1,152	20.23%	See 10% Giving below
Parish Share	£54,315	£53,250	£1,065	2.00%	
Music and Service Costs	£3,360	£3,276	£84	2.56%	
Insurance	£6,332	£6,168	£164	2.66%	
Utilities, heat, light, water	£4,358	£5,495	-£1,137	-20.69%	Less use of church and hall in 2021
Church and Hall repairs and maintenance	£3,580	£5,986	-£2,406	-40.20%	Fewer repairs in 2021
Computer related	£972	£0	£972		New computer in 2021
Outreach	£0	£2,500	-£2,500		No Outreach in 2021 (was 20s to 30s worker)
Other Operating costs, cleaning, salaries, expenses, professional fees	£16,126	£15,660	£467	2.98%	
Total Expenditure	£95,886	£98,026	-£2,140	-2.18%	
Income - Expenditure	-£13,996	-£17,443	£3,446		

Voluntary Giving - God Loves a Cheerful Giver

Voluntary Giving stayed very similar to 2020. Both are a reduction of around £4,000 compared to 2019. Both reduced regular giving and less money given at services have contributed to this situation.

In response to a general growing preference not to use cash, we have introduced new ways of giving in 2021, an online donation button on our website and a QR code printed on new yellow collection envelopes. We are pleased that people are starting to use these methods and donations using the contactless device in church have also increased.

10% Giving

We gave £6,843 to other charities in 2021, most of it in response to emergencies (India Covid, Haiti earthquake and Afghanistan). We have £6,969 available to give to charities in 2022.

Looking Ahead

We are able to meet more in person now and we plan to continue our online presence alongside our physical activities.

Our day to day expenditure continues to be stable and predictable with little variation each year; and there is little scope to reduce it.

Our focus is to increase our income.

We are pleased to be taking more bookings for the Church Hall and this will make a big difference to our income. However, the increase will not compensate for the reduction in voluntary giving.

We must increase voluntary giving for our income to cover our expenditure.

We understand that times are going to be harder for many people with increasing energy costs and inflation at around 7%.

Recognising these difficult times and understanding that this is a hard ask, please will you prayerfully consider if you can find a way to increase your giving to the church? Thank you.

Burgis and Bullock

Finally, on behalf of myself and St Nicolas Church, I would like to thank Jayne Benford and her colleagues at Burgis and Bullock for their help with their review and assistance with the interpretation of our accounts.

Thank you

Jim Keeley Treasurer

Please ask me about the various ways that you can give to the church.

Email jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com mobile 07906 220330 or ask me in church.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE PCC OF ST NICOLAS CHURCH, NUNEATON

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 15 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiners statement

I have completed my examination, I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 130 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J S Farnell FCA
BURGIS & BULLOCK
Chartered Accountants
1 The Courtyard
Goldsmith Way
Eliot Park
Nuneaton
Warwickshire
CV10 7RJ

Date

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 December 2021

RECEIPTS	Note 2	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2021	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary income		74,035		5,146		180		79,361	78,359
Income from investments		23		12		-		35	348
Income from Church activities		13,160		-		-		13,160	9,791
Other income		<u>2,171</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		2,171	967
TOTAL RECEIPTS			89,389		5,158		180	94,727	89,465
PAYMENTS									
	3								
Church activities		101,584		7,705		-		109,289	105,798
Governance costs		1,116		-		-		1,116	1,092
Fixed asset costs		<u>814</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		814	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS			103,514		7,705		-	111,219	106,890
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS) BEFORE TRANSFERS			(14,125)		(2,547)		180	(16,492)	(17,425)
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS			(197)		197		-	-	-
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)			(14,322)		(2,350)		180	(16,492)	(17,425)
CASH & BANK BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD 1/1/2021			44,042		35,440		387	79,869	97,294
CASH & BANK BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD 31/12/2021			<u>29,720</u>		<u>33,090</u>		<u>567</u>	<u>63,377</u>	<u>79,869</u>

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER
2021**

Cash and bank balances	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank current accounts	483	9,574	567	10,624	7,120
CBF deposit accounts	29,237	23,516	-	52,753	72,718
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-	-
Total cash and bank balances	29,720	33,090	567	63,377	79,838
Other monetary debtors					
Outstanding invoices and other debtors	1,870	-	-	1,870	3,168
Income tax recoverable	926	-	-	926	817
	2,796	-	-	2,796	3,985
Monetary liabilities					
Salaries and PAYE	-	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	(1,439)	-	-	(1,439)	(1,409)
	(1,439)	-	-	(1,439)	(1,409)
Total net monetary assets	31,077	33,090	567	64,734	82,414
Non-monetary assets					
	Original cost		Original cost		
	2021		2020		
	£		£		
Land and buildings - Church Centre	831,040		831,040		
Building improvements to Old Grammar School	53,908		53,908		
Fixtures and equipment (excluding moveable church furnishings held in special trust)	14,301		14,301		
Church AV system	41,153		41,153		
Computer	814		-		
	941,216		940,402		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts and payments basis.

In previous years the financial statements were prepared on an accruals basis, however the Church can now take advantage of preparing financial statements on a receipts and payments basis and has accordingly adopted this basis.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted funds relate to funds which must be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the PCC for particular purposes. Details of the funds held are provided in note 4.

Other monetary debtors

Other monetary debtors include income tax recoverable and amounts invoiced by the PCC which were unpaid at the year end.

Other monetary liabilities

Other monetary liabilities relate to amounts actually owed by the Church at the year end (or best estimate).

2. RECEIPTS

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary receipts								
Planned giving	52,610		-		-		52,610	52,137
Collections and other giving	4,474		146		180		4,800	4,515
Donations/Grants	4,349		5,000		-		9,349	9,199
Income tax recovered	12,602		-		-		12,602	12,508
	74,035		5,146		180		79,361	78,359
Investment income								
Bank and investment interest	23		12		-		35	348
Receipts from Church activities								
Church & Room Lettings/contributions	6,259		-		-		6,259	6,560
PCC & Assigned Fees	6,800		-		-		6,800	3,043
Clergy contributions	101		-		-		101	188
	13,160		-		-		13,160	9,791
Other receipts								
Insurance claim	-		-		-		-	-
Salary recharge - St James Church	2,171		-		-		2,171	967
	2,171		-		-		2,171	967
Total receipts	89,389		5,158		180		94,547	94,547

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2021

3. PAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church activities								
10% Giving	6,629		-		-		6,629	5,691
Donations & special collections	213		141		-		354	594
Parish share	54,315		-		-		54,315	53,250
Assigned and service fees	4,688		-		-		4,688	1,576
Out reach	-		-		-		-	2,500
Water rates	40		-		-		40	43
Heat and light	4,318		-		-		4,318	5,452
Clergy, verger and other expenses	78		-		-		78	292
Insurance	6,332		-		-		6,332	6,168
Repairs & maintenance	3,580		1,778		-		5,358	5,986
Cleaning	6,648		-		-		6,648	6,513
Hall/Office Refreshments	170		-		-		170	110
Music	-		-		-		-	479
Service costs	3,360		-		-		3,360	2,797
Printing, Postage etc	681		-		-		681	752
Office telephone	877		-		-		877	815
Computer costs	158		-		-		158	-
Education	-		-		-		-	-
Secretary salary	5,933		-		-		5,933	5,986
Secretary salary - St James Church	2,940						2,940	967
Recruitment costs	624						624	
Music Missioner expenditure	-		5,786		-		5,786	5,827
	101,584		7,705		-		109,289	105,798
Governance costs								
Legal fees	-		-		-		-	-
Independent examiners fees	1,116		-		-		1,116	1,092
	1,116		-		-		1,116	1,092
Asset purchases								
Fixed asset purchases	814		-		-		814	-
	814		-		-		814	-
Total payments	103,514		7,705		-		111,219	106,890

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2021

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted Fund Movements	Balance at				Balance at
	01-Jan-21	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31-Dec-21
	£	£	£	£	£
Bells Fund	6,025				6,025
Restoration Fund	27,659	12	(1,778)		25,893
Flowers Fund	341				341
Choir Fund	484				484
Organ Fund	-				-
Heritage Fund	93				93
Open Book Fund	108				108
Special collections	141	146	(141)		146
Music Missioner Fund	589	5,000	(5,786)	197	-
	35,440	5,158	(7,705)	197	33,090

5. DESIGNATED FUNDS

Designated Fund Movements

Designated Fund Movements	Balance at				Balance at
	01-Jan-21	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31-Dec-21
	£	£	£	£	£
Lenton Family Fund	387				387
Ann Parkes for Childrens Activities	-	180			180
	387	180	-	-	567

5. CONTROLLING PARTY

St Nicolas Church is under the control of its PCC.

Accounts

St Nicolas P.C.C Treasurer's Annual Report for 2020

Income and Expenditure

The table shows the operational income and expenditure for 2020 and a comparison with 2019. There are explanations for the differences.

The Coronavirus pandemic had a major effect on church finances and continues to do so in 2021.

All three income streams were affected, Hall bookings being by far the most significant.

We claimed Furlough for our staff from April and this helped our income by £3,088.

Most expenditure items continued as for 2019 with some annual increases.

The net deficit for 2020 was £17,343.

Item	2020	2019	Difference	%	Comment
Income					
Voluntary Giving	£69,020	£73,518	£-4,498	-6	Direct payments to bank up, Church collections down
Church and Room Lettings	£6,560	£22,533	£-15,973	-71	Lettings closed during March, a few more in Autumn
Fees (weddings, funerals)	£1,028	£4,277	£-3,249	-76	Fewer funerals and weddings
Insurance Claims	£0	£1,812	£-1,812	n/a	no claims in 2020
HMRC Furlough	£3,088	£0	£3,088	n/a	Claiming from April 2020
Other Income	£887	£665	£222	33	2020 includes a grant towards the Church WiFi
Net Income	£80,583	£102,804	£-22,221	-22	
Expenditure					
10% Giving	£5,691	£7,500	£-1,809	-24	£1453 from 2020 was paid in 2021
Parish Share	£53,250	£51,925	£1,325	3	Annual increase
Music and Service Costs	£3,276	£3,143	£133	4	Additional licences
Insurance	£6,168	£5,898	£270	5	Annual increase
Utilities , heat, light, water	£5,495	£7,111	£-1,616	-23	Reduced use of the premises
Church and Hall repairs and maintenance	£5,986	£5,229	£757	14	Includes cost of Quinquennial Inspection
Other Operating costs, cleaning, salaries, expenses	£18,060	£18,940	£-881	-5	Reduced cleaning and printing costs
Net Expenditure	£97,926	£99,746	£-1,820	-2	
Net Income - Net Expenditure	£-17,343	£3,058	£-20,401		

Voluntary Giving - God Loves a Cheerful Giver

There has been an overall reduction of £4,498 in voluntary giving.

The envelope system and weekly collections in church have reduced as expected during the Coronavirus pandemic. Some of this has been offset by an increase in the number of people paying directly into our church bank account, either by joining the Parish Giving Scheme or by paying directly from their own bank accounts.

Parish Giving Scheme

The Parish Giving Scheme is a direct debit scheme for regular giving run by the Church of England at no charge to the church. It incorporates an annual review of the regular amount that you want to give, and it is more secure than other regular giving methods.

We are encouraging all taxpayers to join the scheme; you can now join online as well as by post. <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/> .Please contact Jim Keeley for details.

Contactless Giving

The contactless giving device at the back of church is quick and simple to use, and we encourage more people to use it during our services when we take a collection; or before or after a service.

Please note. We can claim 25% tax credits on single donations of up to £30 on contactless giving (i.e. an additional £7.50 on a donation of £30). For donations of more than £30 at one time, please help us by making more than one donation of smaller amounts (e.g. 2 donations of £25 instead of one donation of £50 would enable us to claim £6.25 for each donation, one donation of £50 would not allow us to claim).

Envelope System

The envelope system has been stopped in 2021, very few people were using it and the cost of administration has become too high to continue.

We have been in touch with our envelope givers and explained the alternatives to them.

10% Giving

We gave £5,691 to other charities in 2020 (the remaining £1,453 being given in 2021). We have £6,902 available to give to charities in 2021.

Quinquennial Inspection

The Quinquennial inspection was made in 2020 and we have received a comprehensive report detailing the work required with estimated costs and priorities.

We are working on the items from this report and we plan to use our Restoration Fund to cover the costs.

Looking Ahead

We have successfully adapted and delivered our church services and activities during the restrictions of last year, and now our online presence is established and working alongside our physical activities. We are reaching many of our existing congregation and we are also engaging new people, which is very encouraging

However, the Coronavirus has had a major impact on our church finances in 2020 and continues to do so in 2021. We have drawn on savings to manage cash flow and we will need to continue during 2021.

Our day to day expenditure is stable and predictable with little variation each year; there is little scope to reduce it.

Our focus must be to increase our income.

Income from groups using the church hall will increase as lockdown is eased later this year. It will be a gradual process through 2021 and into 2022, and we cannot guarantee that we will reach our previous level of income.

Voluntary giving is the other area to focus on increasing our income. We understand that times are hard for many people, but please can we ask that you prayerfully consider if you can find a way to increase your giving to the church? Thank you if you can.

Burgis and Bullock

Finally, on behalf of myself and St Nicolas Church, I would like to thank Jayne Benford and her colleagues at Burgis and Bullock for their help with their review and assistance with the interpretation of our accounts.

Thank you

Jim Keeley Treasurer