



**Trustees' Report for submission to  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2023  
To be held on Sunday 28th April 2024**

## **Rector's report (March - December 2023)**

Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes,  
Five hundred twenty-five thousand, moments so dear.  
Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes  
How do you measure, measure a year?  
In daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee  
In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife.  
In five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes  
How do you measure a year in the life?

The lyrics above are from a song called Seasons of Love from the gritty musical RENT, and asks how you would measure a year? I wonder what you would say for this last year at church? What has God been up to and where has he invited us to join in with him? At our APCM last year we launched a season of discernment to prayerfully listen to God through our local community and church family. We shall be sharing what has come from this with our missional priorities at this year's APCM.

Reading through the organisational reports you will get a sense of a vibrant and diverse worshipping community that has sought to share the good news of Jesus through prayer, teaching and community involvement. Highlights for me last year were our Angel Day, launching our youth group, our all-in café style communion worship at Pentecost, pulling pints in the Rose and of course my licencing service. We have been generously and warmly welcomed into the heart of our church and local community, we feel at home and love opening up the vicarage for hospitality.

A heartfelt thanks go to the PCC, our trustee board, who have worked extremely hard during 2023 to embed robust employment and safeguarding procedures. A special thanks to Sue, Lynn and Sue who step down from their PCC roles this year. The JAM leaders have continued to accompany our children and young people, using a new teaching curriculum, ROOTS, which saw everyone in our three morning services follow the Lectionary; one church congregation with three different expressions of worship. After trialling the adults going to the hall for their teaching at the 9.30 service there was unanimous support to make this permanent. An increase in numbers at the 8.30 service and more musicians involved at the 9.30 service meant we needed to find a better place to conduct our early morning Communion service. Another trial, using the Memorial Chapel and Choir stalls, resulted in unanimous support for the choir stalls and we have enjoyed the sacredness of this area. We saw a deepening of relationships with the Resident Association, both Rev Sally and I sit on their committee, and this culminated in a wonderful outdoor carol service at the Athletics' club with over 100 residents coming and Katie Walderman from BBC Look West switching our Christmas tree lights on.

Throughout 2023 the PCC navigated our Diocesan initiative, Fit for Mission, which by the time you read this we will have voted on our level of engagement. We're also getting ready to launch ChurchSuite, an IT management system which will enable data to be held centrally, making it accessible and easy for all to know what is going on in our church.

As a church we exist to give glory to God and shine as a light with him and for him. 2023 has been no exception and in the cups of coffee shared after services, and in our various groups, the friendships formed have contributed to this glory. Let's take all that was good, even those deeply sad times too, with us into 2024 as we seek to live our best life with Jesus through inspiring and serving our community by sharing faith and working for justice.

My deep thanks for everything you do to keep our church on the hill shining brightly for Christ;

Every blessing,

Rev Rachel.

## Introduction

This report is prepared as required by the Church Accounting Regulations, 2006.

### 1. Our Buildings

The church was built in 1875 of Woolton quarry sandstone and restored in the 1950s following major war damage. An adjoining church hall was built in 1975 as part of the centenary celebrations. A new vicarage was built adjacent to the church grounds in 1986. A major programme of refurbishment was carried out in the 1990s following the sale of the old vicarage, Kilimatindi House. This was completed in 2017 with the extension and refurbishment of the church rooms. The church and rooms continue to be used as a community hub by residents and local groups.

### 2. Our Parish and Community

The church is located at the south end of the Parish boundary, so the natural catchment area of the parish is not reflected in the boundary. We can attract people who live outside our parish but feel that this is where they belong. It is a long way from the two farthest ends and people at these extremes tend to look to nearer churches in the first instance. This has the potential to impact on the involvement in and relationship to some areas in our community. We see this as an exciting challenge and another opportunity for growth.

Mossley Hill is a popular, family friendly residential suburb with a strong sense of community, located to the south of the city. It is a lovely area of Liverpool, combining gorgeous green areas, famous roads and lots of independent local businesses. The area has a great selection of properties available with lots of semi-detached house, some detached and terraced streets.

Rose Lane is a pretty part of Mossley Hill, with cafes, a pub, restaurants, shops and a dental practice dotted along its length. Linking Aigburth Road and Allerton Road it's a popular destination and thoroughfare. There is a large Tesco store on the road as well as other convenience stores along the way.

The parish and catchment area is expected to boom in numbers in the coming years with the university halls of residence closing to become residential housing. There has been a significant housing development across the road from the church and we are starting to welcome some new residents. This will be an exciting time for mission and growth.

Mossley Hill Athletics club is next door to the church and is one of the leading sports and social clubs in South Liverpool and has been part of the community since 1924. There are over 1,000 members playing archery, bowls, cricket, football, hockey, rugby, running and tennis. We maintain good links with the club.

There are a number of highly rated schools in the area with 2 schools in the parish itself. Liverpool College is an academy taking children from primary through to secondary ages. It has good links with us and uses the church for a variety of services and concerts. The other school is Greenbank Primary school which is close to a park area. We have welcomed classes from the school to sing at concerts and to visit the church to learn about its history and faith. The area close to the parish is well served by several other excellent primary and secondary schools.

**Electoral Roll Numbers** at 31 December 2023 were 245

During this year our average Sunday attendance across usual services was 175 adults and 92 under 16's

From our Occasional Office's register we are pleased to report we held 14 baptisms, 2 weddings, and 8 funerals in church with 2 burial of ashes in our Memorial Garden. We also had the privilege of conducting 5 funeral services at the Crematorium.

## **1.2 Administrative information**

### **1.2.1 Name and Address of Church**

St Matthew and St James, Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, L18 8DB  
Parish no 653, Liverpool South Childwall Deanery.

A post box is on the wall by the Hilltop Centre doors and is checked regularly.

### **1.2.2 Correspondence address for Parochial Church Council**

Parochial Church Council Secretary: Susan Mason,  
PCC Lay Chair: Lynn Halliday  
c/o church administrator- Kathryn Topping tel. 07544 882529,  
email: [mossleyhillchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mossleyhillchurchoffice@gmail.com)

### **1.2.3 PCC membership**

**Clergy:** Rector: Rev. Rachel Archer, licensed on 11th March 2023  
Associate minister: Sally Anne Mason, appointed in June 2019

**Church Wardens:** Sue Bishop and Michael Swinson were reelected APCM 2023

**Elected Members:** There are 14 elected members of the PCC up to April 2023 and 12 members from April 2023-December 2023.

Debbie Chadwick (resigned 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023), Susan Mason, Brian Ellison, Jan Mccloughlin  
David Felgate (deceased January 2023) Keri Owen, Graeme Tolmaer,  
Angie Kenny, Yvonne Watson, the Rev. Sally Anne Mason (co-opted).  
Alison Thompson, Stuart Thomson, Jill Pope, Louise Jones (both Jill and Louise resigned April 2023) and Robert Bird.

#### **Ex Officio:**

**Deanery Synod:** Lynn Halliday, Pat Kennick and Margaret Swinson.

**Diocesan Synod:** David Bishop, and Michael Swinson

### **1.2.4 Bankers**

Barclays Bank – Barclays, Leicester LE87 2BB.

### **1.2.5 Independent Examiner**

Helen Head

### **1.2.6 Day to Day Managerial Control**

Day to day managerial control of the Church was exercised by our Churchwardens, Sue Bishop and Michael Swinson during the interregnum and then it was shared with the Rector from March 11<sup>th</sup> 2023.

## **Structure, Management and Governance**

### **1.3.1 PCC Constitution**

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956. The PCC became a registered charity (1128486) which was effective from 11<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

### **1.3.2 Related Trusts**

- Milne Bequest
- Holmes Bequest
- Clock Fund
- Monuments Upkeep Fund
- Gate Fund
- Gladstone Buckley Trust Fund
- Memorial Fund
- Ritchie Bequest Fund
- Church Institute Trust Fund
- Mossley Hill Church School Fund

### **1.3.3 PCC Appointments**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The following PCC officers were re-elected:

- PCC Lay Chair: Lynn Halliday
- PCC Treasurer: Keri Owen
- PCC Secretary: Susan Mason
- Standing Committee Elected Representative: Pat Kennick (elected Lay representative); Sue Bishop, Michael Swinson (churchwardens from April 2022) Lynn Halliday (Lay chair) Keri Owen (treasurer) Sue Mason (secretary) Rev Rachel Archer (Rector)

Other officers are:

- Gift Aid Officer: Pat Kennick
- Electoral Roll Officer: Alison Thompson
- Safeguarding Officer : Charlie Jones
- Clerk of Works: Graeme Tolmaer

### **1.3.4 Training**

During 2023 volunteers were encouraged to undertake training relevant to their volunteering position. In the year ahead through the work of the safeguarding committee all volunteers will be invited to undertake basic and foundation online safeguarding training. Specific training courses undertaken in 2023 were on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November. This took the form of an away day for the PCC and was held at St Peter's, Woolton, when we discussed and formulated the most recent Vision and Mission statement and the findings from the Season of Discernment.

### **1.3.5 PCC Organisation**

PCC has up to 17 members elected at the Annual Meeting. Elected members serve a maximum 3-year term, with a third of the members are elected each year.

PCC Ex-officio members consist of:

- Team Rector- Rev Rachel Archer
- 3 Deanery Synod Members

- 2 Diocesan Synod Members
- 2 Churchwardens

Brian Ellison chairs the Finance Committee who provide information to the PCC and this input is much appreciated.

PCC meetings are usually held face-to-face and occasionally on Zoom. These meetings were chaired by Lynn Halliday, our Lay Chair.

The PCC meetings were as follows: 10<sup>th</sup> January, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 19<sup>th</sup> April (APCM), 16<sup>th</sup> May, 24<sup>th</sup> May, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 12<sup>th</sup> September, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 14<sup>th</sup> November, 18<sup>th</sup> November (Away Day at St Peter's church, Woolton), 5<sup>th</sup> December, 11<sup>th</sup> December.

The SC meetings were as follows: 17<sup>th</sup> January, 14<sup>th</sup> February, 20<sup>th</sup> February, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 19<sup>th</sup> July,

At our annual meeting in 2023 we came together to celebrate Communion and all that had been achieved in the last year. This year we are trialling having the annual meeting as part of our morning worship so that as member adults and children as possible can celebrate the life of our church.

### **1.3.6 Assessment of Risks**

The PCC holds Public Liability Insurance (Ecclesiastical Parishguard). As part of our safeguarding review begun in March 2023, risk assessments are becoming a priority for the year ahead and all groups are receiving training and support about how to carry them out. The Finance Committee in 2024 is writing our risk management policy. The Church has prepared an Asbestos Register, as required by the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006.

## **1.4 Objectives and Activities**

### **1.4.1 Primary Aims and Objectives**

The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states the PCC is "to cooperate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical". When planning our activities for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion.

At St Matthew and St James, we have a Church Mission Statement which confirms our mission to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.

As part of the season of discernment which was launched at our APCM in 2023 we embarked on a period of deep listening to God and what he was inviting us to join in with him in doing. Through community and church surveys, prayer breakfasts and walks, focus groups and conversations, the PCC have written a new vision and mission statement:

**Vision:** living your best life with Jesus

**Mission:** inspiring and serving our community by sharing faith and working for justice.

### **1.4.1 Main Achievements for the Year 2023**

#### **Our new Rector-Rev. Rachel Archer:**

At the beginning of the year we were still in interregnum although we were eagerly awaiting the licensing of Rev Rachel Archer in March. It has been a very busy time for the church worship leaders, the PCC and the Standing Committee. We would like to thank our worship leaders- Maggie Swinson, Rev. Sally Ann Mason and David Bishop for their hard work and their unceasing devotion to the church and it's ministry.

In March we welcomed our new Rector, Rev. Rachel Archer and her family! Rachel started her ministry with us on Saturday 11th March 2023 when she was licenced as our Rector by Bishop Beverley, Bishop of Warrington and her induction and installation by Rev. Miranda Threlfall-Holmes (acting Archdeacon of Liverpool)

#### **Margaret Swinson:**

It was with great pleasure that Canon Maggie Swinson, a lay canon of the Church of England, in February was elected as the new chair of the Global Anglican Consultative Council. We offer her our sincerest congratulations!

#### **Warm Space:**

Our Warm Spaces initiative started in December 2022 and continued until March 2023. We provided a warm welcome with hot drinks and plenty of cake or toast. We found it a struggle to bring people in but felt that this might be due to our location being on the hill. We made flyers and distributed them around the parish plus we saturated all our social media. Those that did come along appreciated the welcome given and we were in turn blessed by them. We had a faithful team of volunteers who made this happen for which we are very grateful. The decision was made in March 2023 not to continue this further but there may be other ways we can bless our community through such hospitality going forward..

#### **Prayer Ministry:**

This has been a very lively group, meeting for morning prayer Monday to Friday at 9.00am in the Memorial chapel and evening prayer held on Zoom on Tuesday to Friday. There have been prayer breakfasts, Prayer Walks (as part of our Season of Discernment) and in May during 'Thy Kingdom Come' the church was open on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May for the use of our interactive and creative prayer stations.

#### **King's Coronation:**

2023 saw King Charles III's coronation. The church's 'Knit and Natter Group' knitted and crocheted small crowns which were hung on our boundary wall as a gift to our community. The church tower was also lit for three consecutive nights along with the union flag. We held a special service on Coronation Sunday followed by refreshments and Coronation Cake. We all had a very enjoyable time. **Long live the King!**

#### **Heritage Day:**

This was a wonderful opportunity on 23<sup>rd</sup> September for people to come and see our church, find out about our history and listen to our wonderful Father Willis organ. Refreshments were served throughout the day and we welcomed community organizations (Guiding, Friends of Sudley, Residents Association and RSPB) as well.

#### **Season of Discernment:**

As already mentioned the season of discernment enabled us to listen deeply to God and we have discerned 6 missional priorities for the years ahead. Please see our objectives for 2024.

### **Holiday club:**

As usual the Holiday Club was held during the first week of August. It received a very good response and was very successful. Thanks go to everyone involved in making this happen.

### **Youth Group for Year 7-13:**

We launched this group following feedback from year 6 children about what they would like to do when they move to Secondary school. We've held monthly at the vicarage or at the Hilltop centre. It has been hugely successful and seen older teenagers join in as well.

### **Remembrance service:**

On Sunday 12th November we held a special Remembrance Day service in church to commemorate the souls lost in both World Wars and of more recent conflicts. This service was live streamed and we were able to welcome many of our community. The 'Knit and Natter' Group knitted and crocheted poppies. These were then attached to muslin backing giving a waterfall effect. This was displayed during the service and can be used in future services.

### **Makers Markets and Baby Fayre:**

We held 2 more Makers Markets on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March and 11<sup>th</sup> November, which were a great success and proved to be a popular community event. We have further events planned for 2024.

The Baby Fayre was held on 14<sup>th</sup> January and 17<sup>th</sup> June, where local businesses (30+) were showcasing products and services relating to pregnancy, birth, early years and parenting. We took the opportunity this year to have a stand ourselves where by parents were given a free goody bag from the church informing people about our ministry to little ones.

### **JAM:**

During the Family service, the children had left the church and gone into their various groups in the Hilltop centre and the adults remained in church. Due to the growing numbers and the noise in the Hilltop centre a trial was held whereby the children's groups stayed in the church and the adults went into the Hilltop centre for their sermon. This change proved to be very popular and was later adopted by the PCC.

### **School application Forms:**

During 2023 we moved away from using Eventbrite to a robust paper signing in system for all 3 services so parents were able to record their child's attendance for the school admission process. In 2024 we will be moving to an electronic system called Churchsuite.

Over 90 separate forms for admission to church schools were received and completed and submitted by us in October 2023

### **Lent, Easter and Christmas Services:**

The season of Lent began with two Communion services and the imposition of ashes services on Ash Wednesday. Holy week commenced with a special Palm Sunday service, when we had a dramatized reading about Jesus' last days. Holy Week saw lots of involvement with the choir, Stainer's Crucifixion and on Good Friday, we had a Hot Cross Bun service. This was an intergenerational creative service including an Easter Garden and refreshments including hot cross buns. On Easter Sunday the service was followed by an Easter Egg Hunt. During the year, many joint services were held at 10.00am, Creating a space where by worshippers at the 9.30 and 11am services could come together to praise God.

29<sup>th</sup> July saw Yvonne (our previous Churchwarden) and Peter's wedding. They very kindly left the wedding marquee in the church grounds and we were able to use it for a joint 10.00am service the following day. This was followed by a brunch BBQ.

We celebrated Harvest Sunday on 1<sup>st</sup> October followed by a simple lunch of soup, bread and cheese.

The church had a very busy schedule during Advent. The church held many services when the candles in the Advent Crown were lit and the Crib was blessed. The partially sighted carol service was a very special and moving service. The North West Partially sighted Choir sang, such a treat! Rachel's advent calendar of blessings was held on line daily throughout Advent. Angel Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> December saw knitted and crochet angels made by the 'Knit and Natter' group and the congregation given to the wider church community along with mulled wine and mince pies. On the 15<sup>th</sup> December-community carols were sung. This was an outdoor carol service held at Mossley Hill Athletics club along with Mossley Hill residents Association. 16<sup>th</sup> December saw the south Liverpool churches holding a welcome stall at the farmer's market along Allerton Road. Movie time and popcorn was held for children in the afternoon, giving parents an opportunity to do some Christmas planning. We held a new event called Craft and Cocktails for 40 adults to enjoy an evening of flower arranging, seasonal crafts, sweet making and lots of drinks and nibbles together. 17<sup>th</sup> December saw us holding a family carol service and nativity service as well as a more traditional carol service later in the day. 21<sup>st</sup> December saw us holding a Blue Christmas service for those who find Christmas a difficult time. Also, Carols were sung at the 'Rose and Mossley' pub, where Rachel pulled pints. On Christmas Eve we held our Christingle service and midnight Holy Communion and on Christmas morning a Holy Communion services was held at 10am. These were all very enjoyable services and were well attended

### **Coffee Bar**

We have an amazing, well equipped coffee bar space in the Hilltop centre. Each Sunday after the Family service we saw the coffee bar full whilst people enjoyed coffee and bacon or sausage butties in fellowship together. It proved to be very popular! We have been blessed by the enthusiasm of the coffee bar teams who volunteer to run the coffee bar for this. After the 11 am service we also have a dedicated team of helpers who work in the Coffee Bar providing tea/coffee, biscuits and cake.

### **Mossley Hill Residents Association**

The church is represented at the Association, being a very important committee to be on as it helps the church forge links with the community. Both Rachel and Sally are on the committee. A meeting is held at the Athletics club, monthly on the first Tuesday of the month.

### **Building projects:**

To ensure comprehensive management of our buildings and building works to be undertaken we set up a Fabric Committee in 2023. This is chaired by Richard Carmichael to whom we express our since thanks.

#### **1. The church Tower**

This project is a priority as this is an ongoing complex project. A drone survey has been completed showing the extent of works required and all plans are now in place. We now need to get quotes for the scaffolding and Faculty permission will be required from the Church of England. Nesting falcons are present and bats are very likely to be present (both Protected species) a license will be needed from Natural England to work around them and this will impact when work can begin and be completed

#### **2. Storage**

Two new storage areas were put at the back of the church. These match the refreshment area, the sound booth and the toilets at the back of the church. Plans were put up in church enabling the congregation to know what was being proposed and to give them the

opportunity to add their input. The storage areas provide much needed space and they are much safer than the previous notice boards.

### **3. Organ**

During the Year 2023 a major piece of work was under taken on the organ. This began after Easter and it is still ongoing.

### **Safeguarding:**

After a safeguarding review we have recruited a new safeguarding committee comprising of:

- A safer recruiter
- A risk assessor
- Health and Safety adviser
- Vulnerable adults adviser
- Child protection adviser
- Pastoral lead
- Churchwarden
- And soon to be appointed PSO

In January 2022 the Church of England introduced a new Safeguarding policy. All PCC members, Church Wardens, and Trustees must continue to have an Enhanced DBS Certificate and also undergo online training for both Children and Adults. This process is completed by using the 'thirtyone:eight' website which the Diocese of Liverpool continues to use for the processing of DBS enhanced Certificates and advising and the 'SRPM' training Assessment tool on all matters relating to Safeguarding. This process was overseen by Charlie Jones, who is always very eager to help those of us whose IT skills are not quite what they should be.

We would like to thank Charlie Jones, our safeguarding officer, for all his hard work.

### **Holy Communion:**

8.30am Holy Communion service had been held in the main body of the church. Due to the need to set up for the 9.30 service there were often difficulties between this service finishing and the next one beginning. For a trial period the service was held in the Memorial Chapel. Feedback from the people attending the service was held, they commented on while this was a good space it wasn't big enough for the growing numbers of attendees. The church Choir stalls were then trialled for a month asking the congregation to give feedback. Following the installation of a ramp (health and safety) it was felt that this was a good place to hold the service.

### **Christian Aid and Operation Christmas Child:**

These are two charities supported by Mossley Hill church. Christian Aid week was from 14-20<sup>th</sup> May. Flyers were distributed informing the parish that donations could be made on line. Envelopes could also be collected and given during the church service. Gifts could help farmers Malawi plant better seeds and build a happier future for their child. Operation Christmas Child/ Samaritans Purse shoe box collection week was held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November leaflets with labels were available.

### **Fit for Mission. (FfM)**

This is a very important area for the church and will play a major part in 2024 and the future.

Throughout 2023 the PCC and congregation have journeyed in their discernment with this initiative and will vote on the outcome on the 5th of March.

### **The Giving Tree.**

We again had our giving tree initiative in November/ December. Due to the generous donations from our church family we were able to give a large number of hats, gloves, scarves, socks, toiletries and Christmas food to various charities supporting the homeless including The Whitechapel Centre , The Liverpool Support Hub and Asylum Link.

### **Significant contributions by volunteers**

All of the above achievements would not have been possible without the dedicated support of our volunteers. Indeed the involvement of volunteers is a vital aspect of our mission and ministry, both in contributing to weekly worship, and serving our church family and wider community. These are the areas in which we have people volunteering:

- **Children's and Youth work:** JAM (Sunday school); Holiday Club; CAMEO; Youth group
- **Music:** Adult Choir; Music Group.
- **Church fellowship groups:** Christian Fellowship;
- **Mission:** Children's Society; Mission and Overseas Committee; Christian Aid; Operation Christmas Child; Asylum Link; Micah
- **Creative Arts:** Knit and Natter Group, Flower Arrangers
- **Ministry:** Baptism, Marriage prep and worship team
- **Involvement in services:** Reading, leading prayers, preaching; communion administration; prayer ministry during communion services; collation of prayer diary; sound desk operations; sidespersons; Sunday catering teams
- **Service in the community:** Pastoral team; Food and flowers donated at Harvest parade to those in need in the community; Food banks in church for Asylum seekers and Micah.
- **Buildings' and Grounds' Maintenance:** Cleaning rotas; garden maintenance; work days, Full reports are provided as an appendix to this report for some of our many church organisations.
- **Hospitality and Events:** Teams who provide refreshments and catering for fund raising events. Teams who help organise events for church both social and fund raising.

We wish to thank all our volunteers.

We thank Revd. Graham Amey, Revd. Bill Letheren, Rev Graham Milford and appreciate their continued support.

### **Strategies and Objectives for 2024**

#### **Missional priorities:**

To progress the missional areas named below the PCC has divided into six working parties:

1. **External** (what is God up to in our community and where is he inviting us to join in with him?): **STUDENTS, SCHOOLS , RESIDENTS**
2. **Internal** (what is God up to in our church and where is he inviting us to join in with him?): **YOUTH, DISCIPLESHIP, PASTORAL**

#### **Building priorities:**

We will continue to progress this and begin a fundraising campaign to begin the work that is needed.

## 50th Church Anniversary

In June 2025 Mossley Hill Church will celebrate a 150th Anniversary and we want to mark this date appropriately. A team has been set up to plan a program for events and services. Planning has already started so watch out for information and publicity about what will be happening.

### **Sadly we mourned the loss of the following.**

Joseph Steen, Dinah Mullik, David Felgate, Ruth Richardson, William Boyle, Margaret Radcliffe John Hannah, Elizabeth Sanderson, Peter Graham, Marion Baker, Sydney Reeves, Leonora (Nora) Pearson and Grace Ball.

May God keep them and all others who have passed in 2023, but not named above, safe in his keeping.

### **1.5.2 Fabric Committee report**

Throughout the year the newly formed Fabric Committee, under the chairmanship of Richard Carmichael, oversaw the following maintenance to our church, rooms and outdoor space:

- Hall repainted
- Path (hall entrance) jet washed
- New Fibre optic cable installed up into tower.
- New netting fitted to windows in bell tower where damaged (bird proofing)
- Most gutters high and low levels cleaned and downpipe repaired
- Pot holes on entrance filled.
- Rusted boiler flue guards replaced.
- New fire extinguisher purchased.
- Extra compost heap built .
- New chain repair on clock (Under G/tee)
- Dead trees chopped down.
- New telecommunications equipment installed in tower.
- Hand dryers fitted in hall c/bar toilets.
- Internet upgraded.
- Gate post repaired (car damage)
- Bell tower cleaned out all rubbish removed and bird mess cleaned up.
- New high quality netting fitted to bell tower after telecommunications upgrade.
- Tower staircase cleaned .
- Top tower gutter now also cleaned after falcon nesting season over , and gullies becoming blocked.
- Av room hatch lock repaired.
- Telecommunications electric meter supply repaired.
- New prayer board constructed and fitted.

Much of the above has been carried out by our Clerk of Works, Graeme Tolmaer, who continues to serve our church through his expert maintenance skills. Looking ahead to 2024 the Fabric Committee will continue to maintain our church to the highest standard possible with looking into using our front ceremonial doors each week, installing handrails to make this possible, progressing the preparatory work on the tower, investigating a lighting system as well as supporting the Safeguarding team in writing a health and safety policy with related risk assessment procedures being put in place.

### **1.6.1 The Financial Position**

#### **The Financial Position**

The Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 show the General Fund has incurred a small deficit of £1,264 for the year. At the start of the year we had £39,211 in general reserves and this deficit has reduced those reserves to £37,947. In arriving at the result we have been able to set-aside a proportion of our income for mission giving, with £7,055 set aside out of 2023 income to be allocated and paid out in due course.

We are grateful that income from planned giving, tax recovery and general collections increased by 6.2% to £95,666.

Income from lettings of the church rooms, church and tower aerial, £62,978, again reached a record figure. Without that income our finances would not be able to support the running of the church and its many activities.

For the two years prior to 2023 we were grateful to the Church Commissioners for their grant to the diocese which enabled the diocese to reduce our Parish Share by a total of £59,925 over those two years to offset the financial effects of the Covid lockdowns. In 2023 that relief was no longer available and our Parish Share contribution reverted to £99,711, equivalent to £1,917 per week.

A large proportion of our income continues to be provided by a relatively small number of people, and we encourage all those connected with us to consider and review their giving to the church, and to commit to properly considered, regular planned giving. Recent years have shown the importance to the church of receiving its giving from members by regular bank payment. We have adopted the use of the Parish Giving Scheme and we encourage church members to sign-up to or move over to this method of giving.

The national economy will continue to present challenges in personal finances for all who currently give to the church, and the church faces similar pressures. Just to cover its costs the church in 2023 needed to bring in £3,299 each week.

As always, we face the challenge to maintain and increase our total income from giving and from other sources whilst continuing to keep tight control over our expenditure.

### **1.6.2 Statement and explanation of reserves policy**

The policy of the PCC, through the Finance Group, is to work towards re-instating and maintaining a basic level of reserves through responsible financial control and the encouragement of Christian giving.

### **Deanery Synod Review**

#### What is Deanery Synod?

Each of the 15 deaneries in the Diocese of Liverpool has a Deanery Synod – we are part of the Liverpool South Deanery (LSD) – all 16 churches within LSD are very different but with a common goal ‘to work and grow together for the Kingdom of God in our Communities’.

SMJ has 5 PCC members who has been elected for a 3 year term to represent SMJ at Deanery – Michael Swinson, Maggie Swinson, David Bishop, Pat Kennick and myself (Lynn Halliday).

Pat is stepping down this year. Re-elections will take place in 2026. A person elected to Deanery becomes an ex-officio member of the PCC.

Each Deanery Synod is made up of the elected members from each worshipping community plus Clergy. It is chaired by the Area Dean who is appointed by the Bishop.

The Deanery Synod meets to share issues of concern to the deanery, debate items emerging from parishes or referred by the Diocesan or General Synods and to develop the Deanery Mission Plan in the spirit of our diocesan Growth Agenda. Each Deanery Synod will also have a Mission and Pastoral Committee that plays a key role in taking this work forward.

So what has Deanery Synod been doing this year?

We have had a talk around church growth and engaging with the missing generation.

We heard from Maggie about her new role as Chair of the Anglican Consultative Council.

There have been presentations on Network of Kindness, Clergy Care, Safe Guarding Training, Finances (including applying for DMGF – which we have successfully applied to and received 3 grants since the turn of this year) but the main topic has been Fit for Mission – including FFM information events around the Deanery.

Lynn Halliday





**ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES, MOSSLEY HILL  
(Charity No 1128486)**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
OF THE  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**INDEX**

- 2. Independent Examiner's Report
- 3. Statement of Financial Activities
- 4. Balance Sheet
- 5 - 10. Notes to the Financial Statements
  
- 11. Financial Review

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES, MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**

**Independent Examiner's Report  
to the PCC of St Matthew & St James, Mossley Hill**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, which are set out on pages 3 to 10, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 2016 ("the Regulations") and s43 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

**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 Regulations and s144 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5) of the Act. 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 which 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
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the Act; and
  - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.

Helen Head

20<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

|                                                        | Note  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Endowment<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>                              |       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Incoming resources from donors                         | 2(a)  | 95,666                     | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 95,666             | 90,052             |
| Other voluntary incoming resources                     | 2(b)  | 0                          | 41,160                   | 15,286                   | 0                       | 56,446             | 233,612            |
| Income from charitable and ancillary trading           | 2(c ) | 71,090                     | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 71,090             | 66,369             |
| Other ordinary incoming resources                      | 2(d)  | 0                          | 0                        | 17,163                   | 0                       | 17,163             | 679                |
| Income from investments                                | 2(e)  | 3,510                      | 2,314                    | 0                        | 754                     | 6,578              | 3,810              |
| <b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>                        |       | <u>170,266</u>             | <u>43,474</u>            | <u>32,449</u>            | <u>754</u>              | <u>246,943</u>     | <u>394,522</u>     |
| <b>RESOURCES USED</b>                                  |       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Grants                                                 | 3(a)  | 7,055                      | 0                        | 4,084                    | 0                       | 11,139             | 9,478              |
| Activities directly relating to the work of the church | 3(b)  | 148,599                    | 22,823                   | 20,688                   | 0                       | 192,110            | 135,045            |
| Church management and administration                   | 3(c ) | 15,876                     | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 15,876             | 13,248             |
| <b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>                            |       | <u>171,530</u>             | <u>22,823</u>            | <u>24,772</u>            | <u>0</u>                | <u>219,125</u>     | <u>157,771</u>     |
| <b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>               |       | (1,264)                    | 20,651                   | 7,677                    | 754                     | 27,818             | 236,751            |
| <b>GAINS AND LOSSES ON INVESTMENTS</b>                 | 1&5   |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Realised                                               |       |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  | 0                  |
| Unrealised                                             |       |                            |                          |                          | 12,374                  | 12,374             | (10,330)           |
| <b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>                           |       | <u>(1,264)</u>             | <u>20,651</u>            | <u>7,677</u>             | <u>13,128</u>           | <u>40,192</u>      | <u>226,421</u>     |
| <b>BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1st JANUARY</b>         |       | 292,480                    | 224,107                  | 60,809                   | 195,131                 | 772,527            | 546,106            |
| <b>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31st DECEMBER</b>       |       | <u>291,216</u>             | <u>244,758</u>           | <u>68,486</u>            | <u>208,259</u>          | <u>812,719</u>     | <u>772,527</u>     |
| <b>Unrestricted Funds represented by:</b>              |       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Fund reserves                                          | 1     | 37,947                     |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Fixed assets                                           | 4     | 253,269                    |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
|                                                        |       | <u>291,216</u>             |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

|                                        | Note | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      |
|----------------------------------------|------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                    |      |                |                |
| Tangible fixed assets                  | 4    | 253,269        | 253,269        |
| Investments                            | 5    | <u>136,946</u> | <u>124,572</u> |
|                                        |      | 390,215        | 377,841        |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                  |      |                |                |
| Debtors and prepayments                | 7    | 47,094         | 10,335         |
| Cash at bank and in hand               |      | <u>488,090</u> | <u>500,898</u> |
|                                        |      | <u>535,184</u> | <u>511,233</u> |
| <b>LIABILITIES:AMOUNTS FALLING DUE</b> |      |                |                |
| <b>WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>                 |      | <u>112,680</u> | <u>116,547</u> |
|                                        |      | <u>112,680</u> | <u>116,547</u> |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>              |      |                |                |
|                                        |      | <u>422,504</u> | <u>394,686</u> |
|                                        |      | <u>812,719</u> | <u>772,527</u> |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                           |      |                |                |
|                                        | 8    |                |                |
| Unrestricted                           |      | 291,216        | 292,480        |
| Designated                             |      | 244,758        | 224,107        |
| Restricted                             |      | 68,485         | 60,808         |
| Endowment                              |      | <u>208,260</u> | <u>195,132</u> |
|                                        |      | <u>812,719</u> | <u>772,527</u> |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 3rd April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Lynn Halliday - Lay Chair

Keri Owen - Treasurer

The notes on pages 5 to 10 form part of these accounts

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES, MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2016 together with applicable Accounting Standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investments and buildings referred to below.

**Funds**

General funds represent the funds of the PCC which are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be applied on the purposes specified by the fund.

Endowment funds can only be applied to the extent of the income of the fund.

**Incoming Resources**

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable under gift aid is recognised when the income is received.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Funds raised from fund raising and other activities are accounted for gross and any associated expenditure is included in resources used.

Other ordinary income

The financial statements include the gross income and associated expenditure of various church organisations.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains and losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of the investments at the balance sheet date.

**Resources used**

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when their payment is approved.

Activities directly relating to the work of the church and Church management and administration

Expenditure is accounted for when payable.

**Fixed assets**

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, as the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and moveable church furnishings is written off as expenditure in statement of financial activities.

Other fixtures fittings and office equipment

Purchased equipment is depreciated on a straight line basis over 3 years.

Other buildings

The church room is included in the balance sheet at its insurance valuation as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 1997, the date of its first inclusion in the financial statements.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at the balance sheet date.

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

|                                                   | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Endowment<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>2.INCOMING RESOURCES</b>                       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| 2(a) Incoming resources from donors               |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Planned giving                                    |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Tax efficient planned giving                      | 70,157                     |                          |                          |                         | 70,157             | 64,492             |
| Income tax recoverable                            | 16,536                     |                          |                          |                         | 16,536             | 16,043             |
| General collections                               | 8,973                      |                          |                          |                         | 8,973              | 9,517              |
|                                                   | <u>95,666</u>              | <u>0</u>                 | <u>0</u>                 | <u>0</u>                | <u>95,666</u>      | <u>90,052</u>      |
| 2(b) Other voluntary incoming resources           |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Special collections (note 9)                      |                            |                          | 4,084                    |                         | 4,084              | 2,693              |
| Legacies Fund-donations                           |                            | 41,160                   | 5,000                    |                         | 46,160             | 230,000            |
| Organ Fund-donations                              |                            |                          | 5,410                    |                         | 5,410              | 480                |
| Coffee Fund-donations                             |                            |                          | 792                      |                         | 792                | 439                |
|                                                   | <u>0</u>                   | <u>41,160</u>            | <u>15,286</u>            | <u>0</u>                | <u>56,446</u>      | <u>233,612</u>     |
| 2(c) Income from charitable and ancillary trading |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Rents and lettings                                | 62,978                     |                          |                          |                         | 62,978             | 56,592             |
| Fees                                              | 2,417                      |                          |                          |                         | 2,417              | 2,006              |
| Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage grant          |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  | 414                |
| Diocese heating grant                             |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  | 1,000              |
| Sundry income                                     | 5,695                      |                          |                          |                         | 5,695              | 6,357              |
|                                                   | <u>71,090</u>              | <u>0</u>                 | <u>0</u>                 | <u>0</u>                | <u>71,090</u>      | <u>66,369</u>      |
| 2(d) Other ordinary incoming resources            |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Befriending scheme - Linking Lives                |                            |                          | 17,049                   |                         | 17,049             | 0                  |
| Knit & Natter - income                            |                            |                          | 114                      |                         | 114                | 679                |
| Christian Contact Club-income                     |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  | 0                  |
|                                                   | <u>0</u>                   | <u>0</u>                 | <u>17,163</u>            | <u>0</u>                | <u>17,163</u>      | <u>679</u>         |
| 2(e) Income from investments                      |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Dividends and interest                            | 3,510                      |                          |                          |                         | 3,510              | 3,173              |
| Holmes Bequest Fund-income                        |                            |                          |                          | 344                     | 344                | 287                |
| Legacies Fund - interest                          |                            | 2,314                    |                          |                         | 2,314              |                    |
| Clock Fund                                        |                            |                          |                          | 2                       | 2                  |                    |
| Monuments Upkeep Fund                             |                            |                          |                          | 2                       | 2                  |                    |
| Gate Fund                                         |                            |                          |                          | 2                       | 2                  |                    |
| Gladstone Buckley Trust Fund                      |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  |                    |
| Memorial Fund                                     |                            |                          |                          | 4                       | 4                  |                    |
| Church School Trust-interest                      |                            |                          |                          | 400                     | 400                | 350                |
|                                                   | <u>3,510</u>               | <u>2,314</u>             | <u>0</u>                 | <u>754</u>              | <u>6,578</u>       | <u>3,810</u>       |

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

|                                                             | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Endowment<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>3.RESOURCES USED</b>                                     |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| 3(a) Grants                                                 |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Missionary and charitable giving (note 9)                   | 7,055                      |                          | 4,084                    |                         | 11,139             | 8,776              |
| Church School Trust Fund - expenditure                      |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  | 702                |
|                                                             | <u>7,055</u>               | <u>0</u>                 | <u>4,084</u>             | <u>0</u>                | <u>11,139</u>      | <u>9,478</u>       |
| 3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the church |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Ministry-parish share                                       | 99,711                     |                          |                          |                         | 99,711             | 98,720             |
| -parish share grant received                                |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  | (30,403)           |
| -clergy expenses                                            | 1,327                      |                          |                          |                         | 1,327              | 128                |
| -clergy housing                                             | 3,941                      |                          |                          |                         | 3,941              | 798                |
| Organ and music                                             | 2,295                      |                          | 4,313                    |                         | 6,608              | 2,183              |
| Church activities                                           | 8,675                      |                          |                          |                         | 8,675              | 6,452              |
| Befriending scheme                                          |                            |                          | 15,530                   |                         | 15,530             | 5,076              |
| Rates and insurance                                         | 12,426                     |                          |                          |                         | 12,426             | 11,229             |
| Light and heat                                              | 11,205                     |                          |                          |                         | 11,205             | 9,520              |
| Repairs, maintenance & cleaning                             | 8,787                      |                          |                          |                         | 8,787              | 21,506             |
| Provision for renewals                                      |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  | 3,000              |
| Supplies and services                                       | 232                        |                          |                          |                         | 232                | 585                |
| Coffee Fund-expenditure                                     |                            |                          | 845                      |                         | 845                | 311                |
| Christian Contact Club-expenditure                          |                            |                          |                          |                         | 0                  | 0                  |
| Legacies Fund-expenditure                                   |                            | 22,823                   |                          |                         | 22,823             | 5,940              |
|                                                             | <u>148,599</u>             | <u>22,823</u>            | <u>20,688</u>            | <u>0</u>                | <u>192,110</u>     | <u>135,045</u>     |
| 3(c) Church management and administration                   |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Stationery and office equipment                             | 4,563                      |                          |                          |                         | 4,563              | 3,294              |
| Secretarial and administration                              | 11,313                     |                          |                          |                         | 11,313             | 9,954              |
|                                                             | <u>15,876</u>              | <u>0</u>                 | <u>0</u>                 | <u>0</u>                | <u>15,876</u>      | <u>13,248</u>      |
| <b>4.FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC</b>                    |                            |                          |                          |                         | <b>2023</b>        | <b>2022</b>        |
| Freehold land and buildings                                 |                            |                          |                          |                         | <b>£</b>           | <b>£</b>           |
| Church Room at insurance valuation                          |                            |                          |                          |                         | 252,649            | 252,649            |
| Office equipment at cost less depreciation                  |                            |                          |                          |                         | 620                | 620                |
|                                                             |                            |                          |                          |                         | <u>253,269</u>     | <u>253,269</u>     |

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**5. INVESTMENTS**

|                                                  | Market<br>Value<br>2023<br>£ | Market<br>Value<br>2022<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Milne Bequest                                    |                              |                              |
| CBF Deposit Fund                                 | 11,862                       | 11,862                       |
| CBF Fixed Interest Securities Fund 930.47 shares | 1,347                        | 1,276                        |
| CBF Investment Fund 4396.06 Income Shares        | 99,374                       | 90,828                       |
| Holmes Bequest                                   |                              |                              |
| CBF Investment Fund 503 units                    | 11,370                       | 10,392                       |
| Schneider Electric SE                            | 231                          | 231                          |
| BAE Systems 1,108 Ordinary shares                | 12,304                       | 9,525                        |
| Clock Fund                                       |                              |                              |
| CBF Deposit Fund                                 | 44                           | 44                           |
| Monuments Upkeep Fund                            |                              |                              |
| CBF Deposit Fund                                 | 63                           | 63                           |
| Gate Fund                                        |                              |                              |
| Bank                                             | 208                          | 208                          |
| Gladstone Buckley Trust Fund                     |                              |                              |
| CBF Deposit Fund                                 | 40                           | 40                           |
| Ritchie Bequest                                  |                              |                              |
| CBF Deposit Fund                                 | 103                          | 103                          |
|                                                  | <u>136,946</u>               | <u>124,572</u>               |

**6. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

|                     | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Endowment<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>£     |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets        | 253,269                    |                          |                          | 136,946                 | 390,215        |
| Current Assets      | 150,627                    | 244,758                  | 68,485                   | 71,314                  | 535,184        |
| Current Liabilities | (112,680)                  |                          |                          |                         | (112,680)      |
| <b>Fund balance</b> | <u>291,217</u>             | <u>244,758</u>           | <u>68,485</u>            | <u>208,260</u>          | <u>812,720</u> |

**7. DEBTORS**

|                      | 2023<br>£     | 2022<br>£     |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Gift Aid recoverable | 5,934         | 4,064         |
| HMRC repayment       | 0             | 6,271         |
| Legacy balance       | 41,160        |               |
|                      | <u>47,094</u> | <u>10,335</u> |

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

|                                     | Balance<br>31.12.22 | Net Surplus/<br>(Deficit)<br>for year | Transfers | Balance<br>31.12.23 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
|                                     | £                   | £                                     | £         | £                   |
| <b>8.FUND DETAILS</b>               |                     |                                       |           |                     |
| Unrestricted Funds                  |                     |                                       |           |                     |
| General Fund reserves               | 39,211              | (1,264)                               |           | 37,947              |
| General Fund fixed assets           | 253,269             |                                       |           | 253,269             |
|                                     | <u>292,480</u>      | <u>(1,264)</u>                        | <u>0</u>  | <u>291,216</u>      |
| Designated Funds - Legacy           | 224,107             | 20,651                                | (27,116)  | 217,642             |
| Legacy - 10% provision for outreach |                     |                                       | 27,116    | 27,116              |
|                                     | <u>224,107</u>      | <u>20,651</u>                         | <u>0</u>  | <u>244,758</u>      |
| Restricted Funds                    |                     |                                       |           |                     |
| Vision Project                      | 185                 |                                       |           | 185                 |
| Organ Fund                          | 6,154               | 1,097                                 |           | 7,251               |
| Befriending scheme - Linking Lives  | 11,300              | 1,519                                 |           | 12,819              |
| Legacies Fund                       | 37,614              | 5,000                                 |           | 42,614              |
| Flower Fund                         | 176                 |                                       |           | 176                 |
| Coffee Fund                         | 163                 | (53)                                  |           | 110                 |
| Discoverers                         | 419                 |                                       |           | 419                 |
| CYFA & Youth Club                   | 203                 |                                       |           | 203                 |
| Cameo                               | 152                 |                                       |           | 152                 |
| Bookstall                           | 434                 |                                       |           | 434                 |
| Christian Contact Club              | 96                  | 0                                     |           | 96                  |
| Greenbelt Fund                      | 46                  |                                       |           | 46                  |
| Church Holiday Fund                 | 666                 |                                       |           | 666                 |
| Women's Fellowship                  | 109                 |                                       |           | 109                 |
| Knit & Natter                       | 1,247               | 114                                   |           | 1,361               |
| Diocese of Rift Valley Fund         | 1,844               |                                       |           | 1,844               |
|                                     | <u>60,808</u>       | <u>7,677</u>                          | <u>0</u>  | <u>68,485</u>       |
| Endowment Funds                     |                     |                                       |           |                     |
| Milne Bequest                       | 103,966             | 8,617                                 |           | 112,583             |
| Holmes Bequest Fund                 | 27,642              | 4,101                                 |           | 31,743              |
| Clock Fund                          | 1,240               | 2                                     |           | 1,242               |
| Monuments Upkeep Fund               | 355                 | 2                                     |           | 357                 |
| Gate Fund                           | 1,092               | 2                                     |           | 1,094               |
| Gladstone Buckley Trust Fund        | 310                 |                                       |           | 310                 |
| Memorial Fund                       | 139                 | 4                                     |           | 143                 |
| Ritchie Bequest Fund                | 103                 |                                       |           | 103                 |
| Church School Trust Fund            | 60,285              | 400                                   |           | 60,685              |
|                                     | <u>195,132</u>      | <u>13,128</u>                         | <u>0</u>  | <u>208,260</u>      |
| Total Funds                         | <u>772,527</u>      | <u>40,192</u>                         | <u>0</u>  | <u>812,719</u>      |

**THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**9. MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING**

|                                           | Special<br>Collections | General<br>Collections | Total<br>2023       | Total<br>2022       |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                           | £                      | £                      | £                   | £                   |
| <b>OVERSEAS</b>                           |                        |                        |                     |                     |
| Church Mission Society                    |                        |                        | 0                   | 1,000               |
| Christian Aid                             | 625                    |                        | 625                 | 332                 |
| Isaac's House Uganda                      |                        |                        | 0                   | 500                 |
| Libya floods appeal                       |                        |                        |                     |                     |
| Morocco earthquake appeal                 | 107                    | 500                    |                     |                     |
| DEC Pakistan flood appeal                 | 107                    | 500                    | 607                 | 224                 |
|                                           |                        |                        | 0                   | 0                   |
|                                           | <u>839</u>             | <u>1,000</u>           | <u>1,232</u>        | <u>2,056</u>        |
| <b>HOME</b>                               |                        |                        |                     |                     |
| Asylum Link                               |                        |                        |                     | 1,000               |
| Children's Society                        | 1,896                  |                        | 1,896               | 1,858               |
| Claire House children's hospice           |                        |                        |                     | 1,000               |
| Liverpool Diocese - Licensing service     | 475                    |                        |                     |                     |
| Marie Curie hospice                       |                        |                        |                     | 1,000               |
| Micah foodbank                            |                        |                        | 0                   | 1,090               |
| Whitechapel Centre for homeless           |                        |                        |                     | 1,000               |
| Coffee morning - Natural Breaks           | 333                    |                        | 333                 | 189                 |
| Coffee morning - Royal Liverpool Hospital | 333                    |                        |                     |                     |
| Funeral donations - Alzheimer's Society   | 208                    |                        |                     |                     |
| From earlier years' provisions            |                        |                        |                     | (417)               |
|                                           | <u>3,245</u>           | <u>0</u>               | <u>2,229</u>        | <u>6,720</u>        |
| 2023 income - 10% to be allocated         |                        | 6,055                  | 6,055               |                     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                              | <u><u>4,084</u></u>    | <u><u>7,055</u></u>    | <u><u>9,516</u></u> | <u><u>8,776</u></u> |

## **THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW & ST JAMES, MOSSLEY HILL (Charity No 1128486)**

### **The Financial Position**

The Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 show the General Fund has incurred a small deficit of £1,264 for the year. At the start of the year we had £39,211 in general reserves and this deficit has reduced those reserves to £37,947. In arriving at the result we have been able to set-aside a proportion of our income for mission giving, with £7,055 set aside out of 2023 income to be allocated and paid out in due course.

We are grateful that income from planned giving, tax recovery and general collections increased by 6.2% to £95,666.

Income from lettings of the church rooms, church and tower aerial, £62,978, again reached a record figure. Without that income our finances would not be able to support the running of the church and its many activities.

For the two years prior to 2003 we were grateful to the Church Commissioners for their grant to the diocese which enabled the diocese to reduce our Parish Share by a total of £59,925 over those two years to offset the financial effects of the Covid lockdowns. In 2023 that relief was no longer available and our Parish Share contribution reverted to £99,711, equivalent to £1,917 per week.

A large proportion of our income continues to be provided by a relatively small number of people, and we encourage all those connected with us to consider and review their giving to the church, and to commit to properly considered, regular planned giving. Recent years have shown the importance to the church of receiving its giving from members by regular bank payment. We have adopted the use of the Parish Giving Scheme and we encourage church members to sign-up to or move over to this method of giving.

The national economy will continue to present challenges in personal finances for all who currently give to the church, and the church faces similar pressures. Just to cover its costs the church in 2023 needed to bring in £3,299 each week.

As always, we face the challenge to maintain and increase our total income from giving and from other sources whilst continuing to keep tight control over our expenditure.

### **Statement and explanation of reserves policy**

The policy of the PCC, through the Finance Group, is to work towards re-instating and maintaining a basic level of reserves through responsible financial control and the encouragement of Christian giving.

**Independent Examiner's Report  
to the PCC of St Matthew & St James, Mossley Hill**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, which are set out on pages 3 to 10, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 2016 ("the Regulations") and s43 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

**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 Regulations and s144 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5) of the Act. 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 which 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
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the Act; and
  - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.

Helen Head

20<sup>th</sup> April 2024