THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHIDDINGFOLD

England & Wales · Charity number 1128727

Details

Other names	ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD PCC
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-03-23
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

Objects: Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

Activities: Worship and education on religious matters. Support of local, national and international charities. Promotion and Care of the Community spirit in the Village.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Surrey

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£159,822	£140,295	-	-
2023-12-31	£120,290	£129,447	-	-
2022-12-31	£124,495	£122,194	-	-
2021-12-31	£123,250	£114,439	-	-
2020-12-31	£103,590	£115,139	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Catherine Stovold		2024-04-28
Christine Baker		2024-04-28
Christopher Ryan		2022-05-08
Elizabeth Cook		2022-05-08
GILLIAN BECKWITH		2023-04-23
Jane Bell		2025-05-11
Jane Bradford		2025-05-11
Ken Lindup		2020-10-25
Louise Taylor		2021-04-25
Nigel Hyslop		2024-04-28
Peter Abernethy		2025-05-11
Rev Rachel Elizabeth Greene		2019-01-15
Rev Richard Flenley		2025-06-29

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHIDDINGFOLD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128727

Accounts

St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chiddingfold

Annual Report 2024

A Report for the Year ended 31 December 2024

Approved by the PCC in April 2025

Registered Charity Number 1128727

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Administration and Membership	4
Aims and Purposes	4
Objectives and Activities	5
The Fabric and Maintenance Report	6
Youth and Children's Work	9
Worship Focus Group	14
Finance and Stewardship	18
Fundraising at St. Mary's	18
Safeguarding Report	21
Baptism Visiting Team	21
Bells at St. Mary's	22
Choir and Music	22
Deanery Synod Report	23
Eco Church	24
Flower Committee Report	28
Food for Fellowship	29
The Friends of St. Mary's	30
Joint Churches in Chiddingfold	30
Pastoral Visiting Team	32
Work in St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chiddingfold	32
Electoral Roll Report	36
St. Mary's Church Links	37

Introduction

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude for God's goodness and the strength of our church community. This year has brought both challenges and blessings, and through it all, we have grown in faith, in unity, and in our commitment to serving one another and our wider community.

We have witnessed God at work in our worship, in our ministries, and in the quiet, unseen acts of kindness and generosity. From our outreach initiatives to our times of prayer, each moment has been a testimony to the love and grace that binds us together. In looking back I hope you are filled with a renewed appreciation of just how much goes on at St. Mary's and what a great blessing this church is to so many.

This annual report is more than a summary of events and numbers; however, it is a celebration of the life we share as a church and there is much to celebrate. This year we reached out to everyone in the parish and to friends further afield for help securing the future of St. Mary's through the first Church Appeal since 2018. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and the outpouring of support showed us how much this vibrant, inclusive community is loved. It is clear that we are known for the depth of our spiritual life; for the stepping-stones we put in place for those who wish to journey with us; for the beauty of our church buildings and churchyard; and for our ability to work together. The Appeal, which culminated in a Gift Day, was a critical step in the PCC's strategic plan to resource the ministry, honour our heritage and go further to meet the church's full ministry costs. While those costs continue to rise, and we are not out of the wood yet by any means, the Appeal was a great success by all measures.

I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks to the members of the PCC for all they give to leadership in St. Mary's. In particular, I want to thank Oli Shepherd, who is standing down as his term comes to an end, and Gilly van Oppen, who is standing down as Bookkeeper though stepping up as the Co-ordinator of the Fundraising Team and continuing as Gift Aid Officer during the final year of her PCC term. I also offer my heartfelt thanks to our Churchwardens Lily Cook and Chris Everett, and Treasurer Nigel Hyslop, for being a brilliant, supportive team. Both Chris and Lily are stepping down, having shaped St. Mary's for the better in countless ways as Churchwardens. I am grateful for their can-do attitude, good humour and wisdom, and am really pleased that Chris is able to contribute to the Maintenance and Churchyard Group a little longer, and that Lily will serve another term on PCC.

Reverend Richard Flenley was ordained deacon in June, a significant milestone in the life of our church community. He will be ordained priest in June 2025, which will give us even more to celebrate, and we look forward to the development of his ministry at St. Mary's. As we look ahead, I pray we may continue to be a people shaped by prayer, guided by Scripture, passionate for a more just world and motivated in all things by love and a desire to know Christ better and make him better known. Let us go forward with hope, trusting that the God who has brought us this far and given us so much, will continue to lead us.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene
rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

Administration and Membership

St. Mary's is the Parish Church of Chiddingfold and is part of the Diocese of Guildford within the Church of England. The church's postal address is:

St. Mary's Church, Petworth Road, Chiddingfold, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 4TY

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are Trustees of the Charity for the term of their appointment. Members serving on the PCC during 2024 are:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Chair		
Churchwardens:	Chris Everett	Lily Cook	
Deanery Synod:	Ken Lindup	Gill Beckwith	
PCC Members:	Christine Baker James Parton Chris Ryan	Oli Shepherd Catherine Stovold	Louise Taylor Gilly van Oppen
Treasurer:	Nigel Hyslop		
Secretary:	Helen Bendall		

Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission as The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chiddingfold and its registered Charity Number is: 1128727.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend St. Mary's and who qualify according to those Rules are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members are given initial training into the workings of the PCC. The PCC meets six times during the year.

The PCC operates through a number of Focus Groups, which meet between full meetings. These groups are constituted to make full use of the professional expertise available within St. Mary's and members are encouraged to attend Diocesan training as appropriate. Each group has at least one representative from the PCC, and the Rector and Churchwardens are *ex officio* members of all these groups. All the Focus Groups are responsible to the PCC and report back regularly at PCC meetings.

Standing Committee: This statutory committee has a general power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

Finance and Stewardship Group: Oversees expenditure and monitors income and investments. Encourages financial support of the church through a strategy for Regular Planned Giving (RPG), legacies, occasional parish funding programmes and gift days; prepares the annual budget for outreach support. In 2024 this group was made up of the Treasurer and the Bookkeeper and known as the Treasury Team.

Fundraising Group: Plans an annual programme of fundraising events to generate income for the church.

Maintenance Group: Attends to matters relating to the stewardship and maintenance of the church, its contents, buildings and grounds, such as the churchyard, the Church Room and the Rectory.

Worship Group: Co-ordinates the provision and conduct of worship.

Youth and Children's Work Group: Co-ordinates activities involving children and young people in the church and the wider community.

In addition, several important links and special interest groups complement the aims and purposes of St. Mary's PCC, as it seeks to benefit everyone in the church and the community:

Baptism Visiting Team	Food for Fellowship
Bell-ringers	Friends of St. Mary's
Choir and Music	Joint Churches in Chiddingfold
Eco Church	Pastoral Visiting Team
Flower Team	St. Mary's CofE Primary School

Objectives and Activities

The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states that the PCC is to co-operate with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC has maintenance responsibilities for the church and the Church Room and for some internal decoration of the rectory. St. Mary's vision is "to know Christ better and to make Christ better known".

In order to achieve these objectives St. Mary's Church offers, among other things:

- regular services of worship
- occasional offices
- pastoral care
- small groups for nurture and discipleship
- social activities
- quiet days and retreats
- concerts and recitals
- programmes and activities for children, young people and those who care for them
- charitable fundraising events
- a monthly parish magazine which has a distribution to many beyond the regular congregation
- a website
- a social media presence on Facebook

We invite you to read on to learn how we have been fulfilling our vision, and what we have undertaken in 2024 to meet the aims of St. Mary's Church for the benefit of our congregation within the church and of the wider community.

‘Caring for our possessions’

The Fabric and Maintenance Report

The Churchwardens have pleasure in providing our report for the year to December 2024.

General

The necessary functions of maintenance and care for the church and churchyard have been carried out; and the logbooks and monthly Churchwarden’s inspections have been kept up to date.

Quinquennial Report

The Quinquennial Inspection took place on 22 November 2024, conducted by the same Surveyor who has done it several times before. All necessary documentation required, including a full report on our actions against the previous Quinquennial, was available to the Surveyor and no critical items were raised by him at the time of the inspection.

The final report was issued on 25 February 2025 is very gratifying, in that

- No Category 1 – Immediate Repair items were raised.
- Items of generally routine content were raised in:
  - Category 2 – Work to be carried out within the next 18 months;
  - Category 3 – Work to be carried out within the Quinquennium;
  - Category 4 – Desirable work;
  - Category 5 – Monitor / Maintenance items.

Many of these are routinely covered by the monthly Churchwarden’s Checklist, but funds ought to be accumulated for future stonework repairs and redecoration work.

The Surveyor’s comments include:

- Overall St. Mary’s generally appears in very good condition and benefitting from an attentive and financially supportive PCC over many years. It is a credit to the PCC that the building has remained very well maintained.
- There is a very thorough Logbook kept up to date.
- A thorough Health & Safety manual has been developed which appears more than adequate.
- Items noted are those maintenance items usually to be expected on a building of this size.
- The PCC’s attention is drawn to the 2020 General Synod decision that we are in a climate emergency and should commit to an ambitious carbon reduction target of Net Zero by 2030, including the long-term choice of an appropriate heating system bearing in mind the proposed eventual curtailment of fossil fuel.

Church

It would be desirable to do some redecoration where paint is peeling – minor areas so far, and the Tower Room is badly in need of redecoration.

Vestry

A Faculty was granted for the replacement of the old metal windows with new double-glazed units. The work was done during the year and was funded by the Friends of St. Mary's. Once this was complete it became apparent that internal redecoration was urgently needed, and this was completed in November and also funded by the Friends.

Churchyard

The Churchyard Working Party is in a reasonably healthy state, and is managed jointly by Chris Everett, Gilly van Oppen and Chiddingfold resident and enthusiast Phil Darley. This has resulted in reasonable attendance at most of the Churchyard Working Party meetings and a lot of valuable work has been done. In addition, the Bonfire Crew assisted with a further visit.

Closed Circuit Television

After the forcible break-in to garden sheds in the grounds of the church in mid-September 2023, both doors were replaced. However, another attempt was made, fortunately unsuccessful. In consequence, at its meeting on 17 September 2024, the PCC resolved to install a CCTV System with recording facilities and warning signs. The Archdeacon's approval was obtained and installation of a single camera will take place in the first quarter of 2025.

Extensive documentation has been completed to comply with the Church of England GDPR Policy document, as well as the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) CCTV Code of Practice 2017. No live footage will be viewable and the recordings will only be accessed by Authorised Users in the event of criminal or anti-social behaviour.

Churchyard Management Plan

The churchyard continues to be managed in terms of the Management Plan as revised to cover the more extensive mowing regime.

The Haslemere Natural History Society visited St. Mary's churchyard on 30 November 2024 and compiled a survey of lichens growing on tombs and gravestones. About 24 lichen species were recognized on the day, and they reported that the number of Chiddingfold species was as good as can be expected in a village with road traffic and fuel being burnt in houses.

Grave Repairs

Eight of the historic barrel graves were rebuilt, but there are however still many of these historic and rare graves in danger. No funds are available at present to restore more of them.

There is a huge variety of gravestones in St. Mary's churchyard, and although ownership of the churchyard is vested in the Parochial Church Council, the actual gravestones belong to and are the responsibility of the person or family that commissioned them. The

prominent Sadler Family of Chiddingfold provided a gift of £1,500 in 1986 to provide finance for the maintenance of the Sadler graves in the churchyard, of which there are many. This fund has recently been used to restore several of them, as shown in the photographs.

Regrettably, in January 2025 a tree branch fell from the adjacent property and damaged one of the recently restored graves, but the owners have undertaken to have it repaired.

Hedges and Trees

In terms of a report commissioned by the Chiddingfold Parish Council by a qualified arboricultural consultant in July 2023, we are now required to reinspect a Lawson Cypress due to a significant wound on its trunk with internal decay and an English Oak with fungal decay.

Volunteers

As with all parish churches the efforts of our volunteers are vital to its smooth running. This stalwart group is aging and reducing in number and we must express our concern at this trend and the lack of involvement of many regular congregants and especially younger members of the congregation in these activities.

Services and Repairs

Routine inspections and services have been carried out to the tower clock, lightning conductor, fire extinguishers, alarm system, organ, church and church room boilers, and all electrical appliances have had a PAT Test completed. Other minor repairs have also been done as necessary. A full statutory electrical inspection will have to be carried out during 2025.

Up to date plans of utilities are only partially complete, as there is inadequate information on record in the files on the lighting system installed in about 2015.

Terrier

This is the written inventory giving details and photographs of all the property, buildings, equipment, monuments, vestments, plate, windows etc. in the parish owned by the church. It was checked, updated and signed off by the Rector, Churchwardens and two PCC members in May 2022.

Church of England Regulations require that a full Terrier Inventory should be made out afresh every 10 years, but in the years between, it is only necessary to add and annually update sheets where anything changes. We are not aware of any changes that require a review this year.

Arising from this it became clear, however, that there is no inventory of the many more mundane items that do not belong in the Terrier. A detailed inventory has now been compiled for the garden shed equipment and the Church Room kitchen. Inventories of furniture and equipment in the Tower Room, Church Room and flower shed are still to be compiled.

Thanks

Our thanks are extended to the chalice assistants, intercessors, readers, bell-ringers, sacristan, church cleaners, those who wash and iron the church linen, the flower arrangers and the keyholders who have enabled us to keep the church open, attractive and operating smoothly. Special thanks also are expressed to the volunteers of the Churchyard Working Party.

Churchwardens

This will be the last report compiled by the present Churchwardens, as Lily Cook is stepping down after three years' service, and Chris Everett has reached the statutory limit of six years. We extend our best wishes to the incoming Churchwardens and assure them of our continued support.

We express our grateful thanks to our Rector Rachel, the other clergy, the PCC, volunteers and the whole congregation for all the support given over the time we have been in office.

Chris Everett
March 2025

Approved by
Elizabeth Cook, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden2@outlook.com

Chris Everett, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden1@outlook.com

'The Young Ones'

Youth and Children's Work

Families @ St. Mary's

At St. Mary's we seek to serve people at every stage of life and to include people of all ages – even the very young – in our worship and activities. To that end, we offer a programme designed to meet the needs and engage the imaginations of children and youth so that they can grow in faith. The Families @ St. Mary's Programme is made up of a range of ministries that allow us to serve children, young people and teens, along with their families and carers. The programme is supported by a Children and Youth Leader, Philippa Fraison, who has been learning on the job and on Guildford Diocese's First-Timers Course, which offers those new to this ministry practical skills and theology through a mixture of written work, group reflection and prayer. Although Philippa's role is a small part-time one, having her on the team allows us to welcome and incorporate more children, young people and their families into the life of St. Mary's. However, the programme is only possible with the help of dozens of volunteers, including those on St. Mary's safeguarding team. If you might like to get involved, please do have a word!

Muddy Church

Muddy Church events are held seasonally on Saturday mornings to bring children, young people and their families together to explore the beauty and wonder of God's world. Each event includes a welcome and an invitation to wander through an outdoor trail set in St. Mary's churchyard with four to six stations for prayer, reflection, and creative explorations. Children take part alongside

parents, grandparents and some very well-behaved dogs. This year we held Muddy Church events in the spring, summer and autumn. On occasion Muddy Church coincides with the Churchyard Working Party, and when that happens the older children like to lend a hand with the work, which is wonderful. Muddy Church is led by our Rector with the help of Wendy Johnson, Catherine Stovold, Angela Stinson and Philippa Fraison, along with assistance from DofE volunteers.

Children exploring habitats, fossils, footprints, flowers and the beauty of creation through Muddy Church events.

Church Mice

Children and families singing and enjoying cake at Church Mice toddler group.

Church Mice is St. Mary's weekly baby and toddler group that meets on Thursdays in term time from 9:30am-11:30am in the Church Room. This programme has grown significantly with 30+ now attending each week, and it is a joy to see everyone making new friendships and enjoying playing, crafting, singing and snacking. We are grateful to Kirsty Parton and Vicky Howard and their team for leading the group so brilliantly, and for going above and beyond by designing another terrific window display on Christmas Eve for the Living Advent Calendar, a lovely village tradition organised by the Village Nursery.

Good News Gang

Games Night!

St. Mary's youth group is aimed at 9-14 year olds wanting to get to know a bit more about their faith and have some fun doing it. They meet monthly on Sunday evenings in term time for games, activities, explorations of the bible and lots of laughter. These evenings are known as "Games Night" and are an exploration of what the greatest games in the world can tell us about a good life. To help the whole congregation get ready for Lent, the gang collects last year's palm crosses and then burns them to make this year's ashes for Ash Wednesday, which is followed by pizza and s'mores by the fire. Some of the ash is also used to mark pebbles with the sign of the cross, which are distributed to pupils and staff in the school and made available in church for anyone who'd like to carry a pebble in their pocket over the forty days of Lent, as a reminder to draw near to God in prayer. In Holy Week, members of the gang lead St. Mary's Vigil Service ("The Watch"), which starts with the blessing and marking of the Paschal candle before moving into church for the readings that tell the story of salvation and culminate in the first celebration of Easter. The gang is led by Angela Stinson, Philippa Fraison and the Rector.

Children's Church

On most Sundays, after lighting the children's candle and leading us in prayer, children are invited (but not obliged!) to take part in 'All Stars' children's church, a bespoke, lectionary-based curriculum that explores the day's theme in age-appropriate ways through bible stories, games, skits and craft activities in the Church Room. Once a month, we also run in parallel a 'Tower Room' session for older children who'd like to delve deeper, with discussion and activities that foster mindfulness, contemplation and creativity. Currently six adults take turns leading sessions in the Church Room and Tower Room alongside the Children and Youth Leader. They are assisted by two young leaders, Charlotte Quickfall and Isobel Cook, who started volunteering in November in hopes of attaining a Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. We are always looking for more adult volunteers, and young leaders are welcome to get involved in planning and leading children's church activities.

Posada

St. Mary's Posada, a set of knitted figures of Mary and Joseph, travelled across our parish again this Advent (for the first time in six years!). The Posada was blessed in church on the second Sunday of Advent (8th December) and eight households took it in turn to "host" the Posada in their homes for a night to share the Christmas story with family, friends and neighbours. The word 'Posada' means inn or lodging and gives people a chance to offer the holy family lodging and to create their own celebration of the real message of Christmas – making room for Jesus in our lives. Hosts were provided with suggested prayers and reflections and invited to share a picture and/or a short account of their experience of hosting in the Posada Journey Memory Book and on Facebook, so that others could see its journey across our parish.

Special Events

Children and young people get a warm welcome at all our worship services, and many contribute to worship as acolytes, servers, readers and choristers. In addition, we also hold a number of special Parish Communion services to engage the imaginations of children and young people, in which they take more leadership roles. In 2024, these included a new Pet Service as well as Harvest Festival, the Christmas Eve Crib Service, Christingles on Candlemas and Mothering Sunday.

Children and families catching the spirit at Pentecost!

Preparing Young People to Receive Communion

This year we had the privilege of preparing seven young people to receive the bread and wine of holy communion, and children were formally admitted to communion and received the sacrament for the first time at services on October 6th and 20th, 2024. We are inspired by the number of young people wanting to enter fully into the sacramental life over the last few years and plan to hold a confirmation course in 2025, so that they are supported and encouraged to take the next step in deepening their faith.

Looking forward

These ministries to children, youth and their families are only possible because of volunteers, who come forward and are safely recruited, and who work to ensure there is always provision for all ages at St. Mary's. Having more volunteers join these wonderful ministries would make them more sustainable and allow us to better serve the families in our community. In particular we'd like to be able to offer an evening drop-in session for young people in years 5-8 on Friday nights as well as Sunday nights, and to that end parents of school children that age were invited to take a short survey. While there is a perceived need, there are not enough volunteers. The Church of England reckons that 27,000 volunteers with children and young people are now needed to make up the number lost since 2020, and that loss is felt in Chiddingfold as well as elsewhere. We've joined the Church of England's drive to recruit more volunteers to lead children and young people and very much hope the JOIN campaign bears fruit.

Leadership

The Children and Youth Focus Group meets three to four times a year to review St. Mary's offerings, reflect on best practice, plan for the future and keep the PCC updated. In November, James Quickfall felt the time had come to step down (huge thanks for your long service, James!), and we are keen to have two or three new people get involved. If you currently volunteer with any of St. Mary's programmes for children and young people, or have children or grandchildren who take part in them, please consider whether you could help us. Please get in touch with the Children and Youth Leader or the Rector to learn more.

Children and Youth Focus Group members: Rector (Chair), Oliver Bayne, Julie Flenley, Nigel Forman, Wendy Johnson, and Philippa Fraison.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

‘In the Beauty of Holiness’

Worship Focus Group

This year saw the continued return to the regular pattern of worship at St. Mary’s. Our planning for each liturgical season is built on our review of previous services and feedback, to ensure ongoing work is done to enable all ages and stages to ‘*know Christ better*’ through the services we offer.

Epiphany to Candlemas

On the last Sunday in January we held our Christingle Service, with ‘Christingle Kits’ prepared by Wendy and Alice Johnson, Charlotte and James Quickfall, Lily and Isobel Cook, and Philippa Fraison (among others!) for the children to make in the pews during the sermon. This was followed by a beautiful BCP Evensong held that evening, celebrating Candlemas.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter

The two Ash Wednesday services were both well attended. The ashing of pebbles, begun in 2021, was repeated and again proved to be very popular, including sending 250 Lent pebbles to the school for pupils and staff.

Mothering Sunday was a joyous event, and it was wonderful to welcome so many families to St. Mary’s. Thank you to the wonderful team of flower posy arrangers, led by Gilly van Oppen, for all their work preparing the posies, and to those who opened their gardens and donated flowers.

Holy Week began with the traditional Palm Sunday procession at the start of the 10am service, which included the dramatic reading of the Passion directed by James Quickfall. The Joint Churches in Chiddingfold Lent Supper took place on Monday 25th March, with Mike Danson as the after dinner speaker. Other Holy Week services included Communion on Maundy Thursday to commemorate the Last Supper, and the Walk of Witness and Meditations on the Cross on Good Friday. We were delighted that 21 people took part in Muddy Church on Holy Saturday, and once again the Easter Eve Vigil was wonderfully and ably led by St. Mary’s young people and teenagers.

The Easter Day service was particularly joyous, from the children ringing bells during the *Gloria*, to our brilliant team of bell-ringers ringing before and after the service, all rounded off with the traditional Easter Egg Hunt! The Taizé chant *Surrexit Dominus vere* was sung as a communion anthem by the choir.

Advent and Christmas

Building on the success of previous years, we again began this season with a wonderful Advent Evensong, which combined the framework of the Evensong liturgy with Advent carols. Our Carols by Candlelight Service was entitled ‘One Night in Bethlehem’ and included choir carols by Peter Warlock, arrangements by Helen Bendall, *A Christmas Blessing* by Philip W.J. Stopford, congregational carols, readings and refreshments. Our thanks go to Jan Fellingham and Ruth Goddard for their work in creating

Crib Service: The Five Innkeepers

both these services. On Christmas Eve we were able to hold our traditional Crib Service, with children coming dressed as their favourite Nativity characters. This year's Crib Service was the fruit of a new partnership with the local award-winning children's theatre company, Pied Piper, whose Artistic Director, Tina Williams, created a new script and props, and included pupils from St. Mary's in rehearsals so they could co-create the production. Tina ensured everyone had a ball on Christmas Eve and the church was full to bursting.

Special Services

On Sunday 3rd March we were delighted to hold our first Taizé Service, which was a welcome addition to our Evensong offering. Building on its success, we plan to hold another Taizé evening worship service in the autumn as well as the spring.

A successful Come and Sing of the Fauré *Requiem* was held in May, directed by Helen Bendall and accompanied by Clive Osgood. The event attracted singers from near and far, some of whom had not sung in a choir since the pandemic, and was enjoyed by all who took part. We hope to hold another 'Come and Sing' event in 2026.

On Sunday 14th July we held a Baptism Welcome Service and were delighted to invite all the families of children who had been baptised during the preceding year back to church.

Then in October dozens of dogs, cats, tortoises, and some impressive giant land snails came to St. Mary's for the Blessing of Animals. The new Pet Service was a joyful celebration of all creatures great and small. There was also an opportunity to write messages in a Book of Memories in thanksgiving for the love we've received from pets and other animals who have died. We're pleased to announce that this will be an annual village event.

Pet Service

In November we welcomed many recently bereaved families to our annual Service of Light to remember the departed and invited uniformed organisations to our annual Remembrance Sunday service, as well as representatives from HMS Chiddingfold who were able to join us on this occasion. We also came together to celebrate our Patronal Festival, Harvest Festival, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

First Communion

St. Mary's prepared seven children to receive First Communion, which took place on Sunday 6th October and Sunday 20th October – a truly wonderful sign of faith growing at St. Mary's as the next generation of disciples comes to maturity.

Other Regular Services

The weekly Wednesday service of Communion continues, and we welcomed the Revd Jenny Lee to the clergy team leading this service. Morning Prayer has continued to be led over Zoom, a format in which it has grown and flourished. It has been incredible to see this faithful group of parishioners continue to grow under the nurture and leadership of Gill Beckwith.

For the month of August we have continued the more sustainable Worship Pattern called 'Summer Sundays'. This means that we have one service of Communion at 10:00am and worship together as one congregation. Services of Holy Communion resume in September for the Patronal Festival.

Rose petals falling from St. Mary's Tower
after the Patronal Festival

Ministry at St. Mary's

Our worship is enriched by the ministry of St. Mary's Lay Preachers, Ken Lindup and Helen Bendall, and by St. Mary's Associate Priests: the Revd Gill Welford and the Revd Dr David Neaum. April 2024 marked 30 years since the first cohort of women were ordained to the priesthood, in the Church of England, and at St. Mary's we have been particularly blessed by the ministry of women. St. Mary's supports and encourages the wider church to keep taking steps to increase equality and demonstrate that every person is valued, while giving thanks for the ministry of the Reverends Sarah Brough, Gill Welford, Camilla White, Jenny Lee, Ann Fraser and Rachel Greene.

On Saturday 30th June, the Revd Richard Flenley was ordained deacon at Guildford Cathedral. It was a joyous occasion, and the celebrations continued the next day with cake and bubbly in the Church Room. Richard will continue to train on the job and through part-time studies and, all going well, will be ordained to the Priesthood in June 2025. We are grateful for his ministry among us and feel fortunate to have another self-supporting minister on St. Mary's clergy team.

Celebration of Revd Gill Welford's ministry

On 1st December, we marked the next chapter in Revd Gill Welford's ministry with an uplifting service. Everyone was given bulbs to plant – a lovely reminder to wait and see what God has in store for each of us. May a hundred flowers bloom in the spring!

Ordination of Revd Richard Flenley to the Diaconate

Life Events at St. Mary's

In 2024, we were delighted that many couples and families continued to choose to celebrate significant life events at St. Mary's. There were six Weddings, four Baptisms, eighteen Funeral or Memorial Services, and seven Burial of Ashes conducted. We were also pleased to continue to offer services of Holy Communion in people's homes throughout the parish and praise God for all the ways we've been given to offer worship.

Worship Focus Group members: Revd Dr Rachel Greene (Chair), Helen Bendall, Jan Fellingham, David Stinson, Revd Gill Welford, Revd Richard Flenley

Helen Bendall
stmarysorganist@outlook.com

Finance and Stewardship

In summary 2024 was a positive step forward in church finances. As part of the Church Development Plan we achieved our short-term objective of restoring our financial position back to where it was at the end of 2022. This was no mean achievement and testimony to a lot of hard work and focus across the PCC and the wider team. We intend to build from here.

The Treasury Team comprises myself as Treasurer and Gilly van Oppen as Bookkeeper, ably supported by the PCC Standing Committee as required. Between us, and particularly through Gilly, we have provided regular and timely financial information to PCC to help them make informed decisions.

2024 saw a very successful Appeal which raised over £20,000 in one-off donations plus a good increase in regular giving. Over the year we also saw an uplift in collections and some good results from fundraising activities. Fuller details will be provided and printed in my Treasurer's Report for the Annual Parish Church Meeting (APCM) in May.

The Accounts for 2024 are complete and, as I write this report, are with our Independent Examiner, Tony Kelly, for sign-off.

Nigel Hyslop, Treasurer
stmarystreasurer39@gmail.com

Raising Money, Having Fun

The Fundraising Team

We want to thank everyone who supported St. Mary's through the last year and helped our fundraising efforts. So many wonderful fundraising activities took place, and we could not have done it without the help of everyone who took part.

In April we held our first Church Appeal in many years, and our grateful thanks go to all who contributed to its success. The Appeal raised much-needed funds for St. Mary's, both through donations and increased Regular Planned Giving, putting the church on a better financial footing. Special thanks go to Ken and Sue Smith for donating two beautiful paintings for auction on the Gift Day. Special thanks also go to local artist John Worth, who put together a short film called *The Space to Be* in support of St. Mary's, with words written and recited by Cordelia Hampton-John and set to music by the Japanese composer Ryuichi Sakamoto. John's film was produced for the Gift Day to shine a light on St. Mary's and encourage more people to help sustain it for current and future generations.

A May Marauders Car Rally, which was held at the Mulberry Inn, raised £550. We thank Michael (Barrie) Pegrum for organising the event and John Rabhini, the Landlord, for hosting and supporting it so generously.

The Chiddingfold Village Fête in June saw the fundraising group organise the Quintessentially English Sales Stall. A huge range of donations were made, providing a good range of stock. Good stock was also key to the success of the Barrows of Bottles. The two stalls raised approximately £2,000 which was fantastic. Thanks are given to Jules Cook and Oli Shepherd who co-ordinated and sold tickets for the Barrow of Bottles, and Melanie and Rob Wotherspoon and all their team for their work behind the scenes of the QE stall. Our thanks also go to John Worth who donated one of his own paintings to be auctioned, and displayed a collection of his art, alongside art created by children at St. Mary's Primary School in the Church Room during Arts Week; and St. Mary's Flower Team who put on an amazing Flower Festival in church.

Also in June, St. Mary's was invited to run the coffee and cake stand in the Church Room for the Open Gardens Day, which raised just over £500. Thanks go to Wendy Johnson and her team who co-ordinated this.

September saw the inaugural RunChiddRun which was a huge success, so much so that plans are afoot for a re-run in 2025! It was wonderful to see competitors of all ages challenging themselves at their chosen distance. Thanks go to Chris Ryan, Oli Shepherd, Chris Bysouth, Bruce and Jane Devlin, and James Parton for organising the event; the Cricket Club for offering their facilities to be used as the base; Matt Jordan for organising activity challenges at the base; the Doctors' surgery for running the BBQ; Matt Elcox for DJing the event; Rich Gorrod for providing the speakers and sound system; all the marshals who encouraged and signposted the runners along the routes; and, finally, the runners themselves for taking part.

In November a Pre-loved Sale of men, women and children's clothing was held which raised £850. Our thanks are given to Melanie Wotherspoon and her team who made it such a success, and to everyone who supported this event.

We are happy to report that Gilly van Oppen has stepped forward to co-ordinate the fundraising team so that we can lift more events like this off the ground in the year ahead. We have high hopes for fundraising events in 2025, so look out for notices!

Fundraising Focus Group members: Beverley Draper, Susan Hodges, Pauline Kaye, Sue Smith and Melanie Wotherspoon

St. Mary's Outward Giving

These are the charities that we supported in 2024:

The Children's Society The Children's Society helps children of all faiths and none, including children at risk on the streets, disabled children, young refugees, young carers or those within the youth justice system. The collections from the Christingle Service are donated and members of our congregation collect at home throughout the year.	**Christian Aid** Christian Aid seeks to alleviate poverty and injustice. It works mainly in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Central and South America. As part of Christian Aid Week each May we organise a special collection with our ecumenical partners, the Joint Churches of Chiddingfold.	**The Trussell Trust** The Trussell Trust supports a nationwide network of food banks; provides emergency food and support to people locked in poverty; and campaigns for change to end the need for food banks in the UK. St. Mary's holds a special collection at Harvest and also collects food for the Haslemere and Godalming Foodbanks all year round.
The Royal British Legion The Royal British Legion provides welfare to the whole Armed Forces family – serving, ex-Service and their dependants. It also campaigns on issues affecting Service people, is the custodian of Remembrance, runs the Poppy Appeal and is one of the UK's largest membership organisations. The collection from the Remembrance Sunday service is donated.	**UNICEF** UNICEF works in over 190 countries and territories to save children's lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfil their potential, from early childhood through adolescence. UNICEF's Middle East appeal provides conflict- and disaster-affected children with access to water, sanitation, nutrition, education, health and protection services.	**Oxfam** Oxfam International is a group of 14 organisations working with over 3,000 partners in around 100 countries to find lasting solutions to poverty and injustice.
Midhurst Macmillan Midhurst Macmillan provides specialist palliative care support to patients and families in this area affected by complex life limiting illness.	**Winston's Wish** Winston's Wish provides free digital bereavement information and support for children and young people across the UK who are grieving the death of someone important to them.	**Crossways Counselling** Crossways provides a professional counselling service in Haslemere and the surrounding area for individuals, couples and young people aged 11-18, who otherwise would not be able to afford private counselling sessions.
St. Mary's CofE Primary School St. Mary's CofE Primary School in Chiddingfold is an academy is the Good Shepherd Trust and has close relationship with St. Mary's Church.	**Refugees at Home** Refugees at Home is a UK charity which connects those with a spare room in their home to refugees and asylum seekers in need of somewhere to stay.	**The Hunter Centre** The Hunter Day Care Centre in Haslemere provides care, companionship and stimulation for people living with a dementia diagnosis.

Looking after Children and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding Report

The PCC's Safeguarding role is clearly defined in The Church of England's 'Parish Handbook' and is carried out with the support of the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) validator – Helen Bendall. The House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church: Policy Statement' has been adopted by the PCC and this is displayed in St. Mary's. A copy of the Handbook is available on the Parish website, as is a full list of contacts and organisations providing help and advice. Although Safeguarding is on the agenda of all PCC meetings, complete confidentiality is maintained where matters are raised with the PSO or the Rector.

The PCC have carried out a Safeguarding Audit and reviewed the Action Plan before writing a new plan which is being taken forward. The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard is being used which is an online tool that helps keep track of safeguarding in the church and keeps us up to date with local and national changes in safeguarding requirements.

Louise Taylor, St. Mary's Safeguarding Officer
stmaryssafeguarding@outlook.com

He Washes Us Clean...

The Baptism Visiting Team

2024 was a quiet year for Baptisms with two taking place in the 10:00 service and three at 12 noon. I think that 2023 probably saw the last of the Covid-delayed Baptisms taking place and hence there were a larger number in that year.

We had a Baptism Welcome Service in July where thirteen families were invited and two came. Rachel and the Baptism Visiting Team had already been thinking of offering this service every two years and, with the small number of attendees in July and the small number of Baptisms in 2024, this seems like a good plan.

Helen, Lily and I always feel it is such a privilege to support families at such a special time in their lives.

Baptism Visiting Team: Lily Cook, Helen Gorrod, Wendy Johnson

Wendy Johnson
wej1811@gmail.com

Bells at St. Mary's

Our band of ringers are very happy to be able to accompany services and other events with the sound of our wonderful bells ringing out over the village. Our community is also very appreciative of the bells ringing to mark both church and secular events. Our regular practices on a Wednesday are fun times and are gradually increasing the skills of the ringers to enable more challenging methods to be rung.

We have a small band of local ringers who usually manage to ring for services and weddings and other events and we are grateful for the assistance given by the Dunsfold band and others in making up our numbers when needed. Our numbers though have reduced since last year. The usual erosion of our available ringers by illnesses and infirmities etc., and with learners not pursuing their development, has resulted in many occasions when we would have wanted to ring but were unable to muster the necessary number of ringers. Any less than four bells ringing is unsatisfactory. We were very disappointed to not be able to ring for some Sunday services which resulted in 14 Sunday services not announced with the bells. Four weddings, two funerals, and other special services during the year, such as Remembrance, were accompanied by the bells. We were particularly pleased to ring for all the Christmas services.

Seven bands have visited in the year for general ringing, one further band to ring a Quarter Peal (45 mins) and three others rung full peals of three hours. We also hosted the Guildford District meeting in November, with teas and ringing! I sometimes announce on Facebook that a peal is to be attempted for the information of the village. Each visiting band makes a contribution to the church funds.

Our particular thanks go to the church and its officers for the continuing goodwill and support for our ringers and ringing.

John Cowburn, Tower Captain
jj.cowburn@btinternet.com

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Choir and Music

Choir and Music

The Choir of St. Mary's enjoys singing different styles of music that reflect the significance of the season and enable us to enhance and support the worship in St. Mary's Church. In our weekly choir practices we rehearse both new and well-known hymns and anthems in preparation for Sunday services and festivals, all whilst having fun!

Membership and attendance

The choir has remained strong and welcomed new members in both the adult and junior choirs. We are delighted that our teenage choristers have continued their vocal development, with two having moved from trebles to tenors/basses and Charlotte Quickfall continuing her strong lead of the Junior Choir as Head Chorister.

Musical Highlights

We marked Easter, the Patronal Festival, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday, Advent and Christmas, each with special anthems by a range of composers, including Jeremiah Clarke, Mozart, Tallis, Elgar, Stanford, Parry, Rawsthorne, John Rutter, Peter Aston and Clive Osgood. Our repertoire has also included new psalm and canticle settings, songs from the Iona Community and Taizé chants. For the Carols by Candlelight Service at Christmas we sung four solo choir carols, including *Bethlehem Down* by Peter Warlock and *A Christmas Blessing* by Philip W.J. Stopford, the latter of which may become a regular feature of this service.

In May we held a very successful Come and Sing of the Fauré *Requiem*, accompanied by Clive Osgood at the piano, and good fun was had by all. The choir was invited to sing at three weddings in 2024, and we held our annual choir Barbecue in June – thank you to John and Mary Doig for hosting this event.

Leadership

Helen has continued to lead the weekly singing assemblies at St. Mary's School and the children have shared some of the music they learn in school at Sunday services, including the *Harvest Samba* and *Mary, did you know?*.

Music at St. Mary's has continued to benefit from the musicianship of David Stinson. He is greatly thanked for playing the organ and taking choir practices, thereby covering weekends when our organist was unavailable. In the run-up to Christmas he arranged additional Junior Choir rehearsals after the 10am Parish Communion, which helped the children learn the repertoire and train them in their roles as choristers.

Future developments

The choir looks forward to further developing the Junior Choir and welcomes both adults and children to come and sing with us. Choir social events are planned for 2025, and a 'Hymns & Pimms' is scheduled for July.

Helen Bendall, Organist *stmarysorganist@outlook.com*
Christine Barlow, Choir Secretary *chris@dottydragon.co.uk*
John Doig, Choir Treasurer *johndoig65@gmail.com*

Part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

Deanery Synod Report

The Church of England has established four levels of Governance, viz PCC, Deanery Synod, Diocesan Synod and General Synod. Gill Beckwith and Ken Lindup represent St. Mary's on the Deanery Synod which meets twice a year, and Gill Beckwith has recently been elected to the Diocesan Synod.

In 2024 the Godalming Synod, chaired by our Area Dean Revd Chris Bessant, Team Rector in our neighbouring Haslemere Parish, met twice: in May at the newly named Godalming Minster, Church Street (formerly St. Peter & St. Paul), and in November at St. Stephen's, Shottermill.

The May meeting was the first Deanery Synod meeting since the parishes of Busbridge, Hambledon and Godalming (St. Peter's & St. Paul's and St. Mark's) had joined together to become the single parish of Godalming Minster on 1st January 2024. It included a speaker, Matthew Grove, the Foundations in Ministry Programme (FiM) Manager at the Diocese. He explained that the two-year FiM programme trains people for lay ministry. Candidates are identified locally, with the role that they are aiming to fill also being identified at parish level. Synod members were asked to reflect on who in their church has the gifts to serve but not necessarily the confidence or training.

It was also noted that our new Archdeacon for Surrey, the Ven Catherine Mabuza was now in post, the first woman archdeacon in the Diocese of Guildford (and at the November meeting it was hoped that she would be able to attend a Deanery meeting in 2025).

The November meeting primarily focused on an in-depth examination of evidence of deprivation within the Deanery using the English Indices of Deprivation, and reflected upon what ministry churches might be able to pursue to reduce any forms of deprivation, and that this be an area for discussion and exploration by PCCs.

It was reported that several parishes within the Deanery had put forward candidates for the Foundations in Ministry Course, and that there was also a new course, the Caleb Stream, which is a fast track to ordination for those aged between 60 and 70. It was hoped to invite someone from the Diocese to speak about this new course at a meeting in 2025.

Gill Beckwith, Godalming Deanery Synod Representative and Diocesan Synod Representative
Ken Lindup, Godalming Deanery Synod Representative

Eco Church 2024 Report

"The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it." Psalm 24.1

The Eco Church group at St. Mary's aims to help our church play its part in renewing the earth by using resources responsibly, creatively and unselfishly. Our goal is to empower individuals, the church congregation and the wider community to model good stewardship by reducing our environmental footprint, increasing awareness of environmental sustainability and encouraging the appreciation of God's creation.

Land Management

We are so grateful to Chris Everett, Phil Darley and Gilly van Oppen for keeping a close eye on the churchyard's management and for heading up the merry band of volunteers who come out on the first Saturday of each month to weed, trim, rake, prune, plant, mend and maintain it with such care, skill and attention. Phil Darley continues to inspire the village to foster an environment that supports wildflowers and nectar sources, and the monitoring of wildflowers continues, with a survey planned for the spring.

Lisa Webb-Salter created a year's worth of reflections to guide walkers on what they might notice each month in the churchyard and to consider the season's impact on us. These wonderful resources are displayed on the new shed noticeboards so that anyone taking the path through the churchyard might see them.

All the fantastic work on the churchyard, to which so many have contributed so much, was presented to the Diocesan Environmental Officer, Alison Moulden, who is creating a portfolio of case studies to inspire other parishes to begin their own journey towards becoming an Eco Church.

Autumn

The season of Surrender

In Autumn, light surrenders to darkness, and the days grow shorter.

Leaves fall from the trees in a blaze of glorious colour, and we are reminded that nothing lasts forever.

Autumn is a time of harvest, but it is also a time of melancholy and letting go.

Autumn is the season of transition and change. It teaches us the virtues of acceptance, obedience and wisdom.

It is in our spiritual Autumn that we learn what needs to fall away in our lives, so that new life can take its turn to live.

In Autumn, we are called to let go.

Minimising Waste

Following the 2023 success of St. Mary's first Pre-loved Sale, the event was held for the second time in November in the Church Room. Boxes and boxes of clothes and accessories were emptied in their dozens and quickly turned around to be picked up by others. An economical and sustainable way to refresh and renew wardrobes across the village and beyond – the cycle of life in motion!

Educating the Young

Painted cotton panels created by St. Mary's pupils during Arts Week on display at the Church Room

This year we forged a new collaboration between local artists, the school and the church, culminating in our first Arts Week held in June. Local artist John Worth, local poet Cordelia Hampton-Joan, and the Head of Art, Gayle Lawrence, offered a week of activities in the classroom and beyond, in studios and gardens, enabling pupils in each year group to make and create, drawing inspiration from the natural world. This included hands-on learning, delivered with the help of John and Cordelia, as well as talks about mark-making, music and place which were open to pupils, parents and members of the wider community. Work created during Arts week was displayed in St. Mary's Church Room during the Village Fête and in St. Mary's CofE Primary School. A short film was also produced which captured how students' imaginations were fuelled by natural materials and the surroundings, through this special collaboration between the church, the school and local artists. We hope Arts Week, with its emphasis on creating together and with nature, might be a biennial event.

Paintings created by St. Mary's pupils during Arts Week on display in the Church Room during the Fête.

In November, the Rector was asked to lead the RE unit on creation for St. Mary's CofE Primary School pupils during the UN Climate Conference, COP29, which was held in Baku, Azerbaijan. Rachel was joined by a special guest speaker from the congregation, Lisa Webb Salter, who talked about the amazing environments she has lived in (from deserts to weald), how important nature is to her faith, and how she thinks about the environment as a scientist, a photographer and a Christian. She encouraged pupils to keep daily nature journals and to adopt simple practices to become more attentive to the natural world and to God's presence, inspired by Ann Lewin's poem 'Be Still'.

'Be Still' by Ann Lewin

You do not have to look for anything,
Just look.
You do not have to listen for specific sounds,
Just listen.
You do not have to accomplish anything,
Just be.
And in the looking
And the listening,
And the being,
Find Me.

Repair Café

The Chiddingfold Repair Café was launched to much anticipation in May 2023. It is led and hosted by the Baptist Church, with support from The Rotary Club of Godalming. The Repair Café is held on every second Saturday of the month, with volunteer specialists giving up their time to fix items brought in by local residents and visitors. From electrical goods to furniture, clothing, garden or garage items, every repair contributes to more sustainable and economical consumption. This is an initiative we wholeheartedly support and know that members of the congregation have benefited from attending! If you have an item for repair, a skill to present or some time to spare, we highly recommend joining on the second Saturday of each month, 10am-12:30pm.

Wax Recycling

St. Mary's has offered a Wax Recycling drop-off point next to the votive candle stand since 2019 for everyone in the village. We are grateful to Nita Draper who served as Wax Recycling Champion from the start and who stepped down in August. We are also grateful to Gill Beckwith who has helped improve what we do. Recycled candle ends used in church and brought in from homes are now delivered to a recycling drop-off point in Guildford, rather than posted to Exeter, which is more economical and ecological. Looking ahead, we hope to create a new service for Candlemas 2025 on the theme of candles, highlighting the work of local beekeepers, what can be made with wax, how it is recycled and what we can all do to support bees under threat.

Net Zero Targets

At the end of 2023, members of Eco Church met with Jeremy Hunt to talk about the Government's commitment to tackling climate change and environmental degradation. Although our government has since changed, the country's underlying commitment to tackling climate and nature change has not. While geopolitical dynamics may see certain regional fluctuations in sentiment, the global trajectory remains clear – one of a transition to net zero emissions. The next UN Climate Conference, COP 30, hosted by Brazil in November will be a critical milestone for governments around the world to demonstrate their continued commitment and their raised ambition to delivering action on climate change to meet the goals

of the Paris Agreement – a global challenge that requires action by all, from individuals, communities, towns, cities, local, regional and national government, to NGO's and all private sector actors. At St. Mary's we will continue to play our part and do what we can to encourage the appreciation and protection of God's creation.

Looking ahead

St. Mary's Flower Team is investigating ways of reducing oasis in floral arrangements, which is great news, and in the year ahead we have plans to create new partnerships with community organisations and local businesses to widen St. Mary's impact, so that we can share more insights, expertise and enthusiasm about creating sustainability. Watch this space!

Further information about the work of St. Mary's Eco Church will be available on the church's website or email: stmarysecochurch@gmail.com.

Rachel Greene, Acting Chair
rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

Catherine Stovold, Secretary
catherine.ogden.celo@gmail.com

Flower Committee Report

The flower committee comprises of the following people: Ciss Denyer, Joyce Morgan, Yvonne Lindup, Gill Ward, Ruth Roberts, Jane Stott and Mary Doig.

This year has been more challenging than most because of the sharp increase in the cost of fresh flowers. We have had to increase the amount we charge wedding couples and those organising funerals, and now charge about £250.

However, we managed to have fresh flowers in the church for most of the year, thanks in part to the generosity of the arrangers and local gardeners, but we do supplement the arrangements with artificial flowers from time to time.

We are lucky to have a lovely group on the committee and have a great deal of fun working together. However, we are not getting any younger and would appreciate younger people on the committee. We also have a large group of ever-willing talented supporters who come when called upon to help with the festivals, either to decorate, clear up or make coffee. We could not do without them and I am very grateful for their help.

Again we received a large amount of donations for the Easter lilies, which helped us fill the church with flowers for Easter.

We decided to hold a flower festival this year, the theme being groups and clubs in the village. Much to our delight this was a great success and raised approximately £700 for the Friends of St. Mary's. It will not be an annual event but we hope to arrange it again for 2026.

Parish Communion during the Flower Festival

We decorated the church for two local weddings this year and the flowers were well received. We were also chosen to arrange the flowers for four local funerals. Whilst sad, as some of the committee will have known the deceased, it is always a privilege for us to do this.

Again I would like to thank the wonderful group of people who enjoy arranging flowers, we could not manage without them or their good humour and enthusiasm.

Mary Doig, Flower Coordinator 2024

Food for Fellowship

At St. Mary's we aspire to be a welcoming community, and we relish the chance to get to make new friends and catch up with old ones – especially over good food and drink! The Choir BBQ hosted by John and Mary Doig in June was an enjoyable evening for choristers and choir members. Sadly the Parish BBQ (traditionally held in the Rectory Garden on the Patronal Festival) was foiled by rain, but that didn't stop us from enjoying cake in the Church Room. There were also opportunities to come together over mince pies following Choral Evensong in Advent and over mulled wine following the Carols by Candlelight Service. The party for the Church Carers, the retirement of Revd Gill Welford and the ordination of Revd Richard Flenley were also joyous occasions to raise a glass and mark significant milestones together. And, as always, we are utterly grateful to our wonderful team who make coffee and tea after Parish Communion week in and week out.

We'd love to create more opportunities for fellowship, so if you enjoy good company, baking, catering, or can pour a cup of tea, please get in touch!

Lily Cook, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden2@outlook.com

With a Little Help from our Friends

The Friends of St. Mary's

2024 was a great year for the "Friends of St. Mary's Church". We are delighted to say that we are in a good financial position and therefore were able to fund the replacement of the 'Crittall' windows in the vestry, plus the redecoration that was needed after the work was completed. The vestry is now much lighter and brighter and complies with the latest safety regulations.

The annual village fête, saw the "Friends" run the fabulous Tea Tent. Huge thanks to everyone who helped in so many ways. It would not happen without the good people around, which enabled us to make a surplus to swell our funds for the next project that we might be called upon to assist with.

In November, the "Friends" ran a concert in the church. We were so lucky that the Chapel Choir of King Edwards School, Witley, came to sing. I cannot tell you how simply wonderful they were. About 100 people enjoyed the choir as they processed down the aisle in their scarlet choir robes. The choir, aged 13-18 years, consisted of roughly 40 voices supported by a few masters. The sound was amazing, as were some of the pieces they sang. The choir was led by their musical director Stasio Sliwka, accompanied by a pupil from the school playing the organ. This boy had been awarded an organ scholarship from Guildford Cathedral. Afterwards many people enjoyed a glass of wine plus lovely nibbles, all provided by committee members of the "Friends". A really fantastic evening, many thanks to all who were involved.

A happy and healthy 2025 to you all, with many thanks for your continued support for the "Friends of St. Mary's Church".

Rosemary Gorringe
Chairman

Many Members, One Body

The Joint Churches in Chiddingfold

The three churches in Chiddingfold continue to affirm their Christian unity which is contained in our mission of 'Working and worshipping together through mutual respect and understanding to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in his mission to Chiddingfold and the world.' To that end all three churches have representatives, and we meet regularly to plan events. We have a rotating chair and this year Mike Danson took over the reins from Rector Rachel Greene.

We kicked off the year with a special service held at St. Teresa's to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Then in Holy Week we hosted a Community Supper open to all in St. Mary's Church Room. The delicious homemade meal served was catered by Gill Beckwith and her brilliant team. Allison Sutcliffe had arranged to speak on modern day slavery after supper but was unable to come that evening, so Mike Danson gave a fascinating talk on contemporary icons painted on ammunition boxes from war zones across Ukraine. These remarkable pieces

of devotional art were created by Ukrainian artists, Sofia Atlantova and Oleksandr Klymenko, and brought to the UK as part of a joint project between the Rotary Clubs of Guildford Chantries and Kyiv-Capital. We are grateful to Mike Danson for stepping into the breech at short notice, and for the opportunity to reflect on beauty and hope arising even in the midst of violent conflict. The icons that Mike showed us were then displayed in St. Mary's Church, as silent witnesses to the wars raging around the world and the hope of peace, before being exhibited in Guildford Cathedral.

Fr Raj's farewell service

On 8th September St. Mary's celebrated their Patronal Festival and Chiddingfold Baptist celebrated their Anniversary at Woodside, having moved from Ramsnest 120 years ago. Then on October 12th we came together to hold a Service of Healing and Wellbeing in St. Teresa's on their Patronal Festival. Sadly, Fr Raj was transferred only a few weeks before to take up a new ministry in Tadworth. Fr Raj has ministered here in Chiddingfold for the last two years and will be missed greatly. Fr Jonathan will be looking after St. Teresa's going forward or at least until the pastoral reordering of the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton is completed.

This year we held two art competitions for pupils at St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, who submitted illustrations at Easter and at Christmas. The winning entries were used to illustrate worship service times in these holy seasons and printed in the Parish Magazine. We give thanks for the creativity of all the pupils who took part in this school-wide event.

To round off the year, the Joint Churches came together at St. Mary's in December to welcome the Peace Light from Bethlehem. Because of the conflict in the Middle East, it could not be kindled in Bethlehem in 2024, however the 2023 light still burned in a number of places in the UK and we are grateful to Ken Lindup for bringing it to Chiddingfold.

We are proud of all we have achieved together this year, and despite concerns about how best to fund our activities, we continue to work together as one body for the good of all in our community. We welcome the involvement of any who might like to help us plan and run events together!

Mike Danson
Chairman

You Visited Me...

The Pastoral Visiting Team

Caring for our Community

St. Mary's offers pastoral support to all who live in the parish whatever their religious beliefs. St. Mary's is also committed to caring for those who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age. The Rector celebrates communion with them in their homes and in hospital, and visits all who request it. In this she is assisted by St. Mary's Associate Priests and by a handful of lay pastoral visitors.

Lay Pastoral Visitors are those with a particular heart for serving the church and parish through visiting newcomers to the church and those who have moved into the local area; by visiting the sick and the housebound; by praying with and for people when visiting; and by providing pastoral care, support and assistance to those identified by the clergy. Some Pastoral Visitors are also commissioned to bring the bread and wine of Holy Communion to those who are no longer able to attend church.

This year Faith Reynolds stepped down after years of bringing communion to homes and visiting people across our community. We are enormously grateful for her ministry. We would like to see more share in this ministry of pastoral visiting and care. If you have skills in listening, a willingness to receive training, and a heart for showing others care in the name of Christ, we'd like to hear from you!

Lay Pastoral Visiting Team: Margaret McComish.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Work in St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chiddingfold

St. Mary's Church is blessed to have a close working relationship with St. Mary's CofE Primary School, a part of the Good Shepherd Trust. The Rector and her team are in the school every week lending skills and expertise to enrich the experiences of pupils.

Rector blessing the new school library
September 10, 2024

As a local governing committee member, the Rector helps ensure the school's strategic direction, financial performance and education outcomes. She also holds responsibilities for the pastoral care of teachers and staff; to ensure that an act of collective worship is offered each week and that services for the whole school are offered each term; and to ensure important elements of the RE curriculum are brought to life. Many of those responsibilities are best shared and made ever more enjoyable through combined efforts. St. Mary's Church has a talented pool of volunteers who enrich collective worship by taking turns to lead assemblies on the values that underpin the school's identity.

In addition, St. Mary's Organist, Helen Bendall, leads a weekly music assembly. This creates an important pathway from the school to the church. As a result, we have seen pupils joining the junior choir and have had their families coming along on a Sunday to hear them sing. We're keen to widen this pathway and have plans to launch a new children's choir in 2025.

Open the Book Assembly

St. Mary's Church co-ordinates an Open the Book Team of Storytellers, who contribute by leading assemblies twice a term. The Open the Book assemblies are incredibly popular with the children and teachers alike, and exceptionally good fun for all involved. This year pupils requested to help lead alongside our Storytellers, and after a joint rehearsal, put on a hilarious version of Jonah and the Whale. Going forward we plan to create more opportunities for them to share in the storytelling fun. Sadly two of our Storytellers have had to step down in 2024, so we are looking to recruit some new volunteers. Please let us know if you're interested – no special acting skills are required!

Guildford Diocese's Overview of Religious Education Guidelines for Key Stage 1.

How would you answer these questions?

	What is a church?	to learn why the church is a special place for Christians. Through this unit, pupils will explore the key features of your parish Church (exterior/interior/people) and investigate Christian symbols that are found there, making connections with what Christians believe.	Y1	5-6 hours
	Why do Christians go to church?	to focus more on the concept of how and why Christians worship through different services rather than the features of the building and is intended to build on the Year 1 unit 'What is a church?' It is envisaged that this unit should be used in conjunction with a visit to your parish church building. You might decide to focus on one type of service in depth e.g. Sunday, baptism or wedding, or explore a variety.	Y2	5-6 hours
Living as a Christian	What is a Christian?	to explain that a Christian is someone who follows Jesus, using examples of the people who followed Jesus during his lifetime, and others from the past. Pupils are also introduced to Jesus' two 'great' commandments: 'love God' & 'love others', and asked to think about the impact of Jesus' words for people who follow him.	KS1	5-6 hours

We also support pupils, staff and learning in other ways. We were pleased to lead a Pause Day in March (about the real meaning of Easter) and one in December (about the real meaning of Christmas). On these days, the regular curriculum is paused, and each year group spends part of the day in church exploring a wide range of prayer stations that help them to reflect and to respond creatively and prayerfully. When the head boy, head girl, and their deputies were asked by the local governing committee what were the most enjoyable experiences of their primary school years, they said the Pause Days in St. Mary's Church (!).

Pause Day "On the Meaning of Easter" held March 19, 2024

We are keen to offer pupils more and are fortunate to be able to draw in the help of talented individuals and local organisations. In 2024 we forged a new collaboration between local artists, the school and the church to dovetail with St. Mary's Church Appeal. Our aim was to capture the special experiences that pupils were getting to have in their parish church and give young people the chance to voice what they value about having a lively church in the heart of their community. We are rightfully proud of the short film called "A Space to Be" that was commissioned with the help of the Head of RE, Karen Porter, and produced by the photographer and painter John Worth and the poet Cordelia Hampton-John. It can be viewed on YouTube, through St. Mary's Church website and through John Worth's website. This creative output was part of a larger project culminating in our first Arts Week held this June, with the help of John and Cordelia and the Head of Art, Gayle Lawrence. We believe these collaborations strengthen not only our church school but also our whole community and have an enormous debt of gratitude to John and Cordelia, and to Karen and Gayle, for the opportunity to work together.

Art Week with John Worth & Cordelia Hampton-John at Marlow Cottage, Chiddingfold
June 4-7, 2024

Year 5 pupils' responses to RE Lesson on creation, evolution and climate change, December 2, 2024

Other highlights of the year include welcoming pupils back to St. Mary's after the long holidays for a New Beginnings Service; leading a Harvest Festival Service and a Service of Remembrance in School; including Year 6 pupils in our Commemoration of Armistice Day at the Village War Memorial; and leading a special Easter Service as well as a Leavers' Service for Year 6 pupils moving on to secondary school. On behalf of the three village churches, we presented each leaver with a Bible and wished them godspeed as they moved up to secondary school.

We are very proud that in 2024 St. Mary's Primary School received recognition from SIAMs Inspectors that the school is living up to its foundation as a Christian institution; an inclusion award for supporting pupils with a range of gifts, needs, backgrounds and family situations; and an OFSTED good rating. Such recognition helps spread the word about the wonderful work being done in the school.

We celebrated the school's success at the last assembly of the autumn term. At the same time, we said farewell to Headteacher Sheila Buckley, as she retired, and to Brett Freeman, as he stepped down as Chair of the Local Committee (Governors). From January, Jane Bell will be assuming the role of Chair and Assistant Head Alison Evans will be Acting Head during the recruitment process.

Tuesday Assembly Team: Beverley Draper, Helen Bendall, Philippa Fraison and Rachel Greene.

Open the Book Assembly Team: Jane Bell, Gerald Williams, Martin Barnett, Wendy and Irving Johnson, Philippa Fraison and Rachel Greene.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Membership of St. Mary's

Electoral Roll Report

The Electoral Roll is the church membership list. Anyone is eligible to join the Electoral Roll if they have been baptised and live within the parish, or if they are baptised and have regularly attended worship at St. Mary's during the previous six months.

Membership of St. Mary's implies: (a) that you are committed to grow in faith through prayer, Bible reading and regular worship; (b) that you take an active interest in the life and purposes of this church; (c) that you are willing to use your time and talents to help build up the church and its ministry; and (d) that you undertake proportional regular planned giving to financially support this church (which is entirely self-funded).

The Electoral Roll Officer reported that a revision of the Parish Electoral Roll had been completed on Monday 8th April 2024 in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During this process, six applications for inclusion had been received and five names had been removed in respect of those who had died or moved away. The total number on the Parish Electoral Roll now stood at 122 members. The figures were presented at the 2024 Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on Sunday 28th April 2024 and were duly notified to the Secretaries of the Guildford Diocesan Synod and the Godalming Deanery Synod.

Since the 2024 APCM there have been no further additions to the Electoral Roll and two deletions in respect of those who have become a clerk in Holy Orders, died or moved away. The total number on the St. Mary's Electoral Roll, as of 31st December 2024, was 120.

Helen Bendall, Electoral Roll Officer
stmaryschurchcouncil@outlook.com

St. Mary's Church Links

Individuals, groups and organisations linked to St. Mary's Church are listed below.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

Louise Taylor	stmaryssafeguarding@outlook.com
Helen Bendall	stmarysenquiries@outlook.com

Children and Youth Leader

Philippa Fraison	stmaryscyl@outlook.com

Church Room Bookings

Elizabeth Ottley	stmarysbookingsclerk@outlook.com	01428 685797

Wedding Administrator

Tracy Verrier	stmarysweddingclerk@outlook.com

Bell-ringing

John Cowburn	jj.cowburn@btinternet.com	01428 685940

Choir / Organist

Helen Bendall	stmarysorganist@outlook.com	07986 127855

Church Flowers Organiser

Mary Doig	marydoig69@gmail.com

Friends of St. Mary's

Rosemary Gorringe	rg@hartland3.plus.com	01428 683518

Churchyard Records & Archives

Jane Bradford	j.bradford59@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Magazine

Anne Sheppard	Anne.Sheppard@btinternet.com
Tony Wiener	tony.wiener1@gmail.com

St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

School Office	admin2@stmarys-godalming.surrey.sch.uk	01428 683115

To know Christ better,
to make Christ better known

Annual Report
for the year ended 31st December 2024

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed:

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 11th May 2025

St. Mary's Church

Chiddingfold

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

To know Christ better,
to make Christ better known

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD
TREASURER'S REPORT – 2024

Welcome to my first report as Treasurer of St Mary's. I would like to acknowledge up front the help and encouragement I have received from Rachel and many others from within the PCC. In particular for the sterling support of our Bookkeeper Gilly van Oppen. I would also like to recognise my predecessor Gerald Williams for his help during the transition. Thank you all, you have been brilliant.

As reported last time 2023 was a challenging year. In response you had already put in place a number of initiatives for 2024 to help address that. I am pleased to report that these have contributed significantly towards a positive step forward in our church finances for 2024. Within the Church Development Plan our short term objective was to restore our financial position to where it was at the end of 2022. I am delighted to confirm we have achieved that. It is testimony to a lot of hard work and focus across the PCC and wider team. A great result.

The Balance sheet and accompanying notes for the 2024 accounts are attached.

Overall funds year on year increased by £18,169 to £71,976. This was achieved by an increase in income of over £39,000 partially offset by a more modest increase in costs of around £11,000.

The 2024 Gift Day Appeal in April was a great success with over £20,000 raised in one-off donations, plus a useful increase in regular planned giving. A good example of people coming together with a common objective.

Regular Planned Giving is the backbone to maintaining healthy Church finances. Over £63,000 came from that source over the financial year, an increase of over £11,000. This is an area where we need to continue to encourage wider support from within our Church and the broader Parish community. An ongoing challenge.

An area where income has shown good progress is through Church collections, particularly from life events such as Weddings and Funerals. We also continue to receive great support from the Parish Magazine and through our own fundraising activities. In particular the Fete in June and the Fun Run in September stand out for me. They are both areas on which we hope to build in 2025 whilst looking for more activities throughout the year. A broader support for fundraising activities continues to be a challenge.

We have also been wonderfully supported through generous donations and grants from the Friends of St Mary's and Chiddingfold Parish Council. In addition we have received some welcome new support towards the costs of putting on the Fun Run. Specifically the Friends' support this year has enabled us to achieve much needed repair and refurbishment of the Church Vestry. Thank you to you all.

Management of expenditure over the year has been commendable and I greatly appreciate all the work that has gone into keeping day-to-day costs down. It is also encouraging to report that within these costs we have managed to increase payment of both Parish Share and Outreach Giving and Support back to 2022 levels.

Overall the Church Finances are in reasonable shape and show an improving position. We look forward to continue to building on that through 2025 and beyond.

Nigel Hyslop
Treasurer, Chiddingfold PCC
stmarystreasurer39@gmail.com

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank PLC
49 High Street
Godalming
Surrey
GU27 1AT

Independent Examiner:
A Kelly
Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey
GU8 4SF

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report on the Accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act")

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this 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 to be found in the Church Guidance 2001 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. 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 taken do not include 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 cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

10/3/25

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS	0	**0**	0	**0**
CURRENT ASSETS				
CASH AND BANK BALANCES (Note 1)	5,975		9,628	
CBF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	60,531		37,680	
CBF INVESTMENT FUND	0		1,469	
MAGAZINE ACCOUNT	2,070		2,528	
DEBTORS (Note 2)	4,187		4,616	
LESS CREDITORS (Note 3)	-787	**71,976**	-2,114	**53,807**
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**71,976**		**53,807**
REPRESENTED BY				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	60,899		41,372	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	11,077	**71,976**	12,435	**53,807**
TOTAL FUNDS		**71,976**		**53,807**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
GENERAL FUND				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		41,372		50,529
INCOMING RESOURCES (Note 4)	159,822		120,290	
LESS: RESOURCES EXPENDED (Note 7)	-140,295		-129,447	
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	19,527	19,527	-9,157	-9,157
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		**60,899**		**41,372**
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		**60,899**		**41,372**
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
SADLER BEQUEST (CHURCHYARD)				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY	6,839		6,564	
INCOME FROM CBF UNITS	28		77	
INTEREST FROM UNITS	30		0	
UNIT VALUE INCREASE/DECREASE	297		198	
GRAVE REPAIRS	-2,560		0	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	4,634	**4,634**	6,839	**6,839**
CAMPBELL-ORDE BEQUEST				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,000	**2,000**	2,000	**2,000**
VESTRY REFURBISHMENT FUND				
BALANCE B/F @ 1 JANUARY	2,250		2,250	
LESS: COST OF REPLACING WINDOWS	-3,410		0	
LESS: COST OF REDECORATION	-675		0	
ADD: GRANT RECEIVED FROM FRIENDS	4,085		0	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,250	**2,250**	2,250	**2,250**
BELLS & ORGAN REPAIR FUND				
BALANCE B/F @ 1 JANUARY	1,346			
DONATIONS VARIOUS	847			
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,193	**2,193**	1,346	**1,346**
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**11,077**		**12,435**
TOTAL FUNDS		**71,976**		**53,807**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2024

Notes		2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
1	**CASH AND BANK BALANCES**				
	LLOYDS/TSB	5,708		8,845	
	CASH	267	**5,975**	783	**9,628**
2	**DEBTORS**				
	AGENCY COLLECTIONS	32		740	
	FUNERAL COSTS	0		182	
	GIFT AID	4,155	**4,187**	3,694	**4,616**
3	**CREDITORS**				
	DIOCESAN FEES	0		856	
	FLOWER FUND	0		0	
	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	568		0	
	UTILITIES	219		746	
	STAFF, MINISTERIAL AND OTHER EXPENSES	0	**787**	512	**2,114**
4	**INCOMING RESOURCES**				
	REGULAR PLANNED GIVING (RPG)	63,394		51,915	
	2024 GIFT DAY APPEAL	21,231		0	
	COLLECTIONS	5,981		7,675	
	LIFE EVENT COLLECTIONS	6,733		0	
	GIFT AID	17,261		13,623	
	WEDDING & FUNERAL FEES	6,216		3,649	
	GENERAL DONATIONS	4,384		7,204	
	DESIGNATED DONATIONS & GRANTS (Note 6)	9,085		11,584	
	INTEREST	2,178		1,314	
	MAGAZINE INCOME	14,180		15,016	
	FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (Note 5)	5,309		5,474	
	CHURCH ROOM RENTALS	2,810		2,231	
	VERGER FUND INCOME	1,060	**159,822**	605	**120,290**
5	**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**				
	INCOMING FUNDS	10,932		6,134	
	LESS: COST OF GENERATING FUNDS	-5,623	**5,309**	-660	**5,474**
6	**DESIGNATED DONATIONS & GRANTS**				
	FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S (Vestry)	4,085		0	
	FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S (Barrel Graves)	0		7,377	
	COMMUNITY FUND (Barrel Graves)	0		1,000	
	CHIDDINGFOLD PARISH COUNCIL (Barrel Graves)	0		1,000	
	CHIDDINGFOLD PARISH COUNCIL (Churchyard)	1,000		1,000	
	CHIDDINGFOLD PARISH COUNCIL (Run)	500		0	
	COMMUNITY FUND (Hearing Aid Clinics)	0		495	
	GODALMING DEANERY (Youth work)	0		700	
	FUNERAL DONATION FOR FABRIC RESTORATION	106		0	
	CHIDDFEST (Church Mice)	500		0	
	COMMUNITY FUND (Run)	500		0	
	ELIVIA HOMES (Run)	2,000		0	
	COLLECTIV (Run)	382		0	
	WARGRAVES COMMISSION	12	**9,085**	12	**11,584**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2024

Notes		2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
7	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**				
	MINISTRY				
	PARISH SHARE	75,000		60,000	
	MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	2,709	**77,709**	3,732	**63,732**
	SERVICES				
	WORSHIP MATERIALS	2,897		2,679	
	ORGANIST & CHOIR	4,037		3,774	
	YOUTH	5,388	**12,322**	3,967	**10,420**
	CHURCH BUILDING				
	INSURANCE	3,949		3,779	
	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	2,685		3,185	
	UTILITIES (Net)	7,244		7,490	
	FLOWERS	239		300	
	CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE	5,799		4,540	
	BARREL GRAVE REPAIRS	0		9,377	
	VESTRY REFURBISHMENT COSTS	4,480	**24,396**	0	**28,671**
	CHURCH ROOM RUNNING EXPENSES	1,288	**1,288**	1,752	**1,752**
	ADMINISTRATION & SUNDRIES				
	OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	992		2,244	
	STATIONERY & PRINTING INKS ETC	1,038		881	
	ONLINE EXPENSES	1,995		2,582	
	CLERGY TRAINING COSTS	0		1,400	
	STAFF COSTS	6,180		6,120	
	AUDIO & IT	75		0	
	FOOD & FELLOWSHIP COSTS (Net)	662	**10,942**	248	**13,475**
	MAGAZINE EXPENSES	8,638	**8,638**	8,897	**8,897**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (Note 8)	5,000	**5,000**	2,500	**2,500**
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**140,295**		**129,447**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARYS CHIDDINGFOLD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2024

Notes		2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
8	**OUTREACH GIVING AND SUPPORT FUNDING**				
	LOCAL				
	ST MARY'S SCHOOL	500.00		500.00	
	CROSSWAYS	500.00		500.00	
	THE HUNTER CENTRE	500.00		0.00	
	MIDHURST MACMILLAN SERVICES	500.00	**2,000.00**	250.00	**1,250.00**
	UK				
	WINSTON'S WISH	1,000.00		0.00	
	REFUGEES AT HOME	500.00		0.00	
	WE ARE OXFAM	500.00		0.00	
	THE TRUSSELL TRUST	0.00		250.00	
	CHURCH URBAN FUND	0.00	**2,000.00**	200.00	**450.00**
	OVERSEAS				
	UNICEF (Middle East Appeal)	1,000.00		250.00	
	UNICEF (Afghan Earthquake Appeal)	0.00		250.00	
	BRITISH RED CROSS (Ukraine Appeal)	0.00	**1,000.00**	250.00	**750.00**
	RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	0.00	0.00	50.00	**50.00**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT AS PER THE ACCOUNTS		**5,000.00**		**2,500.00**
	ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS				
	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (Remembrance Sunday)	238.00		177.00	
	CHRISTIAN AID (Joint Churches)	233.00		437.00	
	THE TRUSSELL TRUST (Harvest Collections)	175.00		70.00	
	DEC (Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal)	0.00		667.00	
	THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (Christingle)	147.00	**793.00**	147.00	**1,498.00**
	TOTAL OUTREACH SUPPORT		**5,793.00**		**3,998.00**

Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2024

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: Rachel Greene

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 11th May 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report on the Accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act")

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this 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 to be found in the Church Guidance 2001 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. 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 taken do not include 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 cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

10/3/25

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHIDDINGFOLD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128727

Accounts

St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

To know Christ better,
to make Christ better known

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

TREASURER'S REPORT - 2023

In my 2022 Treasurer's Report I said that the year had been 'challenging economically'. Now, a year later when a deficit (ie an excess of expenditure over income) of £9,157 has occurred I am disappointed to have to report that, for a number of reasons, St Mary's has continued to suffer the effects of the general economic climate. In summary, it is clear that almost all the income streams fell by a few percentage points and, despite the efforts that were made to control the expenditure, of necessity, several of the expense items increased. Two major consequences of this were that, towards the end of the year, the PCC was obliged to conclude that (i) there were insufficient funds available to meet the full amount requested by the Diocese for Parish Share ie £95,357 and (ii) the budget for Outreach Giving and Support Funding to external charitable organisations would have to be restricted to just £2,500.

More positively I am pleased to report that, following receipt of some generous grants from The Friends of St Marys, The Community Foundation for Surrey and Chiddingfold Parish Council, the PCC was able to commission some much needed repair work to eight of the barrel gravels in the churchyard. In due course it is hoped that others will be attended to but those which have been done now are definitely very much improved and the PCC has expressed its gratitude to each of the organisations concerned for the assistance they provided.

Another encouraging item is that the receipts from the Donations Card Reader (located adjacent to the church door) increased significantly from a weekly average in 2022 of £25 to approximately £65 in 2023. This almost certainly reflects the national trend away from cash and, consequently, the PCC decided that, for an experimental period at the beginning of 2024, the default amount would be increased from £5.00 to £10.00. As I write this report (in February) the experiment is still in train so the results are not yet available but, in due course, it will be interesting to determine what effect, if any, the change has on the weekly total.

One of the factors which contributed to the deficit in 2023 was that the income from Fundraising Activities declined because of the lack of volunteers to lead and co-ordinate them. The PCC is hoping that this will be addressed in the coming year and, meanwhile, every effort is being made to ensure that a range of events occurs in 2024. One such is a Stewardship Campaign in the Spring to raise awareness of the church's financial position, both within the membership and across the Parish.

Throughout the year careful attention was given to every aspect of the expenditure and consequently I am pleased to report that, apart from the cost of the barrel grave repairs which as I have mentioned already were fully funded from some generous grants, the total of the Resources Expended was almost 2% lower than in 2022. That said, a few of the individual line items increased significantly. For example, both the Utilities and Office Administration costs nearly tripled but one that the PCC was especially pleased to authorise was the appointment in the autumn, on a part time basis, of Philippa Fraison to the role of Youth & Children's worker. The PCC remains very committed to this aspect of the church's ministry as it recognises that today's children are tomorrow's church members.

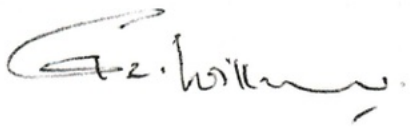
Towards the end of the year it became necessary to withdraw some of the Reserves in order to meet the day to day expenditure but the PCC's previously stated policy; to retain a Designated Emergency Reserve Fund of £25,000 within the CBF Deposit Account; was maintained together with certain other

nominal amounts that have been set aside for various designated costs. Overall therefore, St Mary's remains solvent despite having sustained a deficit in 2023 but it is clear that, in order to redress the situation and maintain a healthy financial position, further steps need to be taken to increase the Incoming Resources.

On a personal front I must advise that, although it has been a great honour to serve as the Treasurer of St Mary's for the last two years (and Assistant Treasurer to Gilly van Oppen for two years and Mike Jones for four) I have decided that the time has now come for me to step down in favour of a younger and more energetic person. Consequently, I have indicated to the PCC that I shall cease to be the Treasurer of St Mary's with effect from Sunday 28th April 2024 ie the date of the Annual Parish Church Meeting.

I should like to place on record my thanks to Rector Rachel for the confidence she has placed in me whilst I have been the Treasurer and, at the same time, to thank Gilly van Oppen who, having stood down from being the Treasurer after preparing the 2021 Accounts, kindly agreed to continue as the Bookkeeper when I took over at the beginning of 2022. I said last year that, without Gilly's widespread knowledge of the village and dedicated commitment to ensuring accuracy in everything related to the accounting function, I most definitely would not have been able to take on the Treasurer's role and I have no hesitation at all in repeating those words now. Throughout 2023, Gilly has remained an invaluable part of the Treasury Team, often working late into the night to ensure that payments are made and the records maintained. Thank you very much Gilly for all your hard work.

Finally, I am delighted to confirm that, once again, Tony Kelly FCA has agreed to act as the Independent Examiner of the Accounts and all the supporting documentation. The PCC has acknowledged its gratitude to him.



Gerald Williams
Treasurer, Chiddingfold PCC
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49 High Street
Godalming
Surrey GU7 1AT

Independent Examiner:
Mr A Kelly FCA
Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report on the Accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act")

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this 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 to be found in the Church Guidance 2001 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. 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 taken do not include 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 cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner
5/3/24

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS	0	**0**	0	**0**
CURRENT ASSETS				
CASH AND BANK BALANCES (Note 1)	9,628		21,914	
CBF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	37,680		46,168	
CBF INVESTMENT FUND	1,469		1,392	
MAGAZINE ACCOUNT	2,528		3,409	
DEBTORS (Note 2)	4,616		5,000	
LESS CREDITORS (Note 3)	-2,114	**53,807**	-16,195	**61,688**
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**53,807**		**61,688**
REPRESENTED BY				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	41,372		50,529	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	12,435	**53,807**	11,159	**61,688**
TOTAL FUNDS		**53,807**		**61,688**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
GENERAL FUND				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		50,529		48,228
INCOMING RESOURCES (Note 4)	120,290		124,495	
LESS: RESOURCES EXPENDED (Note 7)	-129,447		-122,194	
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	-9,157	-9,157	2,301	2,301
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		41,372		50,529
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		**41,372**		**50,529**
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
SADLER BEQUEST (CHURCHYARD)				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY	6,564		6,210	
INCOME FROM CBF UNITS	77		40	
UNIT VALUE INCREASE/DECREASE	198		314	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	6,839	**6,839**	6,564	**6,564**
CAMPBELL-ORDE BEQUEST				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,000	**2,000**	2,000	**2,000**
VESTRY REFURBISHMENT FUND				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,250	**2,250**	2,250	**2,250**
BELLS & ORGAN REPAIR FUND (Note 9)				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	1,346	**1,346**	0	**0**
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY	345		345	
LESS: PROJECT FUNDING	-345		0	
BALANCE C/FWD	0	**0**	345	**345**
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**12,435**		**11,159**
TOTAL FUNDS		**53,807**		**61,688**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2023

Notes		2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
1	**CASH AND BANK BALANCES**				
	LLOYDS/TSB	8,845		21,546	
	SANTANDER/GIRO	0		130	
	CASH	783	**9,628**	238	**21,914**
2	**DEBTORS**				
	AGENCY COLLECTIONS	740		0	
	FUNERAL COSTS	182		0	
	GIFT AID	3,694	**4,616**	5,000	**5,000**
3	**CREDITORS**				
	DIOCESAN FEES	856		554	
	PARISH SHARE	0		12,000	
	AGENCY FUNDS	0		855	
	UTILITIES	746		1,000	
	STAFF, MINISTERIAL AND OTHER EXPENSES	512	**2,114**	1,786	**16,195**
4	**INCOMING RESOURCES**				
	REGULAR PLANNED GIVING (RPG)	51,915		55,469	
	COLLECTIONS	7,675		9,784	
	GIFT AID	13,623		13,758	
	WEDDING & FUNERAL FEES	3,649		5,176	
	GENERAL DONATIONS	7,204		7,248	
	DESIGNATED DONATIONS & GRANTS (Note 6)	11,584		3,324	
	LEGACIES	0		500	
	INTEREST	1,314		639	
	MAGAZINE INCOME	15,016		16,565	
	FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (Note 5)	5,474		8,337	
	CHURCH ROOM RENTALS	2,231		3,235	
	VERGER FUND INCOME	605	**120,290**	460	**124,495**
5	**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**				
	INCOMING FUNDS	6,134		10,052	
	LESS: COST OF GENERATING FUNDS	-660	**5,474**	-1,715	**8,337**
6	**DESIGNATED DONATIONS & GRANTS**				
	FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S (Barrel Graves)	7,377		0	
	COMMUNITY FUND (Barrel Graves)	1,000		0	
	CHIDDINGFOLD PARISH COUNCIL (Barrel Graves)	1,000		0	
	CHIDDINGFOLD PARISH COUNCIL (Churchyard)	1,000		2,500	
	COMMUNITY FUND (Notice Board)	0		600	
	COMMUNITY FUND (Hearing Aid Clinics)	495		0	
	GODALMING DEANERY (Youth work)	700		0	
	CHIDDFEST (Church Mice)	0		212	
	WARGRAVES COMMISSION	12	**11,584**	12	**3,324**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2023

Notes		2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
7	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**				
	MINISTRY				
	PARISH SHARE	60,000		75,000	
	MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	3,732	**63,732**	3,178	**78,178**
	SERVICES				
	WORSHIP MATERIALS	2,679		1,548	
	ORGANIST & CHOIR	3,774		2,970	
	YOUTH	3,967	**10,420**	1,858	**6,376**
	CHURCH BUILDING				
	INSURANCE (Note 8)	3,779		2,119	
	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	3,185		1,533	
	UTILITIES (Net)	7,490		2,695	
	FLOWER FUND	300		352	
	CHURCHYARD	4,540		3,221	
	BARREL GRAVE REPAIRS	9,377	**28,671**	0	**9,920**
	CHURCH ROOM RUNNING EXPENSES	1,752	**1,752**	1,542	**1,542**
	ADMINISTRATION & SUNDRIES				
	OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	2,244		789	
	STATIONERY & PRINTING INKS ETC	881		778	
	ONLINE EXPENSES	2,582		1,985	
	CLERGY TRAINING COSTS	1,400		1,155	
	STAFF COSTS	6,120		6,321	
	AUDIO & IT	0		150	
	FOOD & FELLOWSHIP COSTS (Net)	248	**13,475**	471	**11,649**
	MAGAZINE EXPENSES	8,897	**8,897**	9,529	**9,529**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (Note 10)	2,500	**2,500**	5,000	**5,000**
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**129,447**		**122,194**

8 AS THE INSURANCE PREMIUM IS PAID IN MONTHLY INSTALMENTS THE AMOUNT OUTSTANDING AT THE END OF THE YEAR WAS TREATED AS A CREDITOR UNTIL THE END OF 2021. IN 2022 IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE FULL COST OF THE PREMIUM SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE ACCOUNTS WITHOUT ANY CREDITOR BEING CARRIED FORWARD. CONSEQUENTLY, AS EXPLAINED IN THE 2022 ACCOUNTS, THE AMOUNT CHARGED FOR THAT YEAR ONLY (£2,119) WAS SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN THE USUAL AMOUNT OF CIRCA £3,800.

9 IN PREVIOUS YEARS THE BELLS & ORGAN REPAIR FUND WAS INCLUDED WITHIN THE GENERAL RESERVES BUT IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT, FOR CLARITY, IT WILL BE SHOWN SEPARATELY WITH EFFECT FROM 2023.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARYS CHIDDINGFOLD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2023

Notes		2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
10	**OUTREACH GIVING AND SUPPORT FUNDING**				
	LOCAL				
	ST MARY'S SCHOOL	500		700	
	CROSSWAYS	500		500	
	HASLEMERE FOODBANK	0		200	
	GODALMING FOODBANK	0		200	
	MIDHURST MACMILLAN NURSES	250		500	
	GUILDFORD STREET ANGELS	0		200	
	HASLEMERE YOUTH FUND	0	**1,250**	200	**2,500**
	UK				
	CANCER RESEARCH	0		500	
	CHRISTIAN AID	0		300	
	THE TRUSSELL TRUST	250		250	
	INCLUSIVE CHURCH	0		240	
	CHURCH URBAN FUND	200	**450**	200	**1,490**
	OVERSEAS				
	UNICEF (Somalia Famine Appeal)			250	
	UNICEF (Middle East Appeal)	250		0	
	UNICEF (Afghan Earthquake Appeal)	250			
	BRITISH RED CROSS (Ukraine Appeal)	250		250	
	DEC (Pakistan Flood Relief Appeal)	0	**750**	250	**750**
	RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	50	**50**	260	**260**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT AS PER THE ACCOUNTS		**2,500**		**5,000**
	ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS				
	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (Remembrance Sunday)	177		300	
	BRITISH RED CROSS (Ukraine Appeal)	0		1,100	
	CHRISTIAN AID (Joint Churches)	437		330	
	THE TRUSSELL TRUST (Harvest Collections)	70		0	
	DEC (Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal)	667		0	
	THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (Christingle)	147	**1,498**	0	**1,730**
	TOTAL OUTREACH SUPPORT		**3,998**		**6,730**

Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2023

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: Rachel E Greene

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 28th April 2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHIDDINGFOLD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128727

Accounts

St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chiddingfold

Annual Report 2022

A Report for the Year ended 31 December 2022

Approved by the PCC in April 2023

Registered Charity Number 1128727

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Administration and Membership	4
Aims and Purposes	4
Objectives and Activities	6
Youth and Children's Work	7
Worship Focus Group	10
The Fabric and Maintenance Report	13
Finance and Stewardship Group	16
Fundraising Team	17
Safeguarding Work	18
Baptism Visiting Team	19
Bells at St. Mary's	19
Choir and Music	20
Deanery Synod Report	21
Eco Church	22
Food for Fellowship	23
The Friends of St. Mary's	24
Joint Churches in Chiddingfold	24
Parish Link with St Paul's Church, Hook	25
Pastoral Visiting Team	25
Work in St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chiddingfold	26
Chiddingfold Cares	27
Electoral Roll Report	28
Other St. Mary's Church Links	29

Introduction

At the start of 2022 we were still working under public health restrictions, but as they lifted we took hold of each opportunity to welcome people back to church and to restore and renew our life together. This Annual Report charts our route out of the limitations that have shaped so much of our lives over the last three years of the pandemic. Reading the stories in this report, I hope you will be reminded of the activities to which you contributed and of many joyful occasions. You might also recall some of the changes made to restart and sustain our activities that have proved beneficial and have become a part of our normal way of worshipping, working and reaching out to serve our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the PCC for all they give to leadership in St. Mary's. I am particularly grateful to Lily Cook for taking up the role of Churchwarden in June. She and Churchwarden Chris Everett form a brilliant team and are as supportive and committed a pair as any rector could wish for. In the summer Dickie Atkinson stepped down from his role on the Finance Group and PCC, and in the autumn, Martin Johnson stepped down as Chair of Fundraising, Gift Aid Officer and PCC member. I want to thank them both for all their service to St. Mary's. Gilly van Oppen has assumed the role of Gift Aid Officer, which is good news indeed. We are looking for a new volunteer to co-ordinate our fundraising efforts, so please do have a word if you'd like to gather folks around for some fundraising activities!

Over the course of the year there have been some big transitions. Roger Crocker retired on Easter Day from the role of Director of Music, a role he held with dedication for over thirty-seven years. We are grateful to Helen Bendall for stepping into the breach to lead the choir and to ensure our music programme has been well supported while the position is advertised. Later in the spring Katherine Hylton handed over the role of Booking Clerk to Elizabeth Ottley, and before the year was out, we welcomed Tracy Verrier as our new Wedding Clerk.

As you read I hope you will get a flavour of how far we have travelled this past year and of the many milestones along the way, and celebrate how many glorious and valuable things we managed to do 'to know Christ better and make Christ better known.' Without you, none of it would be possible. Your time, energy, skills, financial support, faithfulness and dedication are appreciated so much more than I can express here, and they are a true reflection of God at work in this Parish. I thank God for them and for you all continually.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene
rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

Administration and Membership

St. Mary's is the Parish Church of Chiddingfold and is part of the Diocese of Guildford within the Church of England. The Church's postal address is:

St. Mary's Church, Petworth Road, Chiddingfold, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 4TY

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are Trustees of the Charity for the term of their appointment. Members serving on the PCC during 2022 are:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Chair
Churchwardens:	Chris Everett Jan Fellingham (until APCM 2022) Lily Cook (from June 2022)
Deanery Synod:	Ken Lindup
PCC Members:	Richard Atkinson (until July 2022) Ollie Bayne Richard Flenley (until APCM 2022) Nigel Forman (until APCM 2022) Katherine Hylton (until APCM 2022) Martin Johnson (until September 2022) Chris Ryan (from APCM 2022) Oli Shepherd (from APCM 2022) Louise Taylor Gilly van Oppen Gerald Williams
Treasurer:	Gerald Williams
Secretary:	Helen Bendall

Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission as The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chiddingfold and its registered Charity Number is: 1128727.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend St. Mary's and who qualify according to those Rules are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members are given initial training into the workings of the PCC. The PCC meets six times during the year.

The PCC operates through a number of Focus Groups, which meet between full meetings. These groups are constituted to make full use of the professional expertise available within St. Mary's and members are encouraged to attend Diocesan training as appropriate. Each group has at least one representative from the PCC, and the Rector and Churchwardens are *ex officio* members of all these groups. All the Focus Groups are responsible to the PCC and report back regularly at PCC meetings.

Standing Committee:	This statutory committee has a general power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.
Finance and Stewardship Group:	Oversees expenditure and monitors income and investments. Encourages financial support of the Church through a strategy for Regular Planned Giving (RPG), legacies, occasional parish funding programmes and gift days; prepares the annual budget for outreach support.
Fundraising Group:	Plans an annual programme of fundraising events to generate income for the Church.
Maintenance Group:	Attends to matters relating to the stewardship and maintenance of the Church, its contents, buildings and grounds, such as the Churchyard, the Church Room and the Rectory.
Worship Group:	Co-ordinates the provision and conduct of worship.
Youth and Children's Work Group:	Co-ordinates activities involving children and young people in the Church and the wider community.

In addition, several important links and special interest groups complement the aims and purposes of St. Mary's PCC, as it seeks to benefit everyone in the Church and the community:

- ***Baptism Visiting Team***
- ***Bell Ringers***
- ***Choir and Music***
- ***Eco Church***
- ***Food for Fellowship***
- ***Friends of St. Mary's***
- ***Joint Churches in Chiddingfold***
- ***Pastoral Visiting Team***
- ***St. Mary's C of E Primary School***

Objectives and Activities

The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states that the PCC is to co-operate with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and the Church Room and for some internal decoration of the Rectory. St. Mary's vision is "to know Christ better and to make Christ better known".

In order to achieve these objectives St. Mary's Church offers, among other things:

- regular services of worship
- occasional offices
- pastoral care
- small groups for nurture and discipleship
- social activities
- quiet days and retreats
- concerts and recitals
- programmes and activities for children, young people and those who care for them
- charitable fundraising events
- a monthly parish magazine which has a distribution to many beyond the regular congregation
- a website
- a social media presence on Facebook

We invite you to read on to learn how we have been fulfilling our vision, and what we have undertaken in 2022 to meet the aims of St. Mary's Church for the benefit of our congregation within the Church and of the wider community.

‘The Young Ones’

Youth and Children’s Work

Families @ St. Mary’s

At St. Mary’s we seek to serve people at every stage of life and to include people of all ages – even the very young – in our worship and activities. To that end, we have developed a specially tailored programme designed to engage the imaginations of children and youth and help them grow in faith. The Families @ St. Mary’s Programme is made up of six separate ministries that allow us to serve children, young people, and teens along with their families and carers.

Muddy Church

Muddy Church autumn trail: making leaf confetti.

We held four Muddy Church events this year, and it has gone from strength to strength. Muddy Church is a form of church for children and adults that involves wondering, wandering and creative explorations of the beauty and wonder of the natural world that God has made. Muddy Church is for people at all stages of their faith journey, including starting at the very beginning. It is designed to be attractive and accessible for people who are not sure church is for them, and to meet at a time and place that suits people who don't attend church. It includes a welcome and an invitation to wander through an outdoor trail set in St. Mary’s churchyard, with 4-6 stations for prayer, reflection and creative exploration. All elements are for people of all ages, and in practice children take part alongside their parents and grandparents (and their well-behaved dogs!).

Muddy Church has brought new families into the orbit of St. Mary’s Church. This year our Rector has baptised four children and one adult, and married one set of parents, for whom Muddy Church was the first point of contact. This year we also held Muddy Church events in St. Mary’s churchyard for pupils at St. Mary’s Primary School, in which 56 children from two year groups took part in trails. In this way, Muddy Church has been deepening the provision of RE as well as allowing us to reach children, young people and adults who do not yet attend church. We have been approached by our neighbouring parish of All Saints for support setting up Muddy Church in Witley, and our friends at Chiddingfold Baptist and St. Teresa’s would like to get involved in the new year. In December St. Mary’s was awarded a grant from the Deanery Mission Fund for Muddy Church, in recognition of the impact and evangelistic potential of this programme.

Muddy Church is led by our Rector with the help of Julie Flenley and Wendy Johnson, and they are assisted by a number of older children from the Good News Gang. We need two more adult leaders to share in the planning and the outdoor fun, so please do consider joining the Muddy Church team in 2023!

Church Mice story time

Church Mice

Church Mice meets each Thursday in term time from 9:30am-11:30am in the Church Room. The Church Room is often bursting at the seams, and it is wonderful to see everyone making new friendships and enjoying toys, craft activities, snacks and singing together. Church Mice provides a welcoming space for new parents and their babies; a place to chat and share experiences over a hot drink as they get to know each other and get to know St. Mary's. We are grateful to Kirsty Howe and Victoria Howard for leading the group so brilliantly.

Church Mice crafts

Good News Gang

St. Mary's youth group is aimed at 9-14 year olds wanting to get to know a bit more about their faith and have some fun doing it. We meet monthly on Sunday evenings in term-time for games, activities, explorations of the bible and lots of laughter. In March the gang collected last year's palm crosses and burned them to make this year's ashes for Ash Wednesday. Then in April, ten members of the gang led St. Mary's Vigil service on Easter Eve, starting outdoors with a new fire and the blessing of the Paschal candle before moving into Church for the first celebration of Easter. It was a well-attended service and a joyous occasion. The gang was not able to meet in September, during the period of national mourning, or in November, when members were pulled in other directions, so we're planning a big relaunch in 2023. This will be an important transition, in recognition that four older members are aging out and as we welcome new members coming of age. The gang is led by Angela Stinson, Chris King, our Young Leader, and the Rector. We need one more adult leader to join the team, so do have a word if you can lend a hand!

All Stars Children's Church

On most Sundays, after lighting the children's candle, children are invited (but not obliged!) to take part in All Stars children's church, a bespoke lectionary-based curriculum that explores the day's theme in age-appropriate ways through bible stories, games and craft activities in the Church Room. Six adults take turns leading the activities and supervising, and this winter they have been assisted by two young leaders, Isabelle Hamlett (Bronze) and William Bayne (Silver), who were volunteering to attain a Duke of Edinburgh award. We want to encourage more adult volunteers – and young leaders! – to get involved in planning and leading All Stars, as we need your help to place this well-loved programme on an even stronger foundation.

Special Events

Children and young people get a warm welcome at all our worship services, but we also hold a number of special Parish Communion services to engage the imaginations of children and young people, in which they take part by reading lessons and leading the prayers of intercession. In 2022 these included festivals at Harvest, Christmas Eve, Candlemas with Christingles and on Mothering Sunday.

This year St. Mary's was able to contribute to the creation of the 2022 Chiddingfold Village Living Advent Calendar. We are so grateful to Kirsty Parton and her team for ensuring this wonderful tradition continued and for designing the window display for 24th December in St. Mary's Church Room.

Preparing Young People to Receive Communion

In 2022 we had the privilege of preparing thirteen young people to receive the bread and wine of communion for the first time – the largest cohort on record. Over the four-week course, we gave them the space to explore and think for themselves, to recognise God working in their lives and to think about how they want to claim that and respond to it. On 9th October, the children were formally admitted to communion and received the bread and wine for the first time. As a result, another six families have asked whether their children could be offered instruction too, so we will likely hold another course of preparation in the spring of 2023.

Children making chalices and thinking about receiving communion as they prepare to receive communion for the first time.

Looking to the Future

The Families @ St. Mary's Programme is only possible with the help of dozens of volunteers, including those on St. Mary's safeguarding team. Going forward we want to include more people who can share in the fun by organising and leading. We still wish to recruit a Children and Youth Leader, so we can welcome more children, young people and their families into the life of St. Mary's, but recognise that there are fewer people working in this sector post-pandemic. We are disappointed that after several rounds of advertisement and adaptation of the job role to make it more attractive, we have not been successful in filling this position. We are advised that there are many such vacancies in the diocese. We encourage anyone interested in the role to have an informal chat with us and continue to pray that the right person will come forward.

Youth & Children's Work Focus Group members: Rector (Chair), Oliver Bayne, Julie Flenley, Nigel Forman, Wendy Johnson and James Quickfall

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

‘In the Beauty of Holiness’

Worship

This year saw the continued return to the regular pattern of worship at St. Mary’s. Our planning for each liturgical season is built on our review of previous services and feedback, to ensure ongoing work is done to enable all ages and stages to ‘*know Christ better*’ through the services we offer.

Epiphany to Candlemas

In January we held our first in-person Christingle service since the end of the lockdowns, with ‘Christingle Kits’ prepared by Gill Welford and Jan Fellingham for the children to make in the pews during the story. A specially chanted Evensong for Candlemas was led by the Revd Dr David Neaum, ably supported by Roger Crocker and David Stinson.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter

The two Ash Wednesday services were both held in-person, with the return of the imposition of ashes. The ashing of pebbles, begun in 2021, was repeated and again proved to be very popular, including sending 250 Lent pebbles to the school for pupils and staff. Thanks again go to Thomas Neaum for his help in decorating the pebbles. The beginning of Lent saw the return to four congregational hymns at the 10am service and the change to the setting of the Communion service by John Rutter.

Mothering Sunday was also held in-person and it was wonderful to see so many families back in St. Mary’s. Thank you to the wonderful team of flower posy arrangers, led by Gilly van Oppen, for all their work preparing the posies, and to those who opened their gardens and donated flowers.

Garden of Gethsemane

Holy Week began with the traditional Palm Sunday procession at the start of the 10am service, which saw the reintroduction of processions after the pandemic lockdowns. In the evening there was a beautiful special choral service entitled “A reflection for Palm Sunday, St. Luke’s Passion in words and music” arranged by Roger Crocker. The Joint Churches in Chiddingfold Lent Supper took place on Monday 11th April, with Andy Kittow from Elam Ministries as guest speaker. Other Holy Week services included Communion on Maundy Thursday to commemorate the Last Supper, with the reintroduction of the chalice; and the Walk of Witness and Meditations on the Cross on Good Friday. Nearly 20 people took part in Muddy Church on Holy Saturday, and once again the Easter Eve Vigil was wonderfully and ably led by St. Mary’s young people and teenagers.

Stripping the Church

The Easter Day service was particularly joyous, from the opening Taizé chant *Surrexit Dominus vere*, to the children ringing bells during the *Gloria*, plus our brilliant team of bell ringers ringing before and after the service, all rounded off with the traditional Easter Egg Hunt! However, Easter Day also marked the retirement of Roger Crocker as Director of Music after nearly 38 years service. St. Mary's is so grateful to him for his dedicated and outstanding service and he will be sorely missed.

Advent and Christmas

Building on the success of 2021, we again began this season with a wonderful Advent Evensong, which combined the framework of the Evensong liturgy with Advent carols. Our Carols by Candlelight service was entitled 'No Room at the Inn' and included choir carols by John Rutter and John Tavener, congregational carols, readings and refreshments. Our thanks go to Jan Fellingham and Ruth Goddard for their work in creating both these services. On Christmas Eve we were able to hold our traditional Crib Service, with children coming dressed as their favourite Nativity character, and we were delighted to welcome so many families to this incredibly popular service.

Photo: Phil Darley

Special Services

In September we commemorated the passing of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, holding a special commemorative service on the eve of the State Funeral. In November we planted a Wild Service tree in the churchyard in commemoration of the long reign and service of our late Queen.

We held a Baptism Welcome Service in July, the first since 2019, and were delighted to invite all the families of children who had been baptised since the beginning of that year back to church.

In November we welcomed many recently bereaved families to our annual Service of Light to remember the departed, and invited uniformed organisations to our annual Remembrance Sunday service. Unfortunately, representatives from HMS Chiddingfold were not able to join us on this occasion; however, they joined us for Parish Communion to celebrate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee at Pentecost. We also came together to celebrate our Patronal Festival, Harvest Festival, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Confirmation / First Communion

On 8th September an adult candidate from St. Mary's was confirmed at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church in Godalming. St. Mary's also prepared 13 children to receive First Communion, which took place on Sunday 9th October – a truly wonderful sign of faith growing at St. Mary's as the next generation of disciples comes to maturity.

Other Regular Services

The weekly Wednesday service of Communion continued in 2022, as well as our monthly service of Evensong. Morning Prayer has continued to be led over Zoom, a format in which it has grown and flourished. It has been incredible to see this faithful group of parishioners expand (it is not unusual for 20 to attend!) under the nurture and leadership of Gill Beckwith. Evening Prayer is also still said from homes across the parish.

For the month of August we have transitioned to a more sustainable worship pattern called 'Summer Sundays'. This means that we have one service of communion at 10.00am and worship together as one congregation. Services of Holy Communion resume in September for the Patronal Festival.

Looking ahead, the Worship Focus Group will be developing our range of Evensong offerings.

Ministry at St. Mary's

Our worship is enriched by the ministry of St. Mary's Lay Preachers, Ken Lindup and Helen Bendall, and by St. Mary's Associate Priests: the Revd Gill Welford, the Revd George Rowe and the Revd Dr David Neaum. Richard Flenley has successfully completed his first year of training for ordained ministry and is now mid-way through his second year.

Life Events at St. Mary's

In 2022, we were delighted that many couples and families continued to choose to celebrate significant life events at St. Mary's. There were 11 Weddings, 14 Baptisms, 3 Funeral Services and 10 Burial of Ashes conducted. We were also pleased to continue to offer services of Holy Communion in people's homes throughout the parish and praise God for all the ways we've been given to offer worship.

Worship Focus Group members: Revd Dr Rachel Greene (Chair), Helen Bendall, Jan Fellingham, David Stinson and Revd Gill Welford.

Helen Bendall
stmarysenquiries@outlook.com

Caring for our Possessions

The Fabric and Maintenance Report

The Churchwardens have pleasure in providing our report for the year to December 2022.

General

The year has remained a challenging one for our finances, but fortunately the normal functions of maintenance and care for the Church and churchyard have been carried out; and the logbooks and monthly Churchwardens' inspections have been kept up to date.

Church

There are no urgent items to report. Regrettably there have been some occurrences of anti-social behaviour in the Church – pot smoking and setting fire to candles, but no permanent damage.

Vestry

A faculty has been applied for to carry out modifications to the vestry, including replacing the old metal windows and the west door, which should open outwards as an emergency door.

Churchyard

The Churchyard Working Party is now in a far healthier state than before, as it is now being managed, under the auspices of the Management Focus Group, jointly by a PCC Member (our bookkeeper Gilly van Oppen) and a Chiddingfold resident (Phil Darley) who is very keen and involved in wildlife matters within the village. This has resulted in reasonable attendance at most of the Churchyard Working Party meetings and a lot of valuable work has been done.

In addition, the Bonfire Crew assisted with a further visit, attending primarily to the hedge and to painting of the Lych Gate and all four church doors. We hope to make this a regular village event.

A few disappointing occurrences of anti-social behaviour in the churchyard and graffiti (on the churchyard sign and the main Church door) have taken place. The graffiti was swiftly dealt with and has fortunately not reoccurred.

Churchyard Management Plan

The Churchyard Management Plan originally approved by the PCC in November 2020, which provided for rotational mowing and strimming of various zones at yearly intervals to create a "wilder" habitat, is to be amended to a "tidier" more frequently mown regime.

War Graves

The PCC approved placing a sign in the standard format of the CWGC on the Church Lych gate to indicate that there are Commonwealth War graves in the churchyard. Diocesan approval was granted, and the sign was erected in October.

Barrel Grave Repairs

The firm of Anstey & Stone Ltd has been appointed to repair at least those barrel graves most at risk of collapse. Funding from the Friends of St. Mary's and the Chiddingfold Community Fund is gratefully acknowledged, however there are still many of these historic and rare graves in danger.

Commemorative Tree

A Wild Service tree was planted in the south-east corner of the churchyard after the 10am service on 6th November in commemoration of the long reign and service of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Wild Service Tree

Hedges and Trees

A new mixed native hedge was planted in December along the north-western boundary of the churchyard against the footpath to Ballsdown with the approval of the Archdeacon.

After a check by a qualified arboricultural consultant, it was recommended that a veteran oak tree should be trimmed where it is dying, and a dead ash tree should be felled. Diocesan approval from the Archdeacon was obtained and that from Waverley Borough Council is awaited. Approval will require that a replacement tree is planted.

Volunteers

As with all Parish Churches the efforts of our volunteers are vital to its smooth running. This stalwart group is aging and reducing in number and we must express our concern at this trend and would like to encourage younger members of the congregation to become involved in these activities.

Services and Repairs

- Routine inspections and services have been carried out to the Tower Clock, Lightning Conductor, Fire Extinguishers, Alarm System, Church and Church Room boilers, and all electrical appliances have had a PAT Test completed. Other minor repairs have also been done as necessary.
- Up-to-date plans of utilities – partially completed.

Terrier

This is the written inventory giving details and photographs of all the property, buildings, equipment, monuments, vestments, plate, windows etc. in the Parish owned by the Church. It had not been updated since 2019, but with major assistance from Jane Bell this has now been checked and updated. It was signed off by the Rector, Churchwardens and two PCC members in May 2022.

Church of England Regulations require that a full Terrier inventory should be made out afresh every 10 years, but in the years between, it is only necessary to add an annual update sheet where anything changes.

Arising from this it became clear however that there is no inventory of the many more mundane items that do not belong in the Terrier, such as furniture and equipment in the Tower Room or Church Room. This must now be undertaken.

In addition, a review is necessary of the parish documentation archived by Surrey History Centre, and this must be brought up to date.

Quinquennial Report

The next Quinquennial Inspection is due in November 2024. Progress on the Action Plan to implement the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection that was held in November 2019 is as follows:

- There were no Immediate repairs required.
- All seven items of work to be carried out within 18 months (May 2021) are complete.
- Seven of the nine items of work to be carried out within the Quinquennium (i.e. by November 2024) are complete. O/S items are:
    - Rainwater Goods re-decoration, however they are in fact in very good condition and no work is needed at this stage.
    - Gravestone stability survey – no formal survey has been commissioned, but gravestones that are leaning badly are checked on an occasional basis.
- One of the four items of Desirable work is complete. The rest require fundraising, budgeting and approval by the PCC. O/S items are:
    - Budget for ongoing masonry repairs and repointing – no spare funds available and no immediate problems found.
    - North Chapel redecoration – no funds available at present.
    - Hooped access ladder on the north aisle west wall for access to valley gutter – very low priority.
- Six of the eight items requiring monitoring/maintenance (all of which are routinely checked as part of the Churchwardens' Monthly Checklist) have been attended to. O/S items are:
    - Trip hazards on paving stones in churchyard – one section needs attention.
    - Tree condition survey every five years or so. See above.
- Ten of a further twelve additional items extracted from the report or current discussions which we consider worthy of consideration by the PCC, the Churchwardens or the Churchyard Working Party, have been resolved. Unfortunately, this is an ongoing process and additional items arise all the time. O/S items at present:
    - Contract to clean gutters – gutters are visually checked annually from the tower, and very little material has collected.
    - Redecoration where paint is peeling – minor areas so far.

Thanks

Our thanks are extended to the Intercessors, Readers, Bell Ringers, Sacristan, Church Cleaners, those who wash and iron the Church linen, the Flower Arrangers and the Key Holders who have enabled us to keep the Church open and attractive.

Special thanks also are expressed to the volunteers of the Churchyard Working Party.

It has been especially pleasing that our Eucharist is again enhanced by the Choir, Organist and the processions of Chalice Assistants, Servers and Acolytes.

Elizabeth Cook, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden2@outlook.com

Chris Everett, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden1@outlook.com

March 2023

Budgeting for our Future

Finance and Stewardship

The Finance Focus Group met four times during the year, in May, June (twice) and September. A further meeting was also convened early in January 2023 specifically to consider the draft Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The principal objective of the Group was to provide an opportunity for detailed consideration of various finance related issues prior to consideration by the PCC. Accordingly, after some in depth analysis, the Group recommended that the PCC should consider: (i) increases to the Organists' fees; (ii) reinstatement of the offertory collections at the Parish Communion services; and (iii) a range of charitable organisations to which the Outreach Budget of £5,000 should be distributed at the year end.

Discussion also centred on the need for a Stewardship Campaign to be organised and, in this regard, the Group was advised (at a Zoom meeting in June) by a representative from the Diocese who reminded us about the Theology of Giving and outlined the basis upon which Parish Share is calculated.

In addition, some of the other issues which members of the Group worked on included (i) preparation of role descriptions for the Treasurer, Bookkeeper and Gift Aid Secretary; (ii) preparation of a leaflet about the need for the church to receive donations; (iii) research into raffle prizes for sale at the Ramster Centenary Concert in July; and (iv) investigations regarding the possibility of purchasing alternative hand held card readers – which ultimately were thought to be unnecessary whilst the existing ones continue to work satisfactorily.

As I've stated in my Treasurer's Comments attached to the Accounts, 2022 was a challenging year economically for everyone and it was especially pleasing, therefore, to be able to report that St. Mary's achieved a surplus of £2,301 over the year. This was after contributing £75,000 (increased from £72,000 in 2021) towards the requested amount for Parish Share of £93,519 for which the Diocese were extremely grateful; indeed we received no less than three separate emails expressing their 'deepest thanks' for our 'hard work and encouragement'.

On a personal note, I want to add my thanks to the Group members: Ollie Bayne, Lily Cook, Jan Fellingham, Rachel Greene, Martin Johnson, Chris Ryan, Oli Shepherd and Gilly van Oppen all of whom were a tremendous help and encouragement to me during the year. That said, we were sorry to say goodbye to Jan after she stood down as Churchwarden in the Spring and Martin who resigned in the face of a significantly increased work load. Their contributions are sadly missed but we wish them both well in their 'retirement'!

Going forward, again as I've said in my Treasurer's Comments attached to the Accounts, I am confident that St. Mary's is well placed to face future financial challenges and, although the FFG may include some different faces as members come and go, we will continue to support, and hopefully enhance, the work of the PCC wherever possible.

Finance Focus Group members: Gerald Williams (Chair), Ollie Bayne, Lily Cook, Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Chris Ryan, Oli Shepherd and Gilly van Oppen.

Gerald Williams, Treasurer
stmarystreasuryteam@gmail.com

Raising Money, Having Fun

The Fundraising Team

May we begin by thanking everyone who supported St. Mary's through the last year and helped our fundraising efforts. It was wonderful to be able to resume many of the fundraising activities that formed part of our calendar pre-pandemic and we could not have done it without the help of everyone who took part.

Several Fresh Produce Sales were held which were very successful. Thanks are given to Beverley Draper and her team on their success with organising and running these events.

In May the fundraising team organised the first Jumble Sale since before the pandemic. It raised over £1,000 and our thanks are given to everyone who made it such a success.

Following the successful Jumble Sale, the fundraising group organised the Quintessentially English Sales Stall for the Platinum Jubilee Fête. A huge range of donations were made, providing a good range of stock. Good stock was also key to the success of the Barrow of Bottles. The two stalls raised approximately £2,300 which was fantastic. Thanks are given to Nigel Forman who co-ordinated and sold tickets for the Barrow of Bottles, and Rob Wotherspoon for all his work behind the scenes of the QE stall.

Another very successful Open Gardens Day took place on Sunday 26th June. There were 21 gardens open for viewing, a children's trail, classic cars at Beckhams and a plant sale outside the church. Refreshments included teas, cakes and hot dogs, as well as the Vann Lane Gin distillery. After expenses, the event raised approximately £2,500. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event such a success, including Sally Frederick, Mark Todd, Damien Kirby, the stewards at each garden, the cake makers, ticket sellers and those who ran the plant sale and teas and coffees. We couldn't have done it without you!

In July Ramster Hall and Gardens held a Centenary Concert with the Hart Male Voice Choir. This was a joint fundraising event for the DEC Ukraine Appeal and St. Mary's Church. Thanks are given to Ramster Hall and the Hart Male Voice Choir for a wonderful event.

Also in July, Ted very generously opened his garden, giving everyone the opportunity to see his beautiful garden and model railway. This event raised funds for St. Mary's Church and Macmillan Cancer Support, and a donation was also made to the British Red Cross Ukraine Appeal. Thank you to Ted and everyone who helped make the day a success.

Continuing the open garden theme, in September Jack Salway held his Open Garden Day. This was a great opportunity to see Jack's incredible sub-tropical garden which has featured on Gardener's World. Thank you to Jack for his continued support, and to all the volunteers and stewards who helped on the day.

We had some stardust sprinkled on St. Mary's in November, as footage from our church was included in the latest season of The Crown on Netflix. In the second episode (2:24) of Season 5, there's a terrific long shot of St. Mary's and close ups in which the choir screen and the memorials can be clearly seen. We're pleased that St. Mary's is viewed as a film location of choice and grateful to all who assisted the production crew and cast in August 2021.

We are sad to report that Martin Johnson stepped down from the Fundraising Focus Group in the autumn. Huge thanks are given to him for all his time and hard work helping to organise fundraising events for St. Mary's. If you would like to become involved in fundraising at St. Mary's, please get in touch – the more of us there are, the merrier!

Once again, thank you to everyone who has supported us. We have many exciting events planned for 2023 so look out for notices!

Fundraising Focus Group members: Martin Johnson (Chair), Beverley Draper, Susan Hodges, Pauline Kaye, Sue Smith and Melanie Wotherspoon

Martin Johnson
martinjohnson0680@gmail.com

Looking after Children and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding Report

The PCC's Safeguarding role is clearly defined in The Church of England's 'Parish Handbook' and is carried out with the support of the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) validator – Helen Bendall. The House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church: Policy Statement' has been adopted by the PCC and this is displayed in St. Mary's. A copy of the Handbook is available on the Parish website as is a full list of contacts and organisations providing help and advice. Although Safeguarding is on the agenda of all PCC meetings complete confidentiality is maintained where matters are raised with the PSO or the Rector.

The PCC have carried out a Safeguarding Audit and reviewed the Action Plan before writing a new plan which is being taken forward. The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard is being used which is an online tool that helps keep track of safeguarding in the church and keeps us up to date with local and national changes in safeguarding requirements.

Louise Taylor, St. Mary's Safeguarding Officer
stmaryssafeguarding@outlook.com

He Washes Us Clean...

The Baptism Visiting Team

In 2022, 14 Baptisms took place at St. Mary's of which 6 were at the 10am service and 8 at midday. In July we invited the families of all the children who had been baptised since July 2019 to a Welcome Service, as that was the date of our last Welcome Service because of the pandemic. In all 30 families were invited and 7 families attended, all of whom live within our parish. The low attendance may well have been because many of the children had been baptised up to 2 years earlier and had no further connection with our church, maybe as a result of the pandemic. Several families were also away that particular weekend.

At the end of the year Michelle Quickfall stepped down as a Baptism Visitor as she has taken up full time employment. Michelle has been with the BVT for 10 years and has done tremendous work with our young families. We are sorry to see her go but we wish her well in her new venture.

Baptism Visiting Team: Wendy Johnson, Lily Cook, Helen Gorrod

Wendy Johnson
wej1811@gmail.com

Bells at St. Mary's

We have emerged from the pandemic lockdown, when there was no bellringing, back to a form of normality. The ringers are very happy to be able to accompany services and other events with the sound of our wonderful bells ringing out over the village. Our community is also very appreciative of the bells ringing to mark both church and secular events.

Our regular practices on a Wednesday are fun times and are gradually increasing the skills of the ringers to enable more challenging methods to be rung.

We have a small band of local ringers who usually manage to ring for services and weddings and other events and we are grateful for the assistance given by the Dunsfold band in making up our numbers when needed. Our numbers though have reduced, eroded by illnesses, infirmities and other issues resulting in many occasions when we would have wanted to ring but were unable to muster the necessary number of ringers. Any less than four bells ringing is unsatisfactory. We were very disappointed to not be able to ring for many of the Christmas events and services.

Recruitment and training of learners has so far gained us two enthusiastic and promising newcomers. Recruitment initiatives continue as can be seen from the occasional display of the banner outside the church!

Weddings and other special requests during the year for the bells to be rung were met. Several visiting bands have rung our bells and some of them have rung peals. Each visiting band makes a contribution to the church funds.

Work was organised and completed by the ringers to refurbish the clappers and bearings of the bells, also the preservative treatment of the frame and wheels. This work was mainly funded by the Chiddingfold Community Fund and partially by the ringers themselves. This work has ensured the bells will remain in an excellent condition for many years to come.

Our thanks go to the church and its officers for the continuing good will and support for our ringers and ringing.

John Cowburn, Tower captain
jj.cowburn@btinternet.com

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Choir and Music

Choir and Music

The purpose of the choir is to enhance and support the worship in St. Mary's Church. We enjoy singing different styles of music that reflect the significance of the season and the focus of the services.

Membership and attendance

The most significant change was the retirement of Roger Crocker as Director of Music at Easter, after nearly 38 years in post, and we are all so grateful to him for his dedicated and outstanding service to St. Mary's. We are also delighted that he has continued to support music at St. Mary's, by playing the organ or singing with the choir. Roger was presented with a Nicholson award at the RSCM Celebration Day on 8th October in Winchester Cathedral and we cheered him on in the Cathedral and from the alternative viewing location in the Church Room in Chiddingfold.

We welcomed David Stinson to the organ bench, and eight year old Ben, our youngest organist in training! The choir has also welcomed new junior members who will be admitted as full members of the choir in 2023. Additionally, the Arthur Barnett Choristers Cup and other roles in the choir will be awarded in 2023, there having been no real continuity to establish them in the last three years.

Festivals and Highlights

We marked Easter, the Patronal Festival, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday, Advent and Christmas, each with special anthems by a range of composers, including Tallis, Schubert, Parry, Rutter and Graham Kendrick.

For Palm Sunday Roger compiled a special service of Reflection with a dramatic reading of the Passion according to St. Luke, which included beautiful hymns, anthems and chorales from the Bach St. Matthew Passion.

Easter Sunday marked Roger's last day as Director of Music and the service began with the singing of the *Surrexit Dominus Vere (Taizé)*. Evensong for Advent was held at the beginning of December, which was very well received, followed two weeks later by Carols by Candlelight at which the choir sang two anthems, including *The Lamb* by John Tavener.

Finally, we welcomed the increase in congregational singing to four hymns from March 2022, and were delighted to be engaged to sing at two weddings during the year.

Leadership

In the summer Roger retired from leading singing assemblies at St. Mary's School, handing the baton to Helen who continued this important work from September. The children have shared some of the music they learn in school at Sunday services, including the Harvest Samba. The choir decided not to take part in the Diocesan Festival in October 2022 but will review this again in 2023.

Future developments

Choir social events will be planned for 2023 and the choir looks forward to learning new music as well as singing well-known works.

Helen Bendall, Assistant Organist, *stmarysorganist@outlook.com*
Christine Barlow, Choir Administrator, *chris@dottydragon.co.uk*
John Doig, Choir Treasurer, *johndoig65@gmail.com*

Part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

Deanery Synod Report

I currently serve on the Deanery and Diocesan Synods. The Church of England has four levels of Governance, viz. PCC, Deanery Synod, Diocesan Synod and General Synod. The actual decisions are really taken by various committees and councils and of course the PCCs. Serving on Synods is an important way for St. Mary's to demonstrate our commitment to the democratic life of the Church. The Synods get to vote on decisions being taken by a Synod and of course to ask questions.

Guildford is a young Diocese compared with say Winchester; which means that it does not have historical funds at its disposal. It relies on the money that we remit as the Parish Share. They are looking at ways to build such a fund by seeking to identify any properties, primarily vicarages, that might be sold and replaced by smaller buildings that are cheaper and more energy efficient.

Ken Lindup, Godalming Deanery Synod Representative
klindup@gmail.com

Eco Church

"The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it." Psalm 24.1

The Eco Church group at St. Mary's aims to help our Church play its part in renewing the earth by using resources responsibly, creatively and unselfishly. Our goal is to empower individuals, the church congregation and the wider community to model good stewardship by reducing our environmental footprint, increasing awareness of environmental sustainability and encouraging the appreciation of God's creation.

Since 2020 we've been supporting the maintenance team to ensure the churchyard is managed with wildlife in mind. At the same time, we've been welcoming surveys of the flora and fauna in the churchyard. This year those efforts have really come into fruition.

In August 2022, St. Mary's was featured in the Autumn edition of Butterfly Conservation magazine, as the only known churchyard in the UK which supports a breeding colony of Wood Whites – the smallest and daintiest of the British white butterflies and one of the most threatened. The article by Paul Cawsey commended efforts in Chiddingfold to manage Wood White nectar sources and habitat. It included photos of the churchyard and of the Eco Group at St. Mary's primary school planting butterfly food plants along the edge of the fence that leads to Ballsdown. Phil Darley wasn't thanked by name in Cawsey's article, which is a shame, but she deserves special acknowledgment for all her hard work for this project. In November 2022, St. Mary's was recognised as having 'A Beautiful Burial Ground to Inspire' and included on the new National Atlas database. This is a big accolade!

We have not rested on our laurels, however, and recognise that there is more that can be done. After following our first Churchyard Management Plan for nearly three years, it is clear there are areas in which modifying the approach to management could ensure our churchyard is both a haven for wildlife and a haven of heritage – a beautiful tranquil site of remembrance for the whole community. To that end, the PCC will be seeking guidance about the best way to enable this through grassland management that will improve access to monuments and graves and create a tidier appearance.

"Wild About Chiddingfold" Talk on December 10, 2022

While the review of the management plan is taking place, we have continued to spread the good news about what has been achieved so far. We have been sharing the brilliant resources and webinars produced by the charity Caring For God's Acre to raise awareness and increase engagement. In December we also hosted a seminar with Phil Darley to learn more about the wildflower and biodiversity projects underway. Her talk "Wild About Chiddingfold" brought together people from the congregation, from the wider community and from other parishes who are just beginning the Eco Church journey.

We are working towards a prestigious A Rocha Gold Eco Church Award now, and we'd like your help to get there. We've got ideas for eco swaps (rebranded jumble sales!), for

partnering with Rotarians and Chiddingfold Baptist Church to support a repair café, for increasing recycling points, and for some more wildlife surveys so come and join us!

Further information about the work of St. Mary's Eco Church is available on the Church's website or email: stmarysecochurch@gmail.com

Rachel Greene, Acting Chair
rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

Catherine Stovold, Secretary
catherine.ogden.celo@gmail.com

Food for Fellowship

It was great to re-start the lovely tradition of Parish Breakfast between Holy Communion and Parish Communion on the first Sunday of the month, once restrictions were lifted. Thanks go to Irving and Wendy Johnson and Sue Smith for hosting the first two. By February, however, it was becoming a struggle to recruit more volunteers to continue, and it was felt that some of our loyal volunteers were being asked to do too much. This was a good provocation to begin exploring other ways we bring people together by providing food and drink.

We've been delighted to see new traditions created whereby we can enjoy food and fellowship. Thanks go to David Neaum for showing us that the Lychgate makes a great place from which to serve refreshments after carol services. Thanks also go to Chrissie Cuming Walters for making King Cakes for us to enjoy after Parish Communion on the last Sunday before Lent and for sharing this lovely tradition with us.

Patronal Festival BBQ in the Rectory Garden

The tradition of enjoying a BBQ in the Rectory Garden on the Patronal Festival in September continues from strength to strength. And here we thank Jules Cook, James Quickfall and their grilling team. We've also enjoyed coming together over mulled wine and mince pies at Choral Evensong in Advent, followed by more mulled wine and mince pies at the Carols by Candlelight service! And of course, we are utterly grateful to our wonderful team who make coffee and tea after Parish Communion week in and week out.

At St. Mary's we aspire to be a welcoming community, and we relish opportunities to get to know one another better – especially over good food and drink! We'd love to create more opportunities for fellowship and would really value more helpers to enable this. If you enjoy good company, catering, or can pour a cup of tea, please get in touch!

Lily Cook, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden2@outlook.com

With a Little Help from our Friends

The Friends of St. Mary's

In the year of "The Friends of St. Mary's Church" our year was marked by the huge sadness and loss of our committee member Sue Wright. Sue joined us as a committee member a few years ago, and her contribution to the committee was huge. She always said she was not a front of house person, but a back room person, but as we all know without her help on several events we would have been sorely lacking in that department. She was always willing, especially with her tea towel or washing up our numerous cups of tea that we served at various events. We will miss her so much and wish her family all the best in the future.

The "Friends" were responsible for serving the teas on the Green over the Platinum Jubilee celebrations during June 2022. The weather was good and so many people enjoyed tea and cakes, served and washed up by our many helpers. A fantastic array of cakes and cookies was provided by a vast number of people, but also so enjoyed by numerous families.

At the end of June the "Friends" again provided the teas at the very successful open gardens event, which were served with the kind permission of Wendy and Irving Johnson at their home in Ballsdown. Many thanks to all the people involved in organising and helping with this popular event.

The "Friends" still need your support in raising funds for St. Mary's Church, this old building requires constant care and maintenance, so your donations are much appreciated.

Keep well and safe in 2023.

Rosemary Gorringe (Chairperson of the Friends)
rg@hartland3.plus.com

Many Members, One Body

The Joint Churches in Chiddingfold

The three Churches have continued to meet regularly during 2022.

In January, Joao Bolzan, Minister of the Baptist Church, took over the reins as Chairman from Revd Rachel.

The Easter Card and Christmas Card were produced, as usual, with the tremendous support of the pupils of St. Mary's who take part in an art competition to design the front cover. The Easter Card was the final one to be printed and distributed via the Good Neighbours group as the change of structure of the Group led to a decision to cease the distribution. The Christmas Card was distributed electronically and also via the three Churches in a reduced print form. As yet there is no way of assessing the impact of this change on the village community.

The Lent Supper was held on Monday 11th April with Andrew Kittow from Elan Ministries as the after-dinner speaker. It was again a very successful evening, continuing the tradition set many years ago!

A Coffee Morning was held on The Green in support of Christian Aid Week; it went well with a steady stream of attendees and raised nearly £430! We also came together on 9th July to celebrate as Joao Bolzan was ordained and inducted as pastor of Chiddingfold Baptist Church. Unfortunately, the Service on the Green was not able to happen due to organisational difficulties.

A Memorial Service for her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was jointly held at St. Mary's on the eve of the State Funeral. Also in September, St. Teresa's welcomed their new Parish Priest, with Fr Raj taking over from Fr Irek.

A Welcome Tea Party, now under the direction of the Good Neighbours Group was held Sunday 2nd October, to welcome new residents to the village. It was a wonderful occasion and our thanks are given to Helen Gorrod, Sue and Charles Dickenson, and all our Good Neighbours for hosting the event.

A Service of Wholeness and Wellbeing took place at the Baptist Church on Sunday 20th November which was well attended and really appreciated by those who took part.

Finally, in December, the Joint Churches came together at St. Mary's to welcome the Peace Light from Bethlehem.

As you can see, it was a year of continued 'Working Together'!

Mike Danson

Parish Link with St Paul's Church, Hook

St. Paul's and St. Mary's have shared a friendship link for many years, established by Revd Stephen Bell when on placement during his training, but we have no formal representative at St. Paul's. We exchange Parish Magazines, weekly pew sheets and Christmas/Easter cards. There have been no shared services or events during the past year. Although there has been much goodwill between the priests and people of both churches, it has been difficult to nurture this link following the periods of lockdown.

Nita Draper, St. Mary's Representative for St Paul's, Hook
nitadraper@btinternet.com

You Visited Me...

The Pastoral Visiting Team

Caring for our Community

St. Mary's offers pastoral support to all parishioners regardless of their religious beliefs. St. Mary's is also committed to caring for those who are unable to attend Church due to sickness or age. The Rector celebrates communion with them in their homes and in hospital and visits all who request it. In this she is assisted by St. Mary's Associate Priests and by the Pastoral Visiting Team.

While the task is to visit everyone and know everyone, research shows a single pastor can manage about 153 people. (Interestingly, that's the number in the miraculous catch of fish described in the bible in John 20.) Pastoral Visitors are trained so that they can share in that ministry with the clergy. They help by extending that number, working to bring in their 153, so that no one's needs are overlooked.

The ministry of the Pastoral Visiting Team is primarily one of listening, though some of the Team are also commissioned to bring Holy Communion to those who are no longer able to attend Church. Visitors are trained in specific areas of pastoral care, including bereavement, stress, depression, suicide, dementia and age-related issues. Confidentiality is paramount and Visitors do not divulge the personal problems of those they visit.

In recent years many on the Pastoral Visiting Team have stepped down due to advanced age or because of moving away from the village, reducing the Team to two members. We would welcome the help of new volunteers in this vital work, and hope you will consider what role you can play to ensure all in our parish are cared for.

Lay Pastoral Visiting Team: Faith Reynolds and Margaret McComish.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Work in St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chiddingfold

St. Mary's Church has a special relationship with our village school, as St. Mary's Primary is a Church of England school and part of the Good Shepherd Trust. That means the Rector is a foundation governor and has responsibilities not only for governance but also for the pastoral care of teachers and staff. In that role, I also bring elements of the RE curriculum to life, offer an act of collective worship weekly and lead services for the whole school. Many of those responsibilities are best shared and made ever more enjoyable through combined efforts. St. Mary's Church has a small but talented pool of volunteers who enrich collective worship by taking turns to lead assemblies on a Tuesday; and we are keen to see more volunteers come forward to share in this ministry.

In addition, our Organist leads a weekly music assembly on Wednesdays. This creates an important pathway from the school to the church, and as a result we have seen pupils joining the junior choir and their families coming along on a Sunday to hear them sing.

St. Mary's Church coordinates the "Open the Book" Team of Storytellers, who are drawn from all three Churches and who contribute by leading assemblies twice a term. The "Open the Book" assemblies are incredibly popular with the children and teachers alike, and exceptionally good fun for all involved. We could use a few more Storytellers on the team, so please let us know if you're interested – no special acting skills are required!

We also support pupils, staff and learning in other ways. We were pleased to lead a Pause Day in March in which children were encouraged to reflect and craft as they explored a range of prayer stations in school. And it was an absolute delight to welcome two classes to St. Mary's churchyard for a Muddy Church Trail about the meaning of Easter.

St Mary's Primary School pupils taking part in Muddy Church trail in St. Mary's churchyard in May

Other highlights of the year including leading a Harvest Festival Service and a Service of Remembrance for pupils in school, and also getting to welcome pupils back to St. Mary's for a New Beginnings Service, an Easter Service and a Leavers' Service with parents, grandparents and siblings in attendance. On behalf of the three village Churches, we presented each leaver with a Bible, and wished them Godspeed as they moved up to secondary school.

Whether we are together in the Church or the churchyard, in the school hall or amphitheatre, there is so much fun to be had learning together. We count it a privilege to contribute to the flourishing of the village school and treasure the relationship we have with it.

Tuesday Assembly Team: Beverley Draper, Helen Bendall, Rachel Greene.

Open the Book Assembly Team: Faith Reynolds, Ken Lindup, Wendy and Irving Johnson, Christine Tebbot, Gill Welford and Rachel Greene.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Chiddingfold Cares

Chiddingfold has a special connection to Ukraine. In 1949, it looked likely that many of the disabled Ukrainians in Britain, who'd been invited here after World War II, might be repatriated to Russia. To prevent this from happening, Ukrainians in Britain contributed one shilling of their weekly wage (equivalent to about one quarter of their salaries) to purchase and maintain a house where they could live without fear of deportation. With the money they raised, they bought Sydenhurst on Mill Lane in Chiddingfold.

St Mary's lit up in solidarity with the colours of Ukraine, March 2022
Our thanks to Rich Gorrod for his work with the lighting

For more than 60 years, Sydenhurst was their home. In that time, the residents of Sydenhurst got to know villagers, the villagers got to know the residents, and friendships were formed. Ukrainian children in London started coming to Sydenhurst for Scout camps, strengthening Ukrainian ties to Chiddingfold. As the residents of Sydenhurst grew older and died many of them were buried in St. Mary's churchyard, where there is a special Ukrainian section. Ukrainian Scout leaders from London regularly visit Chiddingfold to show their scouts, to tend the graves and read their inscriptions.

The people of Chiddingfold haven't forgotten those friendships. In February people from the three Churches in the village, from the school, the Parish Council and from village organisations joined together to show the people of Ukraine that they are not alone in their

time of need and that they still have friends who care – right here in Chiddingfold. We named our joined efforts "Chiddingfold Cares." Together we've undertaken projects to raise money for the special British Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal through bake sales, coffee mornings and a number of fundraising activities in St. Mary's Primary School.

At St. Mary's Church, we put on display a book of icons of Jesus' mother Mary from Ukraine, that was gifted to a member of St. Mary's Church by a Ukrainian friend from Sydenhurst. Revd Gill Welford was interviewed by BBC South Today in Church, and Sue Dickenson spoke about our efforts on BBC Radio Surrey. Both did us proud.

We've been heartened by the number of people who came forward to host Ukrainians temporarily resettled in the UK, and we have been encouraged by the care evidenced in so many people's readiness to raise money, to pray for peace, to take thoughtful action and to not look away. We're still here to provide assistance to those who are looking for ways to offer help but need some direction and believe that together we can make a world of difference and show ourselves to be true friends.

Membership of St. Mary's

Electoral Roll Report

The Electoral Roll is the Church membership list. Anyone is eligible to join the Electoral Roll if they have been baptised and live within the parish, or if they are baptised and have regularly attended worship at St. Mary's during the previous six months.

Membership of St. Mary's implies:

- that you are committed to grow in faith through prayer, Bible reading and regular worship;
- that you take an active interest in the life and purposes of this Church;
- that you are willing to use your time and talents to help build up the Church and its ministry;
- that you undertake proportional regular planned giving to financially support this Church (which is entirely self-funded).

The Electoral Roll Officer reported that a revision of the Parish Electoral Roll had been completed on Tuesday 19th April 2022 in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During this process, 2 applications for inclusion had been received and there was one deletion in respect of those who had died or moved away. The total number on the Parish Electoral Roll now stood at 121 members. The figures were presented at the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on Sunday 8th May 2022 and were duly notified to the Secretaries of the Guildford Diocesan Synod and the Godalming Deanery Synod.

Since the 2022 APCM there have been no further additions to the Electoral Roll and one deletion in respect of someone who has died or moved away. The total number on the St. Mary's Electoral Roll, as of 31st December 2022, was 120.

Helen Bendall, Electoral Roll Officer
stmaryschurchcouncil@outlook.com

Other St. Mary's Church Links

Individuals, groups and organisations linked to St. Mary's Church are listed below.

Bell Ringing:

John Cowburn	jj.cowburn@btinternet.com	01428 685940

Choir / Organist:

Helen Bendall	stmarysorganist@outlook.com	07986 127855

Friends of St. Mary's:

Rosemary Gorringe	rg@hartland3.plus.com	01428 683518

Churchyard Records & Archives:

Nita Draper	nitadraper@btinternet.com	01428 682052

Church Flowers Organiser:

Mary Doig	marydoig69@gmail.com	01483 200798

Church Room Bookings:

Elizabeth Ottley	stmarysbookingsclerk@outlook.com	01428 685797

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults:

Louise Taylor	stmaryssafeguarding@outlook.com
Helen Bendall	stmarysenquiries@btinternet.com

Wedding Administrator:

Tracy Verrier	stmarysweddingclerk@outlook.com

Parish Magazine:

Anne Sheppard	Anne.Sheppard@btinternet.com
Tony Wiener	tony.wiener1@gmail.com

St. Mary's Church of England Primary School:

School Office	admin2@stmarys-godalming.surrey.sch.uk	01428 683115

To know Christ better, to make Christ better known

Annual Report
for the year ended 31st December 2022

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed:

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 23rd April 2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

St. Mary's Church

Chiddingfold

To know Christ better,
to make Christ better known

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TREASURER'S COMMENTS

2022 was my first year as the Treasurer of St Mary's; a role I took over from Gilly van Oppen who generously agreed to continue as the Bookkeeper. Together, we informally refer to ourselves as St Mary's Treasury Team but it must said at the outset that, without Gilly's widespread knowledge of the village and dedicated commitment to ensuring accuracy in everything related to the accounting function, I most definitely would not have been able to take on the job.

2022 was a challenging year economically for everyone and it is very good, therefore, to be able to report that St Mary's achieved a surplus (ie more income than expenditure) of **£2,301** and the PCC was able to authorise a further increase in the amount given to the Diocese as 'Parish Share', up from £72,000 in 2021 to £75,000 in 2022. In recognition of this it is pleasing to note that both the Archdeacon Paul Davies, and the Acting Diocesan Secretary Steve Collins, have expressed their deep appreciation to St Mary's for all our efforts in this respect even though, for the third year running, we were unable to meet the full amount requested of £93,519. The PCC continue to monitor this aspect very closely and it is still hoped that, in time, we may be able to make up at least part of the shortfall.

Turning now to the Incoming Resources which totalled £124,495 as compared with £123,250 in 2021 it is worth noting that, although the Regular Planned Giving (RPG) and Gift Aid receipts both fell marginally (circa 3%) the revenue received from Collections increased by 67% from £5,855 in 2021 to £9,784 in 2022. This tremendous uplift resulted from a combination of some especially generous giving at several weddings and funerals and a decision by the PCC in to reintroduce the so called 'Bag Collections' at the weekly Sunday services. Interestingly, this latter development does not appear to have had any material effect on the average weekly receipts via the automated card reader which continue to be approximately £25. Clearly though it is producing a valuable source of additional income.

For a combination of reasons the net amount derived from Fundraising Activities during the year fell back from it's 4 year high of almost £12,000 in 2021 to the pre-pandemic level of £8,337. Prior to his departure in the summer (because of work pressures) Martin Johnson worked incredibly hard as Chairman of the Fundraising Focus Group and, without his and his colleagues' efforts, this result would have been significantly lower. Because of the importance of this work it is vital that a replacement person is appointed to carry on Martin's excellent work at the earliest opportunity.

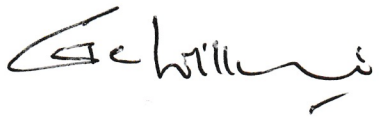
As far as the expenditure is concerned, it was almost inevitable that the operating expenses incurred in the year would increase by comparison with 2021 but, due to some extremely careful financial management by the Rector and Church Wardens, the overall increase was limited to just 6.8% ie £7,755 to £122,194. Many of the items within this amount were lower than the previous year but towards the end of 2021 the PCC decided that the Rector should have some much needed secretarial and administrative assistance. Consequently, Helen Bendall was appointed on a part time basis which lead to an increase in the Staff Costs for 2022. In addition, as previously mentioned, the PCC decided to increase the amount paid to the Diocese by £3,000 to £75,000.

Despite repeated attempts to appoint a Youth & Children's worker it has still not been possible to find anyone and the expenditure in this respect has therefore remained minimal.

As expected several other minor variations occurred but none that give rise to any comment or concern. However, it is worth mentioning that, despite the increasing costs of running the church and it's associated ministry, the PCC was particularly keen to ensure that the level of Outreach Giving and Support Funding provided in 2021 should be maintained in 2022. Consequently, with advice and assistance from the Finance Focus Group, arrangements were made for a wide range of local, national and overseas charitable organisations to receive various amounts (See Note 8 to the Accounts) totalling £5,000. Many of these organisations have now expressed their gratitude for this support and asked that their thanks be passed to our church members without whose generosity they recognise the amounts received would not have been possible.

Going forward I am confident that St Mary's is well placed to face future financial challenges. The PCC's previously stated policy, to retain a Designated Emergency Reserve Fund of £25,000 within the CBF Deposit Accounts, is being maintained together with other nominal amounts that are being set aside for certain anticipated costs. In addition, there is always a reasonable balance in the current account to meet the day to day operating expenses.

On a personal front, I am pleased to confirm that, subject to our appointment being ratified at the APCM, the so-called 'Treasury Team' ie myself as the Treasurer and Gilly van Oppen as the Bookkeeper, has agreed to continue in post for the coming year and we are both delighted, as ever, to have the continued support of the Independent Examiner, Tony Kelly FCA.



Gerald Williams
Treasurer, Chiddingfold PCC
Stmarystreasuryteam@gmail.com

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank PLC
49 High Street
Godalming
Surrey GU7 1AT

Independent Examiner:
Mr A Kelly FCA
Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages (v) to (ix), is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act")

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this 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 to be found in the Church Guidance 2001 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. 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 item or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning any such matters. The procedures taken do not include 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 cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner
6/3/23

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AT AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS	0	0	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS				
CASH AND BANK BALANCES (Note 1)	21,914		15,475	
CBF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	46,168		45,529	
CBF INVESTMENT FUND	1,392		1,607	
MAGAZINE ACCOUNT BALANCE	3,409		3,373	
DEBTORS (Note 2)	5,000		7,854	
LESS CREDITORS (Note 3)	(16,195)	61,688	(14,805)	59,033
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**61,688**		**59,033**
REPRESENTED BY				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	50,529		48,228	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	11,159	61,688	10,805	59,033
TOTAL FUNDS		**61,688**		**59,033**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
GENERAL FUND				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		48,228		39,417
INCOMING RESOURCES (Note 4)	124,495		123,250	
LESS: RESOURCES EXPENDED (Note 7)	(122,194)		(114,439)	
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	2,301	2,301	8,811	8,811
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		50,529		48,228
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		**50,529**		48,228
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
SADLER BEQUEST (CHURCHYARD)				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY	6,210		6,279	
INCOME FROM CBF UNITS	40		45	
UNIT VALUE INCREASE/DECREASE	314		(114)	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	6,564	6,564	6,210	6,210
CAMPBELL-ORDE BEQUEST				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
VESTRY REFURBISHMENT FUND				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,250	2,250	2,250	2,250
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTS				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY	345			
RECEIPTS	-		2,802	
LESS: PROJECT FUNDING	-		(2,457)	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	345	345	345	345
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**11,159**		**10,805**
TOTAL FUNDS		**61,688**		**59,033**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2022

Notes		2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
1	**CASH AND BANK BALANCES**				
	LLOYDS/TSB	21,546		15,345	
	SANTANDER/GIRO	130		130	
	CASH	238	**21,914**	-	**15,475**
2	**DEBTORS**				
	GIFT AID	5,000	**5,000**	7,854	**7,854**
3	**CREDITORS**				
	CHURCH INSURANCE (Note 9)	-		1,425	
	CHIDDINGFOLD FETE (Note 10)	-		1,800	
	DIOCESAN FEES	554		671	
	CHURCH ROOM EXPENSES	-		124	
	PARISH SHARE	12,000		10,000	
	AGENCY FUNDS	855		-	
	UTILITIES	1,000		-	
	STAFF, MINISTERIAL AND OTHER EXPENSES	1,786	**16,195**	785	**14,805**
4	**INCOMING RESOURCES**				
	REGULAR PLANNED GIVING (RPG)	55,469		57,229	
	COLLECTIONS	9,784		5,855	
	GIFT AID	13,758		14,341	
	WEDDING & FUNERAL FEES	5,176		7,022	
	GENERAL DONATIONS	7,248		8,130	
	SPECIFIC DONATIONS (Note 6)	812		40	
	LEGACIES	500		-	
	CHURCHYARD GRANTS	2,512		2,512	
	INTEREST	639		21	
	MAGAZINE INCOME	16,565		13,939	
	FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (Note 5)	8,337		11,863	
	CHURCH ROOM RENTALS	3,235		2,258	
	YOUTH EVENTS	-		23	
	VERGER FUND INCOME	460	**124,495**	17	**123,250**
5	**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**				
	INCOMING FUNDS	10,052		18,519	
	LESS: COST OF GENERATING FUNDS	(1,715)	**8,337**	(6,656)	**11,863**
6	**SPECIFIC DONATIONS**				
	ECO CHURCH PLAQUE	-		40	
	CHIDDFEST GRANT FOR CHURCH MICE	600		-	
	ALTAR FUND	212	**812**	-	**40**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2022

Notes		2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
7	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**				
	MINISTRY				
	CLERGY FEES	-		58	
	PARISH SHARE	75,000		72,000	
	MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	3,178	**78,178**	2,498	**74,556**
	SERVICES				
	WORSHIP MATERIALS	1,548		1,714	
	ORGANIST & CHOIR	2,970		3,214	
	YOUTH	1,858	**6,376**	757	**5,685**
	CHURCH BUILDING				
	INSURANCE ((Note 9)	2,119		3,421	
	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	1,533		1,580	
	UTILITIES (Net)	2,695		2,556	
	FLOWER FUND	352		100	
	CHURCHYARD	3,221	**9,920**	3,689	**11,346**
	CHURCH ROOM RUNNING EXPENSES	1,542	**1,542**	2,220	**2,220**
	ADMINISTRATION & SUNDRIES				
	OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	789		1,520	
	STATIONERY & PRINTING INKS ETC	778		1,139	
	ONLINE EXPENSES	1,985		856	
	CHURCH CLEANING	-		748	
	CLERGY TRAINING COSTS	1,155		1,168	
	STAFF COSTS	6,321		1,501	
	AUDIO & IT	150		150	
	FOOD & FELLOWSHIP COSTS (Net)	471	**11,649**	-	**7,082**
	MAGAZINE EXPENSES	9,529	**9,529**	8,657	**8,657**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (Note 8)	5,000	**5,000**	4,893	**4,893**
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**122,194**		**114,439**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2022

Notes		2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
8	**OUTREACH GIVING AND SUPPORT FUNDING**				
	LOCAL				
	ST MARY'S SCHOOL	700		400	
	CROSSWAYS	500		500	
	HASLEMERE FOODBANK	200		-	
	GODALMING FOODBANK	200		-	
	MIDHURST MACMILLAN NURSES	500		-	
	GUILDFORD STREET ANGELS	200		-	
	HASLEMERE YOUTH FUND	200		-	
	MILFORD VILLAGES DAY CENTRE	-	**2,500**	400	**1,300**
	UK				
	CANCER RESEARCH	500		-	
	CHRISTIAN AID	300		303	
	BRIAN DRAPER	-		90	
	HALOW TRUST (Christmas Ball)	-		1,500	
	THE TRUSSELL TRUST	250		-	
	INCLUSIVE CHURCH	240		-	
	CHURCH URBAN FUND	200	**1,490**	200	**2,093**
	OVERSEAS				
	AFGHANISTAN APPEAL (Christmas Ball)	-		500	
	UNHCR (Christmas Ball)	-		500	
	UNICEF (Christmas Ball)	-		500	
	UNICEF (Somalia Famine Appeal)	250		-	
	BRITISH RED CROSS (Ukraine Appeal)	250		-	
	DEC (Pakistan Flood Relief Appeal)	250	**750**	-	**1,500**
	RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	260	**260**	-	**-**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT AS PER THE ACCOUNTS		**5,000**		**4,893**
	ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS				
	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	300		180	
	BISHOP'S FOUNDATION	-		184	
	CHILDREN'S SOCIETY	-		85	
	UNICEF (Covax)	-		325	
	UN REFUGEE WEEK	-		100	
	BRITISH RED CROSS (Ukraine Appeal)	1,100		-	
	CHRISTIAN AID (Joint Churches)	330	**1,730**	-	**874**
	TOTAL OUTREACH SUPPORT		**6,730**		**5,767**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2022

Notes

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GOING FORWARD IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT THE FULL COST OF THE PREMIUM WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE ACCOUNTS WITHOUT ANY CREDITOR BEING CARRIED FORWARD.
CONSEQUENTLY, FOR THIS YEAR ONLY, THE AMOUNT APPEARING IN THE ACCOUNTS (£2119) IS SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN USUAL.

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CONSEQUENTLY, IT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR THE CHURCH'S ACCOUNTS TO INCLUDE ANY OF THE FETE ACTIVITIES.

Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2022

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: .....

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 23rd April 2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

St. Mary's Church

Chiddingfold

To know Christ better,
to make Christ better known

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TREASURER'S COMMENTS

2022 was my first year as the Treasurer of St Mary's; a role I took over from Gilly van Oppen who generously agreed to continue as the Bookkeeper. Together, we informally refer to ourselves as St Mary's Treasury Team but it must said at the outset that, without Gilly's widespread knowledge of the village and dedicated commitment to ensuring accuracy in everything related to the accounting function, I most definitely would not have been able to take on the job.

2022 was a challenging year economically for everyone and it is very good, therefore, to be able to report that St Mary's achieved a surplus (ie more income than expenditure) of **£2,301** and the PCC was able to authorise a further increase in the amount given to the Diocese as 'Parish Share', up from £72,000 in 2021 to £75,000 in 2022. In recognition of this it is pleasing to note that both the Archdeacon Paul Davies, and the Acting Diocesan Secretary Steve Collins, have expressed their deep appreciation to St Mary's for all our efforts in this respect even though, for the third year running, we were unable to meet the full amount requested of £93,519. The PCC continue to monitor this aspect very closely and it is still hoped that, in time, we may be able to make up at least part of the shortfall.

Turning now to the Incoming Resources which totalled £124,495 as compared with £123,250 in 2021 it is worth noting that, although the Regular Planned Giving (RPG) and Gift Aid receipts both fell marginally (circa 3%) the revenue received from Collections increased by 67% from £5,855 in 2021 to £9,784 in 2022. This tremendous uplift resulted from a combination of some especially generous giving at several weddings and funerals and a decision by the PCC in to reintroduce the so called 'Bag Collections' at the weekly Sunday services. Interestingly, this latter development does not appear to have had any material effect on the average weekly receipts via the automated card reader which continue to be approximately £25. Clearly though it is producing a valuable source of additional income.

For a combination of reasons the net amount derived from Fundraising Activities during the year fell back from it's 4 year high of almost £12,000 in 2021 to the pre-pandemic level of £8,337. Prior to his departure in the summer (because of work pressures) Martin Johnson worked incredibly hard as Chairman of the Fundraising Focus Group and, without his and his colleagues' efforts, this result would have been significantly lower. Because of the importance of this work it is vital that a replacement person is appointed to carry on Martin's excellent work at the earliest opportunity.

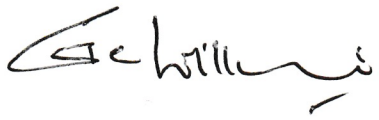
As far as the expenditure is concerned, it was almost inevitable that the operating expenses incurred in the year would increase by comparison with 2021 but, due to some extremely careful financial management by the Rector and Church Wardens, the overall increase was limited to just 6.8% ie £7,755 to £122,194. Many of the items within this amount were lower than the previous year but towards the end of 2021 the PCC decided that the Rector should have some much needed secretarial and administrative assistance. Consequently, Helen Bendall was appointed on a part time basis which lead to an increase in the Staff Costs for 2022. In addition, as previously mentioned, the PCC decided to increase the amount paid to the Diocese by £3,000 to £75,000.

Despite repeated attempts to appoint a Youth & Children's worker it has still not been possible to find anyone and the expenditure in this respect has therefore remained minimal.

As expected several other minor variations occurred but none that give rise to any comment or concern. However, it is worth mentioning that, despite the increasing costs of running the church and it's associated ministry, the PCC was particularly keen to ensure that the level of Outreach Giving and Support Funding provided in 2021 should be maintained in 2022. Consequently, with advice and assistance from the Finance Focus Group, arrangements were made for a wide range of local, national and overseas charitable organisations to receive various amounts (See Note 8 to the Accounts) totalling £5,000. Many of these organisations have now expressed their gratitude for this support and asked that their thanks be passed to our church members without whose generosity they recognise the amounts received would not have been possible.

Going forward I am confident that St Mary's is well placed to face future financial challenges. The PCC's previously stated policy, to retain a Designated Emergency Reserve Fund of £25,000 within the CBF Deposit Accounts, is being maintained together with other nominal amounts that are being set aside for certain anticipated costs. In addition, there is always a reasonable balance in the current account to meet the day to day operating expenses.

On a personal front, I am pleased to confirm that, subject to our appointment being ratified at the APCM, the so-called 'Treasury Team' ie myself as the Treasurer and Gilly van Oppen as the Bookkeeper, has agreed to continue in post for the coming year and we are both delighted, as ever, to have the continued support of the Independent Examiner, Tony Kelly FCA.



Gerald Williams
Treasurer, Chiddingfold PCC
Stmarystreasuryteam@gmail.com

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank PLC
49 High Street
Godalming
Surrey GU7 1AT

Independent Examiner:
Mr A Kelly FCA
Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages (v) to (ix), is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act")

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this 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 to be found in the Church Guidance 2001 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. 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 item or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning any such matters. The procedures taken do not include 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 cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner
6/3/23

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AT AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS	0	0	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS				
CASH AND BANK BALANCES (Note 1)	21,914		15,475	
CBF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	46,168		45,529	
CBF INVESTMENT FUND	1,392		1,607	
MAGAZINE ACCOUNT BALANCE	3,409		3,373	
DEBTORS (Note 2)	5,000		7,854	
LESS CREDITORS (Note 3)	(16,195)	61,688	(14,805)	59,033
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**61,688**		**59,033**
REPRESENTED BY				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	50,529		48,228	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	11,159	61,688	10,805	59,033
TOTAL FUNDS		**61,688**		**59,033**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
GENERAL FUND				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		48,228		39,417
INCOMING RESOURCES (Note 4)	124,495		123,250	
LESS: RESOURCES EXPENDED (Note 7)	(122,194)		(114,439)	
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	2,301	2,301	8,811	8,811
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		50,529		48,228
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		**50,529**		48,228
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
SADLER BEQUEST (CHURCHYARD)				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY	6,210		6,279	
INCOME FROM CBF UNITS	40		45	
UNIT VALUE INCREASE/DECREASE	314		(114)	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	6,564	6,564	6,210	6,210
CAMPBELL-ORDE BEQUEST				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
VESTRY REFURBISHMENT FUND				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,250	2,250	2,250	2,250
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTS				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY	345			
RECEIPTS	-		2,802	
LESS: PROJECT FUNDING	-		(2,457)	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	345	345	345	345
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**11,159**		**10,805**
TOTAL FUNDS		**61,688**		**59,033**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2022

Notes		2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
1	**CASH AND BANK BALANCES**				
	LLOYDS/TSB	21,546		15,345	
	SANTANDER/GIRO	130		130	
	CASH	238	**21,914**	-	**15,475**
2	**DEBTORS**				
	GIFT AID	5,000	**5,000**	7,854	**7,854**
3	**CREDITORS**				
	CHURCH INSURANCE (Note 9)	-		1,425	
	CHIDDINGFOLD FETE (Note 10)	-		1,800	
	DIOCESAN FEES	554		671	
	CHURCH ROOM EXPENSES	-		124	
	PARISH SHARE	12,000		10,000	
	AGENCY FUNDS	855		-	
	UTILITIES	1,000		-	
	STAFF, MINISTERIAL AND OTHER EXPENSES	1,786	**16,195**	785	**14,805**
4	**INCOMING RESOURCES**				
	REGULAR PLANNED GIVING (RPG)	55,469		57,229	
	COLLECTIONS	9,784		5,855	
	GIFT AID	13,758		14,341	
	WEDDING & FUNERAL FEES	5,176		7,022	
	GENERAL DONATIONS	7,248		8,130	
	SPECIFIC DONATIONS (Note 6)	812		40	
	LEGACIES	500		-	
	CHURCHYARD GRANTS	2,512		2,512	
	INTEREST	639		21	
	MAGAZINE INCOME	16,565		13,939	
	FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (Note 5)	8,337		11,863	
	CHURCH ROOM RENTALS	3,235		2,258	
	YOUTH EVENTS	-		23	
	VERGER FUND INCOME	460	**124,495**	17	**123,250**
5	**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**				
	INCOMING FUNDS	10,052		18,519	
	LESS: COST OF GENERATING FUNDS	(1,715)	**8,337**	(6,656)	**11,863**
6	**SPECIFIC DONATIONS**				
	ECO CHURCH PLAQUE	-		40	
	CHIDDFEST GRANT FOR CHURCH MICE	600		-	
	ALTAR FUND	212	**812**	-	**40**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2022

Notes		2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
7	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**				
	MINISTRY				
	CLERGY FEES	-		58	
	PARISH SHARE	75,000		72,000	
	MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	3,178	**78,178**	2,498	**74,556**
	SERVICES				
	WORSHIP MATERIALS	1,548		1,714	
	ORGANIST & CHOIR	2,970		3,214	
	YOUTH	1,858	**6,376**	757	**5,685**
	CHURCH BUILDING				
	INSURANCE ((Note 9)	2,119		3,421	
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	STATIONERY & PRINTING INKS ETC	778		1,139	
	ONLINE EXPENSES	1,985		856	
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	CLERGY TRAINING COSTS	1,155		1,168	
	STAFF COSTS	6,321		1,501	
	AUDIO & IT	150		150	
	FOOD & FELLOWSHIP COSTS (Net)	471	**11,649**	-	**7,082**
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	OUTREACH SUPPORT (Note 8)	5,000	**5,000**	4,893	**4,893**
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**122,194**		**114,439**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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	LOCAL				
	ST MARY'S SCHOOL	700		400	
	CROSSWAYS	500		500	
	HASLEMERE FOODBANK	200		-	
	GODALMING FOODBANK	200		-	
	MIDHURST MACMILLAN NURSES	500		-	
	GUILDFORD STREET ANGELS	200		-	
	HASLEMERE YOUTH FUND	200		-	
	MILFORD VILLAGES DAY CENTRE	-	**2,500**	400	**1,300**
	UK				
	CANCER RESEARCH	500		-	
	CHRISTIAN AID	300		303	
	BRIAN DRAPER	-		90	
	HALOW TRUST (Christmas Ball)	-		1,500	
	THE TRUSSELL TRUST	250		-	
	INCLUSIVE CHURCH	240		-	
	CHURCH URBAN FUND	200	**1,490**	200	**2,093**
	OVERSEAS				
	AFGHANISTAN APPEAL (Christmas Ball)	-		500	
	UNHCR (Christmas Ball)	-		500	
	UNICEF (Christmas Ball)	-		500	
	UNICEF (Somalia Famine Appeal)	250		-	
	BRITISH RED CROSS (Ukraine Appeal)	250		-	
	DEC (Pakistan Flood Relief Appeal)	250	**750**	-	**1,500**
	RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	260	**260**	-	**-**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT AS PER THE ACCOUNTS		**5,000**		**4,893**
	ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS				
	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	300		180	
	BISHOP'S FOUNDATION	-		184	
	CHILDREN'S SOCIETY	-		85	
	UNICEF (Covax)	-		325	
	UN REFUGEE WEEK	-		100	
	BRITISH RED CROSS (Ukraine Appeal)	1,100		-	
	CHRISTIAN AID (Joint Churches)	330	**1,730**	-	**874**
	TOTAL OUTREACH SUPPORT		**6,730**		**5,767**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2022

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Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2022

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: .....

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 23rd April 2023

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHIDDINGFOLD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128727

Accounts

St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chiddingfold

Annual Report 2021

A Report for the Year ended 31 December 2021

Approved by the PCC at their meeting on 15th March 2022

Registered Charity Number 1128727

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Administration and Membership	4
Aims and Purposes	4
Objectives and Activities	6
Youth and Children's Work	7
Worship Focus Group	9
The Fabric and Maintenance Report	12
Finance Group	15
Fundraising Team	16
Stewardship Group	17
Baptism Visiting Team	17
Choir and Music	18
Deanery Synod Report	19
Eco Church	19
Food for Fellowship	21
The Friends of St Mary's	21
Joint Churches in Chiddingfold	22
Parish Link with St Paul's Church, Hook	23
Pastoral Visiting Team	23
Work in St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chiddingfold	24
Safeguarding Work	25
Electoral Roll Report	25
Other St Mary's Church Links	26

Introduction

From gathering virtually to worshipping in person, 2021 brought many changes and blessings to our community. In the first quarter of the year, we continued to seek out creative ways to celebrate and connect. Then, by God's grace, we had the privilege of learning how to rebuild our church in person again! In this Year in Review, we share some of the ways in which God has been working in and through our community. As you read through this Review, I hope you will appreciate what a busy twelve months this has been at St Mary's and be encouraged by what you read.

One of the great blessings of our life at St Mary's is the way so many people contribute their gifts and skills to build up our church and our community. As we continue to rebuild and renew the life of the church, it will be important to continue to nurture that sense of community, to foster that sense of belonging and to encourage more people to come forward and get involved.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the PCC for all they give to leadership in St Mary's. I want to offer my sincere gratitude to Jan Fellingham who is stepping down as Churchwarden, and to Gilly van Oppen who is stepping down as Treasurer. Both Jan and Gilly have brought commitment, wisdom and good humour to their roles, and it has been a pleasure to work alongside them. I also want to offer my gratitude to Katherine Hylton, Nigel Forman and Richard Flenley for their service, as they stand down from PCC. It is good news indeed that Richard has begun training for ordained ministry alongside his day job, and wonderful that St Mary's has a curate in the making.

This past year Ruth Goddard moved on from the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer, a role she held on our behalf for twelve years, passing the baton to Louise Taylor. Beverley Giles also moved on from her role as Administrator and Wedding Clerk, a role she held faithfully for fifteen years, and I want to thank her for all she has given to the parish. And sadly, we lost Geoffrey Curtis, a dear friend to so many and a faithful priest for over 57 years, who was bound to have been grateful to St Mary's for providing him with a priestly ministry right up to the end. We continue to give thanks for the many blessings he bestowed on us.

There is much to do still, but I am hopeful going forward and am so grateful for the wisdom, time, and experience that so many of you give. It is one of the things which makes St Mary's such a vibrant community, and I want to simply say, 'Thank you!'

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene
rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

Administration and Membership

St Mary's is the Parish Church of Chiddingfold and is part of the Diocese of Guildford within the Church of England. The Church's postal address is:

St Mary's Church, Petworth Road, Chiddingfold, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 4TY

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are Trustees of the Charity for the term of their appointment. Members serving on the PCC during 2021 are:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Chair
Churchwardens:	Beverley Draper (until April 2021) Chris Everett Jan Fellingham (since April 2021)
Deanery Synod:	Ken Lindup
PCC Members:	Richard Atkinson Ollie Bayne Richard Flenley Nigel Forman Katherine Hylton Martin Johnson Louise Taylor (since April 2021) Gilly van Oppen Gerald Williams
Treasurer:	Gilly van Oppen
Secretary:	Helen Bendall

Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission as The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chiddingfold and its registered Charity Number is: 1128727.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend St Mary's and who qualify according to those Rules are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members are given initial training into the workings of the PCC. The PCC meets six times during the year.

The PCC operates through a number of Focus Groups, which meet between full meetings. These groups are constituted to make full use of the professional expertise available within

St Mary's and members are encouraged to attend Diocesan training as appropriate. Each group has at least one representative from the PCC, and the Rector and Churchwardens are *ex officio* members of all these groups. All the Focus Groups are responsible to the PCC and report back regularly at PCC meetings.

Standing Committee:	This statutory committee has a general power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.
Finance and Stewardship Group:	Oversees expenditures and monitors income and investments. Encourages financial support of the Church through a strategy for Regular Planned Giving (RPG), legacies, occasional parish funding programmes and gift days; prepares the annual budget for outreach support.
Fundraising Group:	Plans an annual programme of fundraising events to generate income for the Church.
Maintenance Group:	Attends to matters relating to the stewardship and maintenance of the Church, its contents, buildings and grounds, such as the Churchyard, the Church Room and the Rectory.
Worship Group:	Co-ordinates the provision and conduct of worship.
Youth and Children's Work Group:	Co-ordinates activities involving children and young people in the Church and the wider community.

In addition, several important links and special interest groups complement the aims and purposes of St Mary's PCC, as it seeks to benefit everyone in the Church and the community:

- ***Baptism Visiting Team***
- ***Bell Ringers***
- ***Choir and Music***
- ***Eco Church***
- ***Food for Fellowship***
- ***Friends of St Mary's***
- ***Joint Churches of Chiddingfold***
- ***Pastoral Visiting Team***
- ***St Mary's C of E Primary School***

Objectives and Activities

The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states that the PCC is to co-operate with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and the Church Room and for some internal decoration of the Rectory. St Mary's vision is "to know Christ better and to make Christ better known".

In order to achieve these objectives St Mary's Church offers, among other things:

- regular services of worship
- occasional offices
- pastoral care
- small groups for nurture and discipleship
- social activities
- quiet days and retreats
- concerts and recitals
- programs and activities for children, young people and those who care for them
- charitable fundraising events
- a monthly parish magazine which has a distribution to many beyond the regular congregation
- a website
- a social media presence on Facebook

We invite you to read on to learn how we have been fulfilling our vision, and what we have undertaken in 2021 to meet the aims of St Mary's Church for the benefit of our congregation within the Church and of the wider community.

‘The Young Ones’

Youth and Children’s Work

Families @ St Mary’s

At St Mary’s we seek to serve people at every stage of life and to include people of all ages – even the very young – in our worship and activities. To that end, we have developed a specially tailored programme designed to engage the imaginations of children and youth and help them grow in faith. The Families @ St Mary’s Programme is made up of six separate ministries that allow us to serve children, young people and teens along with their families and carers. We have been so pleased to restart many of these ministries as restrictions limiting work with children were lifted.

Muddy Church

In spring 2020 St Mary’s launched Muddy Church, a programme to inspire wonder and faith and bring children, young people and their families together outside. Throughout Lent, when groups were not permitted to gather indoors, we offered a new Muddy Church trail each week that families could pick up or download and use as guided, sensory walks. On Easter Eve, we organised a trail through St Mary’s Churchyard with six stations that told the Easter story, to which 16 children from nine families took part. We built on that by offering new trails in June and September and are thrilled to watch numbers grow.

Church Mice

It was a joy to restart our weekly baby and toddler group in May. Church Mice meets each Thursday in term time from 9:30am-11:30am in the Church Room for play, craft, story and songs, plus snacks and coffee! This programme has been especially important to parents who had babies in lockdown and had been unable to meet other parents, and to families who had recently moved to the village and were hoping to get to know others. We are especially grateful to Helen Gorrod and Fallon Wootton for leading the group so brilliantly.

Good News Gang

St Mary’s youth group is aimed at 9-14 year olds wanting to get to know a bit more about their faith and have some fun doing it. We met monthly over Zoom in the first quarter of the year and then, as restrictions lifted, we met outside in the Churchyard for games, activities, explorations of the Bible and lots of laughter! On Easter Eve, 14 members of the gang led St Mary’s Vigil service, starting outdoors with a new fire and the blessing of the Paschal candle before moving into Church for the first celebration of Easter. It was a well-attended service, a joyous occasion and a tradition we hope to continue. The gang is led by Angela Stinson, Chris King and the Rector.

All Stars Sunday School

We were delighted to relaunch our popular Sunday School programme in October. On most Sundays, after lighting the children’s candle, children are invited (but not obliged!) to take part in All Stars, which offers age-appropriate provision, allowing them to explore the

day's theme through bible stories and craft activities in the Church Room. We couldn't restart All Stars without our many volunteers and their willingness to lead the activities once a term, and we'll need more to put this well-loved programme on a secure foundation. Please do have a word if you can lend a hand!

Looking to the Future

The Families @ St Mary's Programme is sustained with the help of dozens of volunteers while we seek to recruit a new Children, Youth and Families Worker. We are keen to bring back all our programmes, including our weekly youth club #FNT, and we look forward to the day when we can relaunch Messy Church, a ministry we hosted jointly with the other Churches in the village. We very much hope to appoint a new Children, Youth and Families Worker in 2022, so that we are in a strong position to warmly welcome more children, young people and their families into the life of St Mary's.

Special Events

We created a number of special services for the whole family under pandemic restrictions, to engage the imaginations of children and young people, even when we could not sing together, use the children's corner in Church or hold All Stars. These included a Sea Sunday Family Service in which Sean Garrett of the Royal Navy described what it was like to be at sea; a Pentecost Family Service in which we saw the Holy Spirit as a ghost and a wild goose and processed out blowing bubbles; and a Finding Shelter Family Service to mark Refugee Week.

With the threat of fresh restrictions looming, we felt fortunate to hold our Christmas Eve Crib service indoors for the first time since the pandemic began and the service was beautifully led by our young readers and actors – despite many of the parts being recast at the last minute as family members fell ill and self-isolated!

To top it all off, St Mary's teamed up with the Village Nursery in the creation of the 2021 living Advent Calendar. We are so grateful to Gill Beckwith, Jane Bell, Anne Rawson and Gerald Williams for designing the wonderful window display for 24 December in St Mary's Church Room.

Our 2021 Confirmands

This year we had the privilege of preparing thirteen young adults for Confirmation. Over the eight-week course, we gave them the space to explore and think for themselves, to recognise God working in their lives and to think about how they wanted to claim that and respond to it. On the evening of November 14, Bishop Andrew led a special service of Confirmation at St Mary's, so that our confirmands could make their profession of faith. We couldn't be more proud of them!

Youth & Children's Work Focus Group members: Rector (Chair), Oliver Bayne, Julie Flenley, Nigel Forman, Wendy Johnson and James Quickfall

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

‘In the Beauty of Holiness’

Worship

In 2021 we saw the gradual return to the regular pattern of worship at St Mary’s. For the first seven months, we continued to live-stream Parish Communion on a Sunday, with or without a congregation present, so that worship could continue despite ongoing waves of Covid-19 variants.

In January the Christingle service was pre-recorded and ‘Christingle Kits’ were delivered and available for collection from Church for families to make at home. A pre-recorded Candlemas Evensong was arranged by the late Canon Geoffrey Curtis and included recordings from the choir and Geoffrey’s own reflections about Candlemas. Geoffrey’s special services have brought delight and depth to worship at St Mary’s over many years, and he is greatly missed.

Much consideration was given to how we could observe Lent together safely, whilst allowing the congregation to take part as fully as possible, from home if necessary. So we made provision for services that were live-streamed and recorded, as well as for services that people could take part in over Zoom and in person (when it was safe to do so). The Ash Wednesday service was pre-recorded; in place of the imposition of ashes an ash cross was placed on pebbles which were then varnished and could be held in the hand or carried in one’s pocket throughout the season of Lent. Thanks go to Thomas Neaum for his enthusiastic help in decorating the pebbles, a tradition we hope may continue! Mothering Sunday was also a pre-recorded service, with contributions from many children, including a wonderful demonstration of how to create a beautiful posy offered by Lily Sabi Parry.

We began Holy Week with a live-streamed service on Palm Sunday featuring some beautiful Taizé chants sung by the choir. The ‘Holy Week at Home’ evening Tabletop Services via Zoom were attended by regular worshippers and newcomers, much to our delight, with good attendance. We also offered Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Eve and Easter Sunday services in church ‘in person’. Over 20 people took part in our first in person Muddy Church Trail on Holy Saturday. Once again, the Easter Eve Vigil was wonderfully and ably led by St Mary’s young people and teenagers. Easter Day was particularly joyous with the ringing of handbell bracelets in Church plus our brilliant team of bell ringers who rang handbells before and after the Easter Day service in the Churchyard, all rounded off with the traditional Easter Egg Hunt!

When congregational singing was once again permitted, it was wonderful to reintroduce our monthly service of Evensong. The service of Evensong in August was the first we had held in 1½ years – our thanks go to the Revd George Rowe for enabling us to re-establish this well-loved service. It was also wonderful to reintroduce the 8:00am Sunday service of Holy Communion (1662) in August and the weekly Wednesday service of Communion in September, albeit at the slightly later time of 10:30am.

Evening Prayer is still said from homes across the parish. And Morning Prayer has continued to be led over Zoom, a format in which it has grown and flourished. It has been incredible to see this faithful group of parishioners expand (it is not unusual for 20 to attend!) under the nurture and leadership of Gill Beckwith.

Our planning for each liturgical season is built on our review of previous services and feedback, to ensure ongoing work is done to enable all ages and stages to '*know Christ better*' through the services we offer. And in season we've continued to make adaptations as Covid-19 restrictions have changed.

For 'Thy Kingdom Come' we set up five interactive prayer stations in Church, reflecting the Archbishops' invitation to set aside time to pray that we may be renewed by God's Spirit and that God would work in the lives of five friends, family members, neighbours or colleagues who do not yet know God's love for them. We also created new prayer cards and placed them around the Church. Our thanks go to Revd Gill Welford for her sensitive and creative use of language to reach the widest range of people who visit St Mary's.

We were thrilled to welcome back our robed choir in June. Although congregational singing was not possible until 25th July, its return was also a cause of much thanksgiving. Once restrictions eased we reintroduced Parish Communion Celebration Services and Festival Services, two formats designed to create opportunities for families to worship together, while ensuring younger members of the congregation have opportunities to take part in Sunday School and to lead worship:

Celebration Services: Mothering Sunday, Harvest Festival and Christingle
Festival Services: Easter Day, Pentecost, Patronal Festival and Christmas Day

For Lent and Advent, we selected a new setting of the Communion service by John Rutter to delineate these more reflective, pared down seasons. We also chose the bright and accessible "*The English Folk Song Mass*" by Malcolm Archer to use in our most joyous Celebration Services.

Our live-streaming team have been brilliant in enabling us to broadcast services and allowing us to adapt how we offer worship throughout the changing restrictions. They stood down from this role in August and our heartfelt thanks go to them, especially David Stinson, for their enormous contribution to the worship life of St Mary's.

In the last four months of the year, our regular services were greatly enhanced by several services celebrating special occasions and seasonal themes, where opportunities for all generations to worship together included the Patronal Festival, Harvest Festival, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We celebrated the Feast of All Saints with a Family Service and welcomed many recently bereaved families to our annual Service of Light to remember the departed. Our Remembrance Sunday service was able to take place in Church, to which uniformed organisations were invited.

On 14th November we held a Confirmation service at which Bishop Andrew confirmed 13 young people – a truly wonderful sign of faith growing at St Mary's as the next generation of disciples comes to maturity.

At the same time, it became clear that the government was planning to introduce fresh restrictions on gatherings and worship. We invited the retreat leader Brian Draper to come and help us take stock of what we've been through and were still facing. Brian offered an 'Evening of Soulful Reflection' on the theme "What matters most (now)?" His meditations and use of music made for an extraordinary experience, and we are grateful to him for letting us live-stream it.

In December, St Mary's was one of only a handful of Churches in the Deanery that was able to hold all our Advent and Christmas services as planned. The season began with a wonderful Advent Evensong, which combined the framework of the Evensong liturgy with Advent carols. We were able to hold our traditional Carols by Candlelight service, including music, readings and refreshments. Our thanks go to Jan Fellingham and Ruth Goddard for their work in creating both these services. On Christmas Eve we were able to hold our first Crib Service for 2 years, with children coming dressed as their favourite Nativity character – this service was attended by approximately 50 children and their families.

Our worship is enriched by the ministry of St Mary's Lay Preachers, Ken Lindup and Richard Flenley, and by St Mary's Associate Priests: the Revd Gill Welford, the Revd George Rowe and the Revd Dr David Neaum. Helen Bendall has completed her training in occasional preaching and joined the team of Lay Preachers, and Richard Flenley has begun his training for ordained ministry.

In 2021, we were delighted that many couples and families continued to choose to celebrate significant life events at St Mary's. 12 weddings, one blessing of marriage and 11 baptisms were conducted, most of which were held between July and October, making for a very busy season indeed! In total, 5 Funeral services and 16 Burial of Ashes were conducted, and 5 Services of Thanksgiving were held. We were also pleased to resume offering services of Holy Communion in people's homes throughout the parish and praise God for all the ways we've been given to offer worship.

Worship Focus Group members: Revd Dr Rachel Greene (Chair), Helen Bendall, Roger Crocker, Jan Fellingham, David Stinson and Revd Gill Welford.

Helen Bendall
stmarysorganist@outlook.com

Caring for our Possessions

The Fabric and Maintenance Report

The Churchwardens have pleasure in providing our report for the year to December 2021.

General

The year has remained a difficult one for our finances, but fortunately most of the normal functions of maintenance and care for the Church and Churchyard have been carried out and the log-books and monthly Churchwarden's inspections have been kept up to date.

Churchyard Working Party

There has been no progress in the search for a leader of the CWP and apart from our team of six or so ladies, there are only four men, all well over 75, who attend very regularly, plus a few who come more occasionally. Routine work is falling behind and if more volunteers are not found, we may have to consider closing the group, in which case the PCC will have to pay a contractor to do the work or decide to hand the Churchyard over to Waverley Borough Council, who will do very little to maintain it.

However, a great deal was accomplished at a special Churchyard Spring Clean that was held on 19 February 2022 (strictly out of the scope of this report), when the Bonfire Crew came in force to trim the large hedge between the Church and Little Beckhams. The turnout from the village, including many who are not members of the congregation, was excellent and altogether we had a group of over 30 adults and 7 children. We are very grateful to all for this assistance. Unfortunately, Storm Eunice took a hand in proceedings from about 11:30am and although the gallant Bonfire Crew continued working until 1pm in freezing rain and strong wind, they did not fully complete trimming the hedge on the Church side. Other jobs like painting the Lych Gate and Porch, which the CWP has been unable to do, could not take place due to the weather. We hope to make this a regular Village event.

Digital Services

The new 4G Router has greatly improved the wi-fi in the Church and Church Room. This enabled services to be live streamed satisfactorily and our gratitude is expressed to Dave Stinson for the enormous input he has given to this.

The contactless giving device has been installed by the main door and is often used, but was unreliable and has been replaced twice. It now seems to be working well and the Treasurer reports a satisfactory income stream from it.

Services and Repairs

- Routine inspections and services have been carried out to the Tower Clock, Lightning Conductor, Fire Extinguishers, Alarm System, Church and Church Room boilers, and all electrical appliances have had a PAT Test completed.
- Blocked Churchyard drain was cleared out.
- Repair of the Church Room outside light cable was completed and they now operate well through the photocell. Photocells on the main floodlights, as approved by the PCC, have also been installed, which obviates the need to reset the timer switches frequently as the seasons change.

- Subsequent electrical problems – two sets of lights in the Church and the feed to the shed have been dealt with.
- Up-to-date plans of utilities – partially completed.
- The bell-ringers conducted an extensive inspection of the Tower and found numerous items needing servicing. In addition, worn clappers were found and were repaired by a specialist in Loughborough. The cost was covered by the Chiddingfold Community Fund and all other work was done by the bell-ringers themselves. Our thanks are expressed to the Tower Captain and his team.
- New anti-slip strips have been fitted to the worn South Porch ramp.
- The problem with the collapsing ivy hedge behind the lower Garden of Remembrance has not been resolved. In our opinion we remain at risk if the hedge collapses and causes damage or injury.
- Investigations are ongoing on possible Vestry modifications.
- A thorough survey of all the church keys was conducted and they were checked and listed as to which keys are in the vestry cupboard and which are held by authorized people, i.e. Rector, Keyholders, Churchwardens, Treasurer, and the dozen or so others who hold various keys. By comparison with a previous list we are sure that we have not lost any of the critical keys.

Stonework Repairs

The firm of Anstey & Stone Ltd completed all four items of stonework repair, namely

- Pointing on the missing gable slabs of the North Chapel and replacement of several damaged slabs.
- Masonry re-pointing and addition of lead cill drip protection to East window in South Aisle.
- Re-pointing and repairs to Churchyard boundary wall Southwest side, mostly on the far side of the wall.
- Re-pointing and repairs to Churchyard boundary wall Northeast corner.

The Friends of St Mary's met the costs, for which we are very grateful.

Boundary Wall after repairs

Terrier

This is the written survey giving details and photographs of all the property, buildings, equipment, monuments, vestments, plate, windows etc. in the Parish owned by the Church. It had not been updated since 2019, but with major assistance from Jane Bell this has now been checked and updated. Our thanks are expressed to Jane for her very thorough work.

Arising from this it became clear however that there is no inventory of the many more mundane items that do not belong in the Terrier, such as furniture and equipment in the Tower Room or Church Room. This will now be undertaken. In addition, a review is necessary of the parish documentation archived by Surrey History Centre and this must be brought up to date.

Surveys

Surveys of the Churchyard were carried out in May 2021 as follows:

- Static bat monitoring device deployed for two weeks by the Surrey Bat Group – 7 species were recorded, mostly Common Pipistrelle, but including a very rare Barbastelle.
- Botanical survey of the Churchyard by the Surrey Botanical Society, which identified 137 species, with a map co-ordinate-based database. Their advice is that the Churchyard is a valuable wildlife resource and plants should be allowed to set seed.

Signboard Project

Funding for the signboard project was secured which covered 85% of the total, so only a small portion of the raffle proceeds earmarked for the signs was needed. Official closing-out reports were issued to the Diocese, Chiddingfold Community Fund and Chiddingfold Parish Council, and thanks expressed to other funders. Diocesan approval, which required only the Archdeacon's approval, not a Faculty, was obtained and the new signboards were erected in June and July.

Quinquennial Report

Progress on the Action Plan to implement the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection that was held in November 2019 is as follows:

- There were no immediate repairs required.
- Seven items of work to be carried out within 18 months (i.e. by May 2021), are all complete.

- Nine items of work to be carried out within the Quinquennium (i.e. by November 2024), of which seven are complete. O/S items are:
    - Rainwater Goods re-decoration, however they are in fact in good condition and no work is needed at this stage.
    - Gravestone stability survey.
- Four items of Desirable work, one of which is complete, and the rest require budgeting and approval by the PCC. O/S items are:
    - Hooped access ladder on the north aisle west wall for access to valley gutter – low priority.
    - Budget for ongoing masonry repairs and repointing - no spare funds available and no immediate problems found.
    - Chapel redecoration - no funds available at present.
- Eight items requiring monitoring/maintenance, all of which are routinely checked as part of the Churchwarden's Monthly Checklist and of which six have been attended to. O/S items are:
    - Trip hazards on paving stones in Churchyard.
    - Tree condition survey every five years or so.
- A further twelve additional items extracted from the report or current discussions which we consider worthy of consideration by the PCC, the Churchwardens or the Churchyard Working Party, of which ten current ones have been resolved. Unfortunately, this is an ongoing process and additional items arise all the time. O/S items at present are:
    - Contract to clean gutters – gutters are visually checked annually from the tower, and very little material has collected.
    - Redecoration where paint is peeling – minor areas so far.

Thanks

Our thanks are extended to the Bell ringers, Sacristan, Church cleaners, those who wash and iron the Church linen, the Flower Arrangers and the Key Holders who have enabled us to keep the Church open and attractive. We hope for a more settled year and look forward to the day when our routines, including processions of Choir, Chalice Assistants and Acolytes will return to normal.

Jan Fellingham, Churchwarden
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Chris Everett, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden1@outlook.com

Budgeting for our Future

Finance Group

With circumstances changing rapidly throughout 2021, the Finance Focus Group met regularly to update our advice to the PCC on all financial matters.

Our contactless giving device by the main door has proved popular, with the better part of £3,000 being donated this way. Donations via the website have not been so successful, but the handheld devices have proved invaluable at our many fundraising events.

On balance, 2021 has been far more positive than we dared forecast when preparing the budget, though this is largely due to the amazing total achieved by the fundraisers raising double the amount which we predicted.

The Group has faced some challenging work throughout the year in considering how best to prioritise spending our limited funds, but by far the toughest task is the preparation of the annual budget. The entire group has spent many hours in producing a thorough document for the PCC's approval. As Treasurer, I would like to thank each and every member of the group for their conscientious contributions.

Finance Focus Group members: Gilly van Oppen (Chair), Dickie Atkinson, Jan Fellingham, Martin Johnson and Gerald Williams.

Gilly van Oppen, Treasurer
stmarystreasurer1@outlook.com

Raising Money, Having Fun

The Fundraising Team

May we begin by thanking everyone who supported St Mary's through the last year and helped our fundraising efforts. The year began much as 2020 had ended, but things soon began to change and by the summer activities were afoot.

Several Fresh Produce Sales were held, often on the same day as the Churchyard Working Party, which were very successful. Thanks are given to Beverley Draper and her team on their success with the produce sales.

Then in June we were able to hold our Open Gardens Day. Many people opened their gardens to visitors and the event raised approximately £3,000. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event such a success, including Sally Frederick, the stewards at each garden, the cake makers, ticket sellers and those who ran the plant sale and teas and coffees. We couldn't have done it without you!

To round off the year the Christmas Tree Ball made a spectacular return. The Ball raised an amazing £4,500, which meant we were able to send donations to Halow and other charities. Our thanks go to Helen Gorrod and Lily Cook for their brilliant job organising the Ball.

Once again, thank you to everyone who has supported us. We have many exciting events planned for 2022 so look out for notices!

Fundraising Focus Group members: Martin Johnson (Chair), Beverley Draper, Susan Hodges, Pauline Kaye, Sue Smith and Melanie Wotherspoon

Martin Johnson
martinjohnson0680@gmail.com

Using our Gifts to make a Difference in the World

Stewardship Group

The Stewardship Group is part of the Finance Team and includes the Stewardship Officer, Jan Fellingham, and the Treasurer. The Stewardship Group mobilises the triennial Stewardship Campaign or Gift Day. The last Gift Day was held in May 2018, and the next would have been held in 2021 were it not for the pandemic. While there were no official meetings of the Stewardship Group in 2021, members communicated when necessary by email and text messages.

We are extremely grateful to all our regular donors, who give by Banker's Order, bank transfer or monthly cheques. It is so helpful to have a guaranteed monthly income. Sadly and inevitably we have lost some donors over the year, due to death or a change in circumstances, but encourage all who appreciate St Mary's to commit to setting up a regular donation, as your generosity is what allows us to keep our doors open every day and funds all that we endeavour to do.

Stewardship Focus Group members: Gilly van Oppen (Treasurer) and Jan Fellingham.

Jan Fellingham, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden2@outlook.com

He Washes Us Clean...

The Baptism Visiting Team

We were able to restart Baptism services at St Mary's at the beginning of July 2021 and over the next 6 months 11 children were baptised. 7 families came from within the village and 4 from outside the parish.

In March Julia Bayne decided not to continue with Baptism visiting and all of us on the team thank her very much for her contribution to our Baptisms. Julia is a very caring and gentle person and also very thorough with her preparation.

In the summer, Helen Gorrod came to join the BVT and she will oversee a Baptism early in 2022. We are all delighted to have her on our team.

We hope very much that we might be able to extend our work when restrictions ease and we can plan some follow up events.

Baptism Visiting Team: Wendy Johnson, Michelle Quickfall, Lily Cook, Helen Gorrod

Wendy Johnson
wej1811@gmail.com

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Choir and Music

Choir and Music

The purpose of the choir is to enhance and support the worship in St Mary's Church. We sing music which reflects the significance of the season and the focus of the services.

Membership and attendance

While the pandemic challenges remain, the choir has returned to a semblance of normality during this period, including a special Evensong for Advent 2021 which was very well received, as well as Carols by Candlelight. Christmas was relatively low-key with congregations still smaller in numbers. Most participants at services wore masks and this gave a feeling of security to all. The choir continue to sing with masks into 2022 because of the potential for increased spread of the virus.

In the summer of 2021 the choir were able to discontinue Zoom practices in favour of in person meetings and voices began to pick up in impetus again. It has been particularly refreshing to hear children's voices again, albeit through masks most of the time.

The Arthur Barnett Choristers Cup was awarded to Rachael Quickfall, and Eleanor Barlow stepped up as Deputy Head Chorister. Other roles in the choir will be awarded this coming year (2022) there having been no real continuity to establish them in the last two years.

Weddings

Weddings returned to a sort of normal with three being for choir and occasionally assisted by external singers.

Festivals and Highlights

We marked Easter, the Patronal Festival, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday, Advent and Christmas. At the beginning of the year this was with a home worship and/or online contribution, but culminated with in person contributions at the Advent and Christmas services.

Other Special Occasions

We were not able to support the Carols round the Tree of Faith, Hope and Love on the Green or in The Crown in December. There were no funerals for the choir during the pandemic lockdown this year.

Leadership

During the pandemic, both Roger and Helen continued where possible to provide music before and after services, and the congregation has returned to three hymns for each service. We used some recorded short anthems for use during the administration of communion.

It is with sadness that Roger could not continue to provide singing assemblies in the school but it is hoped that these will restart in the Spring.

Future developments

A Choir dinner and Choir barbecue will be planned for 2022 and we hope to take part in the Diocesan Festival in October 2022. No other major events took place in 2021.

Roger Crocker has announced his decision to retire from the post of Director of Music from Easter 2022 after nearly 38 years. The choir and everyone at St Mary's thank him for his dedicated and outstanding service to St Mary's. He will still help out and assist the new postholder and Helen Bendall when possible.

Roger Crocker, Director of Music
stmarysmusicdirector48@outlook.com

Helen Bendall, Assistant Organist
stmarysorganist@outlook.com

Christine Barlow, Choir Administrator
chris@dottydragon.co.uk

John Doig, Choir Treasurer
johndoig65@gmail.com

Part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

Deanery Synod Report

In the last year there has not been a lot of activity and meetings have taken place by Zoom. One of the remits of the Synod is to encourage Churches to offer assistance to one another, and with this in mind it was decided to build a skills matrix which would allow church members to identify others who might be able to give advice. The proposal was for Churches looking for a solution to circulate this need within the Synod. I was asked to be responsible for making it happen. Together with another Synod member we have decided to set up a scheme whereby Churches will share details of projects that they have undertaken. Our first two projects are the establishment of an ECO Church here at St Mary's and the implementation of an online accounting system in Haslemere. Other projects will be identified and documented.

At the last Zoom meeting I was elected as a lay member of the Guildford Diocesan Synod. There is nothing to report yet.

Ken Lindup, Godalming Deanery Synod Representative
klindup@gmail.com

Eco Church

"The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it." Psalm 24.1

The Eco Church group at St Mary's aims to help our Church play its part in renewing the earth by using resources responsibly, creatively and unselfishly. Our goal is to empower individuals, the Church congregation and the wider community to model good stewardship by reducing our environmental footprint, increasing awareness of environmental sustainability and encouraging the appreciation of God's creation.

The Eco Church Scheme has helped us to assess different aspects of church life, so as to identify changes that we could make and actions we could take to benefit our environment. In May we undertook two new surveys of the Churchyard's flora and fauna.

A static bat monitoring device was placed in the ash tree beyond the Church Room for two weeks by the Surrey Bat Group. Recordings of seven species of bats were taken: Barbastelle, Serotine, Myotis species, Noctule, Common Pipistrelle, Soprano Pipistrelle, and Long-eared bat. Following the bat survey, representatives from the Surrey Botanical Society carried out a very detailed botanical survey, identifying over 100 plants and providing us with an excel spreadsheet with a full species list documented. Special thanks go to George Hounsome for sharing his time and experience for the benefit of the community. With the bat monitoring completed in 2020 and a lichen survey already in our records, we now have a clearer picture of the biodiversity to be appreciated in the Churchyard.

Complementing the botanical survey there have also been sightings of an array of butterflies: a lovely Small Copper, Speckled Wood, Small Heath, Large White and Brimstone. Wood White butterflies have also been sighted courting. Another significant piece of information for the church and butterfly conservation records!

With so much happening in St Mary's Churchyard, we were pleased to have new signage erected in June to increase awareness of Churchyard management aims and to inspire budding naturalists in our community. Our special thanks go to Chris Everett who worked hard to secure funding and develop the proposals for signage at each end of the Churchyard to communicate the importance of our Churchyard as a tranquil place of prayer and reflection, a habitat for wildlife, a site of remembrance and beautiful green space for the whole community.

Given the acceleration of climate breakdown and uncertainty in the lead up to the UN Climate Change Conference held in Glasgow (COP26), we felt the invitation to rejoice in each day and to give thanks for all that God has made was more important than ever. For it reminds us where our hope is founded and gives us courage and clear-sightedness to take steps to respond adequately to the challenges we face. In order to take some hopeful steps together, we encouraged folks to send an image that gave them hope, and we received dozens of absolutely wonderful submissions. They formed our Harvest of Hope display, a stunning collection of photographs showing signs of God at work transforming our world.

We continue to share opportunities to listen, reflect and engage with God through sharing information on webinars, such as that of the environmentalist and theologian Ruth Valerio, who spoke on the subject of "Losing connection: does the natural world matter for the future health of humanity?" in November. Eco-Church member, Jolande Murray also attended the Caring for God's Acre webinars and shared learnings with the wider group – we particularly valued her reflections that: "as an eternal student of the subject I found it fascinating and a privilege to accompany an

experienced botanist. It is a complex subject and makes you marvel at the wonder and diversity of God's creation in our midst."

In recognition of all of these efforts, St Mary's was awarded A Rocha Silver Eco Church Award for care of creation, of which we are enormously proud. And there is so more we can do together, so come and join us!

Further information about the work of St Mary's Eco Church is available on the Church's website or email: stmarysecochurch@gmail.com

Rachel Greene, Acting Chair
rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

Catherine Stovold, Secretary
catherine.ogden.celo@gmail.com

Food for Fellowship

Covid-19 again prevented the serving of refreshments for much of 2021. However, we resumed the monthly breakfasts in October and November, thanks to Irving & Wendy and Sue Smith respectively.

We also served port and mince pies in Church on 5th December after Evensong with Music and Readings for Advent, which was enjoyed by all.

There was no breakfast in December, partly because no volunteers came forward but also because it was a very busy weekend, coinciding with the Christmas Carol Service. Refreshments were served at the Lychgate after the Christmas Carol Service, thanks to David Neaum who made mulled wine, and several kind volunteers who provided mince pies and shortbread.

At St Mary's we aspire to be a welcoming community, and we relish opportunities to get to know one another better – especially over good food and drink! We'd love to create more opportunities for fellowship and would really value more helpers to enable this. If you enjoy good company, catering, or can pour a cup of tea, please be in touch!

Jan Fellingham, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden2@outlook.com

With a Little Help from our Friends

The Friends of St Mary's

As we progress in 2022, I really hope we will be able to look forward to the return of some sort of normality. However, last year did see us continuing to raise funds for the maintenance of our beautiful Church.

Back in the summer, with restrictions easing, we were able to hold our first fundraising event for about 18 months. The wonderful people of Chiddingfold opened their gardens

and the "Friends", thanks to the amazing cake bakers of the village, served a fantastic tea at Wendy and Irving Johnson's house. A huge thank you to all concerned.

In November, we held a trumpet concert in the Church. Crispian Steele-Perkins, one of the world's leading trumpet players, accompanied by Roger Crocker (our Director of Music), entertained us. Crispian not only played the trumpet but also gave us an insight into its history. Over 100 people enjoyed some wine and excellent nibbles (provided by the committee) in the interval. Some much-needed funds for the Church were raised that evening.

We are hoping to be able to hold our 2022 AGM sometime in April. Please read the Parish Magazine to learn the finalised date.

In this year of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, I hope the village will be celebrating and be able to hold the fete. The "Friends" will again be manning the tea tent, so bakers your services will be needed!

From time to time during 2021, as many of you may have noticed, scaffolding surrounded various parts of the Church. This was because defective stonework needed restoration and I am pleased to tell you that the "Friends" contributed to the cost of this work.

The committee and I wish everyone a happy and healthy year ahead and thank you for your continued support.

Rosemary Gorringe, Chairperson
rg@hartland3.plus.com

Many Members, One Body

The Joint Churches in Chiddingfold

The Joint Churches' activities were inevitably curtailed by the pandemic. However, we did create both an Easter card (with a message rather than lists of Services) and a Christmas card, with the involvement of the pupils of St Mary's School.

We were able to host the annual Welcome Lunch in October, following the easing of restrictions, and a highly successful Lunch it was, with great support all round and lots of appreciative comments from attendees. Following the Lunch, Faith Reynolds and Rosemary Harris advised the Group that they were stepping down from organising the Lunch, after many years in the kitchen. Huge thanks to them both were expressed by the Group!

In November, we were able to hold a Service of Healing at St Teresa's, led by Fr Irek. Attendance was good and appreciated by those attendees.

The year ended with the good news that Joao Bolzan had been confirmed as the new Leader of the Baptist Church! He assumed the Chairmanship of the Group on 1st January 2022.

E&OE
Mike Danson
Chairman 2021

Parish Link with St Paul's Church, Hook

St Paul's and St Mary's have shared a friendship link for many years although we still have no formal representative at St Paul's. We exchange Parish Magazines and weekly pew sheets but since March 2020 any joint meetings have not occurred because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In spite of restrictions easing in the summer of 2021 no-one from St Paul's was able to attend our Patronal Festival or our Advent Carol Service. I have not travelled to Hook and do not expect to attend the Patronal Festival later in January 2022.

As the restrictions for gatherings relaxes, I hope that we will be able to share events with our friends at St Paul's. This link is valuable to both parishes.

Nita Draper, St Mary's Representative for St Paul's, Hook
nitadraper@btinternet.com

You Visited Me...

The Pastoral Visiting Team

Caring for our Community

St Mary's offers pastoral support to all parishioners regardless of their religious beliefs. St Mary's is also committed to caring for those who are unable to attend Church due to sickness or age. The Rector celebrates communion with them in their homes and in hospital and visits all who request it. In this she is ably assisted by St Mary's Associate Priests and by the Pastoral Visiting Team. The ministry of the Pastoral Visiting Team is primarily one of listening. Some of the Team also take Holy Communion to those who are no longer able to attend Church. Team members are trained in specific areas of pastoral care, which may include bereavement, stress, depression, suicide, dementia and age-related issues. Confidentiality is paramount and team members do not divulge any personal problems of those visited.

Visiting itself has continued to change as restrictions have changed. Throughout it all, St Mary's Associate Priests and Lay Pastoral Visitors have risen to the challenge and helped us keep in pastoral contact with parishioners through phone calls, Zoom chats and emails, as well as through home visits and hospital visits where permitted.

Special thanks go to Sam Gates, who in the process of doing a trial bake each week in preparation for her forthcoming cookbook, has been producing slices of cake (of every variety!) for us to deliver to elderly and infirm parishioners. The delivery of a slice of cake for afternoon tea has brought many smiles!

In August we said goodbye to Gill Marshall, as she and her husband moved out of the village, and the Pastoral Visiting Team was reduced to two members. In the year ahead we hope to build our Team back up and would welcome the help of new volunteers in this vital work!

Lay Pastoral Visiting Team: Faith Reynolds and Margaret McComish.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Work in St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chiddingfold

St Mary's Church has a special relationship with our village school, as St Mary's Primary is a Church of England school and part of the Good Shepherd Trust. That means the Rector is a foundation governor and has responsibilities for the pastoral care of teachers and staff. In that role, I am tasked with bringing elements of the RE curriculum to life, offering an act of collective worship one day each week and for leading services for the whole school. Many of those responsibilities are best shared and made ever more enjoyable through combined efforts. St Mary's Church has a small but talented pool of volunteers who enrich collective worship by taking turns to lead assemblies on a Tuesday; and we are keen to see more volunteers come forward to share in this ministry.

St Mary's Church coordinates the "Open the Book" Team of Storytellers, who are drawn from all three Churches and who contribute by leading assemblies twice a term. For much of 2021 the school was closed to visitors, but as restrictions eased in the autumn we were delighted to return to the school. The "Open the Book" assemblies are incredibly popular with the children and teachers alike, and exceptionally good fun for all involved. We could use a few more Storytellers on the team, so please let us know if you're interested – no special acting skills are required!

As pandemic guidance changed, we continued to create new ways of working together to support pupils, staff and learning and to mark important milestones. We were pleased to lead an Easter Pause Day on which children were encouraged to focus on world issues, reflect and pray as they explored a range of prayer stations. And it was a delight to offer a Leavers' Service for St Mary's Year 6 students outdoors in the school grounds on a sunny morning in June, with Roger Crocker leading us in song. The service was recorded so that parents, grandparents and siblings could join me in giving thanks for all that these young people had accomplished. On behalf of the three village Churches, we presented each leaver with a Bible, and then the celebration got into full swing!

When the Autumn Term began, we were also able to go into the school to lead the New Beginnings Service, a Harvest Festival Service, as well as a Service of Remembrance, working first within year group bubbles and then with the whole school as restrictions were gradually relaxed.

Whether we are together in the Church, in the school hall or amphitheatre, or in a Zoom room, there is so much fun to be had learning together. At St Mary's we count it a privilege to contribute to the flourishing of the village school and treasure the relationship we have with it.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Looking after Children and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding Report

The PCC's Safeguarding role is clearly defined in The Church of England's 'Parish Handbook' and is carried out with the support of the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) validator – Beverley Giles. Katherine Hylton is the Safeguarding representative on the PCC. The House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church: Policy Statement' has been adopted by the PCC and this is displayed in St Mary's. A copy of the Handbook is available on the Parish website as is a full list of contacts and organisations providing help and advice. Although Safeguarding is on the agenda of all PCC meetings complete confidentiality is maintained where matters are raised with the PSO or the Rector.

The continuing situation with the coronavirus has meant that services and activities for all ages where people meet have been affected. The departure of the leader for Children's and Young People's activities has also meant that opportunities to hold events that children and young people are involved with have been curtailed, and it has meant that consideration has had to be given to ways in which this important work can continue in a way that is safe and secure for all participants. Those involved with safeguarding are also aware that because of the circumstances of people in lockdowns or isolation, there is an increased need for vigilance to ensure that help is available for the vulnerable.

The PCC have carried out a Safeguarding Audit and reviewed the 2019 Action Plan before writing a new Plan which is being taken forward. The Diocese have introduced an online Dashboard which will assist in future planning and reporting and ensure that all changes in procedures can be shared with the PCC and carried forward.

During the year Ruth Goddard stepped down as Safeguarding Officer and her place was taken by Louise Taylor (who is also a member of the PCC). Ruth wishes to place on record her appreciation of the support that the PCC and the Parish have given over many years in ensuring that there has been a positive awareness of the importance of Safeguarding in the life of St Mary's.

Ruth Goddard / Louise Taylor, St Mary's Safeguarding Officer
stmaryssafeguarding@outlook.com

Membership of St Mary's

Electoral Roll Report

The Electoral Roll is the Church membership list. Anyone is eligible to join the Electoral Roll if they have been baptised and live within the parish, or if they are baptised and have regularly attended worship at St Mary's during the previous six months.

Membership of St Mary's implies:

- that you are committed to grow in faith through prayer, Bible reading and regular worship;
- that you take an active interest in the life and purposes of this Church;
- that you are willing to use your time and talents to help build up the Church and its ministry;

- that you undertake proportional regular planned giving to financially support this Church (which is entirely self-funded).

The Electoral Roll Officer reported that a revision of the Parish Electoral Roll had been completed on Monday 5th April 2021 in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During this process, no applications for inclusion had been received and there were five deletions in respect of those who had died or moved away. The total number on the Parish Electoral Roll now stood at 120 members. The figures were presented at the 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on Sunday 25th April 2021 and were duly notified to the Secretaries of the Guildford Diocesan Synod and the Godalming Deanery Synod.

Since the 2021 APCM there have been no further additions to the Electoral Roll and one deletion in respect of someone who has died or moved away. The total number on the St Mary's Electoral Roll, as of 31st December 2021, was 119.

Helen Bendall, Electoral Roll Officer
stmaryschurchcouncil@outlook.com

Other St Mary's Church Links

Individuals, groups and organisations linked to St Mary's Church are listed below.

Bell Ringing:

John Cowburn — jj.cowburn@btinternet.com
01428 685940

Choir / Organist:

Roger Crocker — stmarysmusicdirector48@outlook.com
07713 155805

Helen Bendall — stmarysorganist@outlook.com
07986 127855

Friends of St Mary's:

Rosemary Gorringe — rg@hartland3.plus.com
01428 683518

Churchyard Records & Archives:

Nita Draper — nitadraper@btinternet.com
01428 682052

Church Flowers Organiser:

Mary Doig — marydoig69@gmail.com
01483 200798

Church Room Bookings:

Katherine Hylton 01428 681379	chiddhoop@outlook.com

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults:

Louise Taylor	stmaryssafeguarding@outlook.com
Helen Bendall	stmarysenquiries@btinternet.com

Parish Magazine:

Anne Sheppard	Anne.Sheppard@btinternet.com
Tony Wiener	tony.wiener1@gmail.com

St Mary's Church of England Primary School:

School Office 01428 683115	admin2@stmarys-godalming.surrey.sch.uk

To know Christ better, to make Christ better known

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2021

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: Rachel E Greene

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 8th May 2022

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

St. Mary's Church

Chiddingfold

To know Christ better,
to make Christ better known

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TREASURER'S COMMENTS

With Covid restrictions still in place for the first half of 2021, the PCC agreed to start the year in the same prudent fashion in which we finished 2020. Our 'bill' for Parish Share for the year was £90,000, reduced by £4,957 by way of 'Covid support' by the Diocese. Of this amount, approximately two thirds represents the direct cost to the parish of having a full time incumbent, the balance going towards central costs. Regular Giving improved a little during the year (note 4, page vii) – though still remains lower than that received in 2019 by more than £6,500 – and averaged at £4,769 per month. Therefore, we took the decision to continue paying our Parish Share at £4,000 monthly to maintain a balance to pay the bills, with agreement to review as the year progressed.

The huge positive for the year was the return to fundraising events and the village has supported our efforts with gusto. The Open Garden event at the end of June was one of the first large events to be held for nearly two years and, despite the weather, saw droves of people coming to enjoy the wonderful array of gardens and each other's company. Thanks to the organisation by Martin and Sally, the generosity of those who opened their properties and the tireless efforts of volunteers, a profit of more than £3,000 was made. A few weeks later, the village was on high alert when LBC productions arrived to film a clip for The Crown in the church building. The team were fantastic – a slick operation – and even invited several parishioners into the back pews to watch the final filming. We were paid £3,750 for the use of our facilities. These events, together with a return to healthy collections from special services and the promise of a Christmas Ball meant that we were, indeed, able to commit to higher Parish Share payments for the final part of the year. Four months at £7,500 meant a total of £62,000 had been paid to the Diocese by early December, so our direct costs were covered.

Of course, fundraising events, collections and more donations through the contactless device from greater numbers of visitors have allowed us to make a welcome claim from the Gift Aid for Small Donations Scheme (in addition to that claimed on our regular receipts); a return to weddings has increased the amount received via fees threefold. The final triumph was the organisation of the Christmas Ball by Helen and Lily. In total, a profit of £11,863 (note 5, page vii) from fundraising events – five times the amount made in 2020 and a testament to the team under Martin's leadership.

These results turned around our figures. At Helen's request, £1,500 of the profit was sent to the Halow Project, a Guildford based charity nurturing young people with learning disabilities. Beyond this, the PCC agreed to extend our Outreach Support and we are delighted to have increased significantly our total support to a large variety of projects (note 8, page ix). Importantly, it was agreed to pay an additional £10,000 towards our Parish Share. This is included in the Creditors total (note 3, page vii) and has, subsequently, been paid. Paying 85% of the total requested, when we were really only in full operation for six months, is an outstanding result and one, which I trust, the Diocese will appreciate.

Our Parish Share 'bill' for 2022 is £93,000. At the time of writing, the PCC still agrees that we will continue to pay £4,000 a month, in line with our regular receipts. Again, this will be reviewed as the year progresses.

On a housekeeping front, it has been necessary to add several new categories to the Administration & Sundries section of Resources Expended (note 7, page viii) to avoid skewing comparison with previous years. We contribute towards Richard Flenley and Helen Bendall's training; we paid for church cleaning when services first resumed before volunteers were comfortable to return to that role; costs for parish and PCC secretaries are now shown separately. Of course, Youth expenses remain low as we have not paid a salary in this department during 2021.

We are extremely grateful to various charitable trusts that have supported various projects this year. Chris' information boards were largely funded by grants from The Caram Trust and The Community Foundation for Surrey. Further grants from the latter have been received (note 9, page x), the larger paying for the urgent repairs to bell clappers. This new restricted fund is shown on the SOFA (page 6) and we appreciate our village team on the Community Fund for negotiating that the balance of £345 remain with us for use on a future project.

The return to some sort of encouraging accounts is, in no small part, due to the careful and considered opinions made by the Finance Focus Group this year, who have been tasked with advising the PCC on several weighty matters. My thanks to Dickie, Jan, Martin and Gerald for the generous manner in which they have given their time and thoughts so readily. Also, we appreciate Tony's continued input as our IFE. However, there would be no accounts without the huge input and advice received from Gerald – I simply could not have done it without him.

Gilly van Oppen
Treasurer, Chiddingfold PCC
stmarystreasurer1@outlook.com

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank plc
49 High Street
Godalming

Independent Examiner:
Mr A Kelly
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MARY'S, CHIDDINGFOLD

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages (v) to (ix), is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this 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 Church Guidance 2001 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. 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 item or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you, as trustees, concerning any such matters. The procedures taken do not include 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 cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

28 February 2022

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS	0	0	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS				
CASH AND BANK BALANCES (Note 1)	15,475		8,464	
CBF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	45,529		37,295	
CBF INVESTMENT FUND	1,607		1,722	
MAGAZINE ACCOUNT BALANCE	3,373		3,090	
DEBTORS (Note 2)	7,854		3,594	
	73,838		54,165	
LESS: CREDITORS (Note 3)	-14,805	59,033	-4,219	49,946
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**59,033**		**49,946**
REPRESENTED BY				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	48,228		39,417	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	10,805	59,033	10,529	59,033
TOTAL FUNDS		**59,033**		**49,946**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
GENERAL FUND				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		39,417		50,966
INCOMING RESOURCES (Note 4)	123,250		103,590	
RESOURCES EXPENDED (Note 7)	-114,439		-115,139	
NET PROFIT/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		8,811		-11,549
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		48,228		39,417
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		**48,228**		**39,417**
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
SADLER BEQUEST (CHURCHYARD)				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		6,279		6,164
INCOME FROM CBF UNITS	45		56	
UNIT VALUE INCREASE/DECREASE	-114	-69	59	115
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		**6,210**		**6,279**
CAMPBELL-ORDE BEQUEST				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,000	**2,000**	2,000	**2,000**
VESTRY REFURBISHMENT FUND				
ALL CHURCHES GRANT	2,250	**2,250**	2,250	**2,250**
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTS				
RECEIPTS (Note 9)	2,802		0	
PROJECT FUNDING	-2,457	**345**	0	**0**
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**10,805**		**10,529**
TOTAL FUNDS		**59,033**		**49,946**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2021

Notes		2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
1	**CASH AND BANK BALANCES**				
	LLOYDS/TSB	15,345		8,380	
	SANTANDER/GIRO	130		56	
	CASH	0	**15,475**	28	**8,464**
2	**DEBTORS**				
	SECRETARIAL FEE	0		80	
	DEANERY FEE	0		24	
	GIFT AID	7,854	**7,854**	3,490	**3,594**
3	**CREDITORS**				
	CHIDDINGFOLD FETE	1,800		1,700	
	DIOCESAN FEES	671		55	
	CHURCH INSURANCE	1,425		1,414	
	CHURCH ROOM EXPENSES	124		0	
	PARISH SHARE	10,000		0	
	AGENCY FUNDS	785	**14,805**	1,050	**4,219**
4	**INCOMING RESOURCES**				
	REGULAR PLANNED GIVING	57,229		54,881	
	COLLECTIONS	5,855		4,073	
	GIFT AID	14,341		13,304	
	WEDDING & FUNERAL FEES	7,022		2,625	
	GENERAL DONATIONS	8,130		4,722	
	SPECIFIC DONATIONS (Note 6)	40		525	
	LEGACIES	0		2,665	
	CHURCHYARD GRANTS	2,512		2,512	
	INTEREST	21		159	
	MAGAZINE INCOME	13,939		14,830	
	FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (Note 5)	11,863		2,327	
	CHURCH ROOM RENTALS	2,258		563	
	YOUTH EVENTS	23		234	
	VERGER FUND INCOME	17	**123,250**	170	**103,590**
5	**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**				
	INCOMING FUNDS	18,519		2,555	
	LESS: COST OF GENERATING FUNDS	-6,656	**11,863**	-228	**2,327**
6	**SPECIFIC DONATIONS**				
	SERVERS' ROBES	0		275	
	CHURCHYARD SIGNAGE GRANT	0		250	
	ECOCHURCH PLAQUE	40	**40**	0	**525**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2021

Notes		2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
7	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**				
	MINISTRY				
	CLERGY FEES	58		52	
	PARISH SHARE	72,000		69,250	
	MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	2,498	**74,556**	2,398	**71,700**
	SERVICES				
	WORSHIP MATERIALS	1,714		1,376	
	ORGANIST & CHOIR	3,214		2,945	
	YOUTH	757	**5,685**	7,889	**12,210**
	CHURCH BUILDING				
	INSURANCE	3,421		3,395	
	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	1,580		5,185	
	UTILITIES	2,556		2,985	
	FLOWER FUND	100		0	
	CHURCHYARD	3,689	**11,346**	3,077	**14,642**
	CHURCH ROOM RUNNING EXPENSES	2,220	**2,220**	1,386	**1,386**
	ADMINISTRATION & SUNDRIES				
	OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	1,520		572	
	STATIONERY & PRINTING INKS ETC	1,139		2,920	
	ONLINE EXPENSES	856		1,408	
	CHURCH CLEANING	748		0	
	CLERGY TRAINING	1,168		0	
	STAFF COSTS	1,501		0	
	AUDIO & IT	150	**7,082**	527	**5,427**
	MAGAZINE EXPENSES	8,657	**8,657**	8,518	**8,518**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (Note 8)	4,893	**4,893**	1,256	**1,256**
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**114,439**		**115,139**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2021

Notes		2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
8	**OUTREACH GIVING AND SUPPORT FUNDING**				
	UK				
	CHURCH URBAN FUND	200	**200**	200	**200**
	LOCAL				
	ST MARY'S SCHOOL	400		0	
	CROSSWAYS	500		500	
	MILFORD & VILLAGES DAY CENTRE	400	**1,300**	400	**900**
	ADDITIONAL OUTREACH FUNDING				
	WATER AID	0		156	
	BRIAN DRAPER TALK	90		0	
	HALOW TRUST (Christmas Ball)	1,500		0	
	AFGHANISTAN APPEAL (Christmas Ball)	500		0	
	UNHCR (Christmas Ball)	500		0	
	UNICEF (Christmas Ball)	500		0	
	CHRISTIAN AID (Joint Churches)	303	**3,393**	0	**156**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (PER ACCOUNTS)		**4,893**		**1,256**
	ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS				
	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	180		0	
	BISHOP'S FOUNDATION	184		0	
	CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (Christingle)	85		0	
	UNICEF Covax Project	325		0	
	UN Refugee Week	100	**874**	0	**0**
	TOTAL OUTREACH SUPPORT		**5,767**		**1,256**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2021

Notes

9 We are grateful to the Community Foundation for Surrey for their generous grants:

£1,000 towards the cost of installing information signage in the churchyard
£170 towards the cost of a mini bus to allow all visitors to enjoy the Open Garden event
£1,632 towards the cost of urgent repairs to the bell clappers

We would, also, like to acknowledge our thanks to their agreement that we hold on to the unallocated excess of £345, which will be put towards future project funding.

Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2021

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: Rachel Greene

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 8th May 2022

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

St. Mary's Church

Chiddingfold

To know Christ better,
to make Christ better known

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TREASURER'S COMMENTS

With Covid restrictions still in place for the first half of 2021, the PCC agreed to start the year in the same prudent fashion in which we finished 2020. Our 'bill' for Parish Share for the year was £90,000, reduced by £4,957 by way of 'Covid support' by the Diocese. Of this amount, approximately two thirds represents the direct cost to the parish of having a full time incumbent, the balance going towards central costs. Regular Giving improved a little during the year (note 4, page vii) – though still remains lower than that received in 2019 by more than £6,500 – and averaged at £4,769 per month. Therefore, we took the decision to continue paying our Parish Share at £4,000 monthly to maintain a balance to pay the bills, with agreement to review as the year progressed.

The huge positive for the year was the return to fundraising events and the village has supported our efforts with gusto. The Open Garden event at the end of June was one of the first large events to be held for nearly two years and, despite the weather, saw droves of people coming to enjoy the wonderful array of gardens and each other's company. Thanks to the organisation by Martin and Sally, the generosity of those who opened their properties and the tireless efforts of volunteers, a profit of more than £3,000 was made. A few weeks later, the village was on high alert when LBC productions arrived to film a clip for The Crown in the church building. The team were fantastic – a slick operation – and even invited several parishioners into the back pews to watch the final filming. We were paid £3,750 for the use of our facilities. These events, together with a return to healthy collections from special services and the promise of a Christmas Ball meant that we were, indeed, able to commit to higher Parish Share payments for the final part of the year. Four months at £7,500 meant a total of £62,000 had been paid to the Diocese by early December, so our direct costs were covered.

Of course, fundraising events, collections and more donations through the contactless device from greater numbers of visitors have allowed us to make a welcome claim from the Gift Aid for Small Donations Scheme (in addition to that claimed on our regular receipts); a return to weddings has increased the amount received via fees threefold. The final triumph was the organisation of the Christmas Ball by Helen and Lily. In total, a profit of £11,863 (note 5, page vii) from fundraising events – five times the amount made in 2020 and a testament to the team under Martin's leadership.

These results turned around our figures. At Helen's request, £1,500 of the profit was sent to the Halow Project, a Guildford based charity nurturing young people with learning disabilities. Beyond this, the PCC agreed to extend our Outreach Support and we are delighted to have increased significantly our total support to a large variety of projects (note 8, page ix). Importantly, it was agreed to pay an additional £10,000 towards our Parish Share. This is included in the Creditors total (note 3, page vii) and has, subsequently, been paid. Paying 85% of the total requested, when we were really only in full operation for six months, is an outstanding result and one, which I trust, the Diocese will appreciate.

Our Parish Share 'bill' for 2022 is £93,000. At the time of writing, the PCC still agrees that we will continue to pay £4,000 a month, in line with our regular receipts. Again, this will be reviewed as the year progresses.

On a housekeeping front, it has been necessary to add several new categories to the Administration & Sundries section of Resources Expended (note 7, page viii) to avoid skewing comparison with previous years. We contribute towards Richard Flenley and Helen Bendall's training; we paid for church cleaning when services first resumed before volunteers were comfortable to return to that role; costs for parish and PCC secretaries are now shown separately. Of course, Youth expenses remain low as we have not paid a salary in this department during 2021.

We are extremely grateful to various charitable trusts that have supported various projects this year. Chris' information boards were largely funded by grants from The Caram Trust and The Community Foundation for Surrey. Further grants from the latter have been received (note 9, page x), the larger paying for the urgent repairs to bell clappers. This new restricted fund is shown on the SOFA (page 6) and we appreciate our village team on the Community Fund for negotiating that the balance of £345 remain with us for use on a future project.

The return to some sort of encouraging accounts is, in no small part, due to the careful and considered opinions made by the Finance Focus Group this year, who have been tasked with advising the PCC on several weighty matters. My thanks to Dickie, Jan, Martin and Gerald for the generous manner in which they have given their time and thoughts so readily. Also, we appreciate Tony's continued input as our IFE. However, there would be no accounts without the huge input and advice received from Gerald – I simply could not have done it without him.

Gilly van Oppen
Treasurer, Chiddingfold PCC
stmarystreasurer1@outlook.com

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank plc
49 High Street
Godalming

Independent Examiner:
Mr A Kelly
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MARY'S, CHIDDINGFOLD

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages (v) to (ix), is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this 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 Church Guidance 2001 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. 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 item or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you, as trustees, concerning any such matters. The procedures taken do not include 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 cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

28 February 2022

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS	0	0	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS				
CASH AND BANK BALANCES (Note 1)	15,475		8,464	
CBF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	45,529		37,295	
CBF INVESTMENT FUND	1,607		1,722	
MAGAZINE ACCOUNT BALANCE	3,373		3,090	
DEBTORS (Note 2)	7,854		3,594	
	73,838		54,165	
LESS: CREDITORS (Note 3)	-14,805	59,033	-4,219	49,946
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**59,033**		**49,946**
REPRESENTED BY				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	48,228		39,417	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	10,805	59,033	10,529	59,033
TOTAL FUNDS		**59,033**		**49,946**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
GENERAL FUND				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		39,417		50,966
INCOMING RESOURCES (Note 4)	123,250		103,590	
RESOURCES EXPENDED (Note 7)	-114,439		-115,139	
NET PROFIT/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		8,811		-11,549
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		48,228		39,417
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		**48,228**		**39,417**
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
SADLER BEQUEST (CHURCHYARD)				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		6,279		6,164
INCOME FROM CBF UNITS	45		56	
UNIT VALUE INCREASE/DECREASE	-114	-69	59	115
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		**6,210**		**6,279**
CAMPBELL-ORDE BEQUEST				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,000	**2,000**	2,000	**2,000**
VESTRY REFURBISHMENT FUND				
ALL CHURCHES GRANT	2,250	**2,250**	2,250	**2,250**
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTS				
RECEIPTS (Note 9)	2,802		0	
PROJECT FUNDING	-2,457	**345**	0	**0**
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**10,805**		**10,529**
TOTAL FUNDS		**59,033**		**49,946**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2021

Notes		2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
1	**CASH AND BANK BALANCES**				
	LLOYDS/TSB	15,345		8,380	
	SANTANDER/GIRO	130		56	
	CASH	0	**15,475**	28	**8,464**
2	**DEBTORS**				
	SECRETARIAL FEE	0		80	
	DEANERY FEE	0		24	
	GIFT AID	7,854	**7,854**	3,490	**3,594**
3	**CREDITORS**				
	CHIDDINGFOLD FETE	1,800		1,700	
	DIOCESAN FEES	671		55	
	CHURCH INSURANCE	1,425		1,414	
	CHURCH ROOM EXPENSES	124		0	
	PARISH SHARE	10,000		0	
	AGENCY FUNDS	785	**14,805**	1,050	**4,219**
4	**INCOMING RESOURCES**				
	REGULAR PLANNED GIVING	57,229		54,881	
	COLLECTIONS	5,855		4,073	
	GIFT AID	14,341		13,304	
	WEDDING & FUNERAL FEES	7,022		2,625	
	GENERAL DONATIONS	8,130		4,722	
	SPECIFIC DONATIONS (Note 6)	40		525	
	LEGACIES	0		2,665	
	CHURCHYARD GRANTS	2,512		2,512	
	INTEREST	21		159	
	MAGAZINE INCOME	13,939		14,830	
	FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (Note 5)	11,863		2,327	
	CHURCH ROOM RENTALS	2,258		563	
	YOUTH EVENTS	23		234	
	VERGER FUND INCOME	17	**123,250**	170	**103,590**
5	**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**				
	INCOMING FUNDS	18,519		2,555	
	LESS: COST OF GENERATING FUNDS	-6,656	**11,863**	-228	**2,327**
6	**SPECIFIC DONATIONS**				
	SERVERS' ROBES	0		275	
	CHURCHYARD SIGNAGE GRANT	0		250	
	ECOCHURCH PLAQUE	40	**40**	0	**525**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2021

Notes		2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
7	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**				
	MINISTRY				
	CLERGY FEES	58		52	
	PARISH SHARE	72,000		69,250	
	MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	2,498	**74,556**	2,398	**71,700**
	SERVICES				
	WORSHIP MATERIALS	1,714		1,376	
	ORGANIST & CHOIR	3,214		2,945	
	YOUTH	757	**5,685**	7,889	**12,210**
	CHURCH BUILDING				
	INSURANCE	3,421		3,395	
	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	1,580		5,185	
	UTILITIES	2,556		2,985	
	FLOWER FUND	100		0	
	CHURCHYARD	3,689	**11,346**	3,077	**14,642**
	CHURCH ROOM RUNNING EXPENSES	2,220	**2,220**	1,386	**1,386**
	ADMINISTRATION & SUNDRIES				
	OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	1,520		572	
	STATIONERY & PRINTING INKS ETC	1,139		2,920	
	ONLINE EXPENSES	856		1,408	
	CHURCH CLEANING	748		0	
	CLERGY TRAINING	1,168		0	
	STAFF COSTS	1,501		0	
	AUDIO & IT	150	**7,082**	527	**5,427**
	MAGAZINE EXPENSES	8,657	**8,657**	8,518	**8,518**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (Note 8)	4,893	**4,893**	1,256	**1,256**
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**114,439**		**115,139**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2021

Notes		2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
8	**OUTREACH GIVING AND SUPPORT FUNDING**				
	UK				
	CHURCH URBAN FUND	200	**200**	200	**200**
	LOCAL				
	ST MARY'S SCHOOL	400		0	
	CROSSWAYS	500		500	
	MILFORD & VILLAGES DAY CENTRE	400	**1,300**	400	**900**
	ADDITIONAL OUTREACH FUNDING				
	WATER AID	0		156	
	BRIAN DRAPER TALK	90		0	
	HALOW TRUST (Christmas Ball)	1,500		0	
	AFGHANISTAN APPEAL (Christmas Ball)	500		0	
	UNHCR (Christmas Ball)	500		0	
	UNICEF (Christmas Ball)	500		0	
	CHRISTIAN AID (Joint Churches)	303	**3,393**	0	**156**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (PER ACCOUNTS)		**4,893**		**1,256**
	ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS				
	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	180		0	
	BISHOP'S FOUNDATION	184		0	
	CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (Christingle)	85		0	
	UNICEF Covax Project	325		0	
	UN Refugee Week	100	**874**	0	**0**
	TOTAL OUTREACH SUPPORT		**5,767**		**1,256**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2021

Notes

9 We are grateful to the Community Foundation for Surrey for their generous grants:

£1,000 towards the cost of installing information signage in the churchyard
£170 towards the cost of a mini bus to allow all visitors to enjoy the Open Garden event
£1,632 towards the cost of urgent repairs to the bell clappers

We would, also, like to acknowledge our thanks to their agreement that we hold on to the unallocated excess of £345, which will be put towards future project funding.

Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2021

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: Rachel Greene

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 8th May 2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHIDDINGFOLD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128727

Accounts

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

St. Mary's Church

Chiddingfold

To know Christ better, to make Christ better known

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MARY'S, CHIDDINGFOLD

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages (v) to (ix), is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this report:

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Independent examiner's statement:

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

(1) which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

28 February 2021

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TREASURER'S COMMENTS

It goes without saying that 2020 has been a year like no other, affecting so many aspects of all our lives. Given the challenges presented, due to the restrictions imposed during the Covid pandemic, this set of accounts demonstrates that the very careful and considered decisions which the PCC has been forced to take have resulted in St Mary's managing to stay afloat financially. Indeed, to show a deficit on the past year of only £322 more than in 2019 is encouraging (see Statement of Financial Activities pg vi).

Overall, we saw a fall in our incoming resources (note 4, pg vii) of some 29%. However, it is not all bad news as we countered this by reducing overall expenditure (note 7, pg viii) by 27%.

In April, the Standing Committee took the decision to draw down £16,000 from our General Reserve to enable us to cover our monthly commitment of the Diocesan Parish Share. However, it soon became apparent that the country was in this for the long term. With our services curtailed, cash collections dried up and regular giving also took a hit as people became increasingly concerned for their own financial security. As can be seen in note 4 (pg vii), regular planned giving reduced by 14% in comparison with 2019, resulting in a corresponding drop of the Gift Aid we are able to reclaim; collections over the year were less than a third of the previous year's total; income from fundraising events down more than 75% but, given that all our major sales and the Christmas ball were cancelled, it is remarkable that the fundraising team was still able to raise more than £2,000 – not only raising funds, but helping to raise morale with the introduction of monthly produce sales enjoyed by many parishioners. We thank them for their efforts.

By the summer, the PCC took the very difficult decision to reduce our monthly Parish Share payments from the requested amount of £7,500 to £5,000 and, for a couple of months, we further reduced this to £4,000. The Parish Share is not invoiced to individual parishes, so the outstanding amount of £21,000 does not appear in the accounts as a creditor, but we consider it a 'debt of conscience' as, by not paying the full amount requested, we are not assisting those parishes within the Diocese who face even greater struggles. It is our intention to rectify the situation as soon as funds allow but, for the time being, we simply cannot pay out more than we receive each month. However, the good news to report is that we were able to return almost £7,000 to the reserve funds at year end. The £9,000 required during the year is shown in the reduction of CBF deposit accounts on the Balance Sheet (pg v) and the resulting decrease in total net assets.

It might be noticed that I have set up a new reserve fund for the refurbishment of the vestry (SOFA pg vi). The Rector was successful in obtaining a grant for £2,250 from The AllChurches Trust to be spent in this area.

The resignation of our Youth Worker at the end of March led to a significant drop in spending in this area when compared to 2019 (see note 7 pg viii), but we are well aware that funding a replacement is a huge priority.

I have introduced a new bracket of expense for online costs. This area is of vital importance, allowing our services to be livestreamed and donations to be made via our website, QR code and hands-free terminal within the church building. We are only touching the surface of the ocean of opportunities that await us in this direction and the future is exciting.

St Mary's is, of course, totally reliant on the voluntary contributions we receive and the PCC would like to express our gratitude to all our regular donors both within the church community and from the wider parish. Their regular commitment makes the business of budgeting and managing cash flow so much easier to handle.

My thanks to Mike Jones and Gerald Williams for their help in preparing my first accounts for Chiddingfold PCC. Also, to Tony Kelly who continues to act as Independent Examiner.

Gilly van Oppen
Treasurer, Chiddingfold PCC
stmarystreasurer1@outlook.com

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank plc
49 High Street
Godalming

Independent Examiner:
Mr A Kelly
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the FRS 102 SORP.

They include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body.

Funds

St Mary's Church has two funds which are restricted for specific purposes – The Sadler Fund and the Campbell-Orde Bequest are both for Churchyard care. The Restoration and Fabric Fund is an unrestricted fund, but dedicated to the repair and restoration of the church buildings. The General unrestricted funds can be used for ordinary PCC purposes. It continues to be PCC policy to retain a balance of at least £25,000 in the General Fund.

It is our policy to invest our fund balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96(2) of the Charities Act.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are properties listed in the church inventory which can be inspected by arrangement. These assets are not valued in the financial statements.

Incoming and Outgoing Resources

All incoming and outgoing resources are recognised and, where appropriate, acknowledged, when received. Income and expenditure are accounted for gross except that charges made at weddings etc. for heating and use of the candelabra are deducted from the relevant expense. The Diocesan Parish Share is paid by monthly standing order over the year.

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS	0	0	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS				
CASH AND BANK BALANCES (Note 1)	8,464		9,776	
CBF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	37,295		46,190	
CBF INVESTMENT FUND	1,722		1,663	
MAGAZINE ACCOUNT BALANCE	3,090		3,779	
DEBTORS (Note 2)	3,594		4,760	
	54,165		66,168	
LESS: CREDITORS (Note 3)	-4,219		-7,038	59,130
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**49,946**		**59,130**
REPRESENTED BY				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	39,417		50,966	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	10,529		8,164	59,130
TOTAL FUNDS		**49,946**		**59,130**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				
GENERAL FUND				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		50,966		59,943
INCOMING RESOURCES (Note 4)	103,590		148,541	
RESOURCES EXPENDED (Note 7)	-115,139		-157,518	
NET PROFIT/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	-11,549	-11,549	-8,977	-8,977
TRANSFER FROM CONTINGENCY	0		0	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		39,417		50,966
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		**39,417**		**50,966**
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
SADLER BEQUEST (CHURCHYARD)				
BALANCE B/FWD @ 1 JANUARY		6,164		6,061
INCOME FROM CBF UNITS	56		67	
UNIT VALUE INCREASE/DECREASE	59	115	36	103
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER		**6,279**		**6,164**
CAMPBELL-ORDE BEQUEST				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	2,000	**2,000**	2,000	**2,000**
VESTRY REFURBISHMENT FUND				
ALL CHURCHES GRANT	2,250	**2,250**	0	**0**
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		**10,529**		**8,164**
TOTAL FUNDS		**49,946**		**59,130**

CHIDDINGFOLD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2020

Notes		2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
1	**CASH AND BANK BALANCES**				
	LLOYDS/TSB	8,380		8,135	
	SANTANDER/GIRO	56		1,337	
	CASH	28	**8,464**	304	**9,776**
2	**DEBTORS**				
	SECRETARIAL FEE	80		0	
	DEANERY FEE	24		0	
	GIFT AID	3,490	**3,594**	4,760	**4,760**
3	**CREDITORS**				
	VERGER'S FUND	0		0	
	FLOWER FUND	0		131	
	CHIDDINGFOLD FETE	1,700		1,700	
	DIOCESAN FEES	55		2,065	
	CHURCH INSURANCE	1,414		1,395	
	YOUTH EXPENSES	0		0	
	UTILITIES	0		0	
	AGENCY FUNDS	1,050	**4,219**	1,747	**7,038**
4	**INCOMING RESOURCES**				
	REGULAR PLANNED GIVING	54,881		63,828	
	COLLECTIONS	4,073		13,203	
	GIFT AID	13,304		18,161	
	WEDDING & FUNERAL FEES	2,625		5,318	
	GENERAL DONATIONS	4,722		6,045	
	SPECIFIC DONATIONS (Note 6)	525		1,632	
	LEGACIES	2,665		5,000	
	CHURCHYARD GRANTS	2,512		2,512	
	INTEREST	159		384	
	MAGAZINE INCOME	14,830		15,601	
	FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (Note 5)	2,327		9,976	
	CHURCH ROOM RENTALS	563		5,289	
	YOUTH EVENTS	234		740	
	VERGER FUND INCOME	170		760	
	R & F FUND INCOME (HERITAGE FUND)	0	**103,590**	92	**148,541**
5	**FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES**				
	INCOMING FUNDS	2,555		14,361	
	LESS: COST OF GENERATING FUNDS	-228	**2,327**	-4,385	**9,976**
6	**SPECIFIC DONATIONS**				
	SERVERS' ROBES	275			
	CHURCHYARD SIGNAGE GRANT	250			
	FRIENDS' DONATION (BOILER REPAIRS)	0		1,345	
	BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE	0	**525**	287	**1,632**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2020

Notes		2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
7	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**				
	MINISTRY				
	CLERGY FEES	52			
	PARISH SHARE	69,250		86,609	
	MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	2,398	**71,700**	4,916	**91,525**
	SERVICES				
	WORSHIP MATERIALS	1,376		953	
	ORGANIST & CHOIR	2,945		3,494	
	YOUTH WORKER	7,889	**12,210**	20,955	**25,402**
	CHURCH BUILDING				
	INSURANCE	3,395		3,348	
	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	5,185		3,900	
	CHURCH RENOVATIONS	0		1,312	
	UTILITIES	2,985		3,402	
	BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE	0		287	
	CHURCHYARD	3,077	**14,642**	3,218	**15,467**
	CHURCH ROOM RUNNING EXPENSES	1,386	**1,386**	3,410	**3,410**
	ADMINISTRATION & SUNDRIES				
	OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	572		2,530	
	STATIONERY & PRINTING INKS ETC	2,920		1,964	
	ONLINE EXPENSES	1,408		0	
	AUDIO & IT	527	**5,427**	160	**4,654**
	MAGAZINE EXPENSES	8,518	**8,518**	9,017	**9,017**
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (Note 8)	1,256	**1,256**	8,043	**8,043**
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**115,139**		**157,518**

Notes		2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
8	**OUTREACH GIVING AND SUPPORT FUNDING**				
	UK				
	CHURCH URBAN FUND	200		150	
	BISHOPS FOUNDATION	0	200	150	300
	LOCAL				
	CROSSWAYS	500		500	
	MILFORD & VILLAGES DAY CENTRE	400	900	300	800
	OUTREACH SUPPORT FUNDING	0	0	6,943	6,943
	OUTREACH SUPPORT (PER ACCOUNTS)		**1,100**		**8,043**
	ADDITIONAL OUTREACH FUNDING				
	THE BISHOP OF GUILDFORD FOUNDATION	0		163	
	MISSION TO SEAFARERS	0		82	
	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	0		391	
	WATER AID	156		76	
	MACMILLAN CANCER (Christmas Tree Ball)	0		0	
	CLOSER TO CARE (Christmas Tree Ball)	0		650	
	CHURCH URBAN FUND	0		108	
	CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (Christingle)	0		72	
	CHRISTIAN AID (Joint Churches)	0	**156**	366	**1,908**
	TOTAL OUTREACH SUPPORT		**1,256**		**9,951**

Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2020

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed:

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 25th April 2021

St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chiddingfold

Annual Report 2020

A Report for the Year ended 31 December 2020

Approved by the PCC at their meeting on 16th March 2021

Registered Charity Number 1128727

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Administration and Membership	4
Aims and Purposes	5
Objectives and Activities	6
Youth and Children's Work	7
Worship Focus Group	10
The Fabric and Maintenance Report	13
Finance Group	17
Fundraising Team	17
Stewardship Group	18
Baptism Visiting Team	18
Choir and Music	19
Deanery Synod Report	20
Eco Church	21
Food for Fellowship	22
The Friends of St Mary's	22
Joint Churches in Chiddingfold	23
Parish Link with St Paul's Church, Hook	24
Pastoral Visiting Team	25
Work in St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chiddingfold	27
Safeguarding Work	28
Electoral Roll Report	29
Other St Mary's Church Links	29

Introduction

As we look back on a challenging year, I want to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the life of the Church. Thank you for turning up, thank you for participating and thank you for all you give of your time, talents, money and resources. I am grateful to everyone who has stepped up in 2020 and taken on new responsibilities and new ministries. Thank you for joining me in our shared mission "to know Christ better and to make Christ better known" in Chiddingfold.

Do have a browse through the reports and be encouraged by what you read. There are parts of our Church life that we have had to adapt or pause to play our part in stopping the spread of Covid-19, but as you can see, in spite of the pandemic, we have strived to express God's love to our Church family and to our wider community. Please contact the leaders identified in the report if you would like to know more, or would like to get involved.

When lockdown restrictions eased over the summer, St Mary's was one of the first Churches in the Deanery to open again. This was a team effort: I want to thank Beverley Draper and Chris Everett, our Churchwardens, and also Jane Bradford, Helen Bendall and Irving Johnson, who came together to help orchestrate St Mary's re-opening and enabled us to do this as safely as possible. I also want to thank David Stinson who has done a brilliant job kitting out St Mary's with cameras and sufficient broadband to webcast our Parish Communion Service, taking the burden off the Rector's shoulders after four months of filming with iPhone, video-editing and the time consuming process of uploading huge files with limited broadband.

The numbers 'attending Church' online appear comparable to the number attending in-person pre-pandemic and at times significantly higher, and we are seeing growth in the numbers attending Morning Prayer as well. While it's way too soon to know for sure the results of all these things, there is every reason for hope. We can also be proud of having created brand new resources to support and enrich prayer at home; of having successfully moved worship to digital platforms, taking the congregation with us; and of having communicated the depth of our care by providing pastoral and practical support where it was needed in our community.

In April we said goodbye to Hannah Pye, as she left to take up her new post in Guildford. We have benefitted enormously from her ministry to children, young people and families here in Chiddingfold, and are grateful for all she shared with us. As well as goodbyes though, there were new beginnings and new vocations springing up. In August it was wonderful to discover Helen Bendall's homiletical gifts, and we are delighted that she is going to train as an occasional preacher. Throughout this year, Richard Flenley has been discerning whether he could offer a priestly ministry alongside his day job, and so we might also have a curate in training in 2021. This is good news and something we should be praying about and encouraging others.

This year a number of key people are stepping down who deserve our wholehearted thanks. I want to offer my sincere gratitude to Beverley Draper who is stepping down as Churchwarden, and both Jan Fellingham and Beverley for their contributions on PCC and Standing Committee. They have each brought commitment, wisdom and good humour to their roles, and it has been a pleasure to work alongside them. I am immensely grateful to them both.

While much about 2021 remains uncertain, some things will continue: the prayer and worship that is the heartbeat of all we do will go on, as will our care for one another, even as we need to keep adapting to circumstance. It remains my prayer that we will emerge out of this crisis a bigger Church, with a bigger view of who God is, a bigger heart for our community and with more people belonging to this wonderful Church family.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene
rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

Administration and Membership

St Mary's is the Parish Church of Chiddingfold and is part of the Diocese of Guildford within the Church of England. The Church's postal address is:

St Mary's Church, Petworth Road, Chiddingfold, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 4TY

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are Trustees of the Charity for the term of their appointment. Members serving on the PCC during 2020 are:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Chair	
Churchwardens:	Beverley Draper	
	Chris Everett	
Deanery Synod:	Gerald Williams	(until October 2020)
	Ken Lindup	(from October 2020)
PCC Members:	Richard Atkinson	(from October 2020)
	Matthew Bartlett	(until March 2020)
	Ollie Bayne	
	Gill Beckwith	(until October 2020)
	John Doig	(until October 2020)
	Jan Fellingham	
	Richard Flenley	
	Nigel Forman	
	Katherine Hylton	(from October 2020)
	Martin Johnson	
	Hannah Pye	(until April 2020)
	Gilly van Oppen	(from October 2020)
	Gerald Williams	(from October 2020)
Treasurer:	Mike Jones	(until March 2020)
	Gilly van Oppen	(from April 2020)
Secretary:	Jane Bradford	(until September 2020)
	Helen Bendall	(from September 2020)

Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission as The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chiddingfold and its registered Charity Number is: 1128727.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend St Mary's and who qualify according to those Rules are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members are given initial training into the workings of the PCC. The PCC meets six times during the year.

The PCC operates through a number of Focus Groups, which meet between full meetings. These groups are constituted to make full use of the professional expertise available within St Mary's and members are encouraged to attend Diocesan training as appropriate. Each group has at least one representative from the PCC, and the Rector and Churchwardens are *ex officio* members of all these groups. All the Focus Groups are responsible to the PCC and report back regularly at PCC meetings.

Standing Committee:	This statutory committee has a general power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.
Finance and Stewardship Group:	Oversees expenditures and monitors income and investments. Encourages financial support of the Church through a strategy for Regular Planned Giving (RPG), legacies, occasional parish funding programmes and gift days; prepares the annual budget for outreach support.
Fundraising Group:	Plans an annual programme of fundraising events to generate income for the Church.
Maintenance Group:	Attends to matters relating to the stewardship and maintenance of the Church, its contents, buildings and grounds, such as the Churchyard, the Church Room and the Rectory.
Worship Group:	Co-ordinates the provision and conduct of worship.
Youth and Children's Work Group:	Co-ordinates activities involving children and young people in the Church and the wider community.

In addition, several important links and special interest groups complement the aims and purposes of St Mary's PCC, as it seeks to benefit everyone in the Church and the community:

- ***Baptism Visiting Team***
- ***Bell Ringers***
- ***Choir and Music***
- ***Eco Church***
- ***Food for Fellowship***
- ***Friends of St Mary's***
- ***Joint Churches of Chiddingfold***
- ***Pastoral Visiting Team***
- ***St Mary's C of E Primary School***

Objectives and Activities

The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states that the PCC is to co-operate with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and the Church Room and for some internal decoration of the Rectory. St Mary's vision is "to know Christ better and to make Christ better known".

In order to achieve these objectives St Mary's Church offers, among other things:

- regular services of worship,
- occasional offices,
- pastoral care,
- small groups for nurture and discipleship,
- social activities,
- quiet days and retreats,
- concerts and recitals,
- programs and activities for children, young people and those who care for them,
- charitable fundraising events,
- a monthly parish magazine which has a distribution to many beyond the regular congregation,
- a website,
- a social media presence on Facebook.

We invite you to read on to learn how we have been fulfilling our vision, and what we have undertaken in 2020 to meet the aims of St Mary's Church for the benefit of our congregation within the Church and of the wider community.

'The Young Ones'

Youth and Children's Work

St Mary's seeks to serve people at every stage of life and to include people of all ages – even the very young – in our worship and activities. Additionally we have developed a specially tailored program designed to engage the imaginations of children and youth and help them grow in faith. The Families @ St Mary's Program is made up of six separate ministries that allow us to serve children, young people and teens along with their families and carers.

The first quarter of the year our program began as planned. Some of the highlights included our celebration on the Feast of the Epiphany in which young children set the stage by bringing the three kings to the crib. We also hosted a Shrove Tuesday party for primary school aged children and spend a joyful afternoon exploring the meaning of Lent through games, races, stories and lots of pancakes! In March we held a Messy Church Session exploring the themes of Lent and Easter, which was as popular as ever. We were particularly grateful for the support of the Men's Group who came to set up the tables for activities in the Village Hall and to help pack it all up. In March we held another special event – a double movie night for twelve members of the Good News Gang with pizza and a sleepover in the Church Room.

On 23 March, when all places of worship were closed, the Families @ St Mary's Program needed to be completely re-invented overnight. The first step was to move our All Stars Program online, taking the readings and activities on which it is based, and making them available on St Mary's website and FB page week by week. That way children and young people would be enabled to engage in the Sunday bible stories and themes in conjunction with or independently of our online services.

Church Mice (pre-primary)

Our weekly baby and toddler group meets each Thursday in term time from 9:30am-11:30am in the Church Room for play, craft, story and songs (plus snacks and coffee!). Come along with your children and join the fun.

All Stars

On most Sundays, after lighting their candle, children are invited but not obliged to take part in one of St Mary's three All Stars groups: Mini Stars (5s and under), Shooting Stars (6-9s), Super Stars (10-14s). This means that all ages have age-appropriate provision to explore the day's theme.

Messy Church (perfect for primary years and under)

Messy Church is held four times a year by all three of the Churches in the village. Come and explore faith in a fun and messy way and share a meal together.

Half-term Madness (perfect for the whole family)

Each Thursday in half-term we have an afternoon, 2pm-4pm, to drop in and enjoy games, crafts, activities and cake. It is a chance to catch up and get to know one another better over fun activities.

#FNT (ages 9-14)

In the Autumn and Spring terms our weekly youth club meets on a Friday Night from 5:30pm-7pm. We meet in the Church Room for a free flowing session of games and activities with a tuck shop that opens at 6pm.

Good News Gang (ages 9-14)

This group is aimed at 9-14 year olds wanting to get to know a bit more about their faith and have some fun doing it. Join the gang as they explore faith through games, activities, forays into the bible and much laughter.

Our second step was to make our Lent course for families available online and to create age-specific resource pages to help families pray together and cultivate faith at home. The third step was to make available multiple guides to promote self-care for families at home to support them in coping with the school closures and pressures of the pandemic. These I continued to update throughout the year.

The Families @ St Mary's Program is sustained with the help of dozens of volunteers and overseen by the full-time work of St Mary's Children, Youth and Families Minister. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Hannah Pye, who held the post until April 12, when she departed to take up a new role in Guildford. Given the Government's suspension of face-to-face work with children and young people, and in light of the fact that opportunities to raise money to fund the post were limited, the recruitment of a new Children, Youth and Families worker was temporarily postponed. We very much hope to be able to recruit a new Children, Youth and Families worker as things return to some sort of normality.

With guidelines changing frequently and often with little warning, the families' newsletter, which previously came out quarterly, had to be issued weekly. With the departure of the Children, Youth and Families Minister, I have been producing regular updates for families in an effort to keep everyone appraised of changes and help us to stay connected even when we could not gather together.

From April through July, all worship services had to be filmed and produced in the Rectory, and while learning the ins and outs of video-editing, I worked hard to create opportunities for children, young people and teens take part in online services – it was wonderful to have them read lessons and lead us in prayer.

In the autumn term we were not permitted to restart FNT; however, we were able to re-format the GNG for the Zoom platform and to re-launch the group with the help of Angela Stinson and Chris King, St Mary's Young Leader. To keep the sessions interactive, I've created and delivered activity packs to doorsteps, which members of the gang unpack and explore in our sessions. It has been a pleasure to watch the GNG grow in number (average attendance 12) and in confidence over these sessions.

As soon as we were able to resume public worship in July, we welcomed families back to Church. Children in Church have had to remain with their parents in the pews, and we have not been able to sing together, snack together, craft together, open the children's corner or re-start our All Stars program. With so many restrictions in place, new service formats had to be created to enable the participation of children and young people under conditions we could never have imagined. This has been quite a challenge, but ultimately it resulted in the creation of a short interactive Family Service. We held the first of these in

November and it was a great joy to welcome back so many little saints-in-the-making to worship with us. Certainly, it felt like a gift to have had the opportunity to gather safely before the second National Lockdown was imposed the following day.

During that lockdown, which covered Remembrance and the beginning of Advent, we encouraged all residents to pay their respects by painting a pebble and placing it next to the war memorial at a quiet time, an act that was embraced by many of our young people.

To encourage and support the families in the season leading up to Christmas, I created an "Advent at Home" program with ideas and suggestions for marking the days of the Advent season at home. We also worked with the Village Nursery in the creation of the 2020 living Advent Calendar, and are grateful to Michelle Quickfall for designing the window display for 24 December in St Mary's Church Room.

We were delighted to be able to resume in-person worship later in November, but with restrictions again tightening, we had to work to find a way to design in-person opportunities to worship as well as online opportunities over the Christmas period. A brand new Service for Families on Christmas Eve was fully booked within the space of a few hours, so two more Family Services were added that day to accommodate as many people as possible. Running three services in succession with social distancing and booking systems was much more labour intensive than one large one under normal conditions, but a brilliant team of volunteers took up the mantle to make this possible and it was wonderful to be able to give so many families a chance to celebrate with us on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day we also created a Family Service with Communion, which was live-streamed for those who could not come in-person.

In each period of lockdown, I brought families fresh ideas for crafts, activities, prayer and wellbeing, along with resources for keeping children entertained at home. We are already laying plans to launch new initiatives to nurture children, young people and their families outdoors and on permitted walks. We are excited by the prospect of drawing from resources like Muddy Church and Forest Church to encourage wonder, inspire faith and bring children and young people together outside.

I have been in contact with a number of families that have moved to the village during lockdown and know how eager they are to get stuck in and to meet other families once restrictions are lifted. In anticipation of that happy day, we want to encourage more volunteers to get involved in the Families @ St Mary's Program in the coming year, so we can re-start all our groups at the earliest opportunity and be in a strong position to warmly welcome more children, young people and their families into the life of St Mary's.

Youth & Children's Work Focus Group members: Rector (Chair), Oliver Bayne, Julie Flenley, Nigel Forman, Wendy Johnson and James Quickfall

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

'In the Beauty of Holiness'

Worship

2020 began at St Mary's as in all other years, with the regular pattern of Sunday worship continuing in the form of 8am Holy Communion (1662 Prayer Book), 10am Parish Communion and Evensong on the 1st Sunday of each month (also 1662 Prayer Book). Weekly services included Holy Communion at 9:30am each Wednesday, Morning and Evening Prayers on Saturdays and Tuesdays respectively, and Messy Church planned for the 2nd Sundays in March, May, October and December.

In January and February we were delighted to welcome the Venerable Paul Davies, Archdeacon of Surrey, the Revd Robert Jenkins, Assistant Archdeacon of Surrey, Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD, and Dr Matthew Champion of Birkbeck College, London, to preach at St Mary's.

With the imposition of the lockdown in March it became necessary to rethink how regular worship could continue while the Church was closed – the first time since 1208 that Church services had been suspended. Decisions about what to do had to be made very quickly, but we knew we wanted to offer worship services that the congregation could take part in from home, and we've been able to do that: first through the "Holy Week and Easter At Home" series, which included a tabletop liturgy for every day from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday; through the "Liturgy of the Empty Hands" which was led from the Rectory on Sundays at 10:00am over YouTube; and latterly through webcasting Parish Communion and Family Services from Church with or without a congregation present.

For a small number of the congregation online worship hasn't been accessible, so the Rector made sure the newsletter and worship resources were hand delivered to those not on email, and spread the word about "Daily Hope", the Church of England's free telephone line offering music, prayers and reflections.

From March until July the Eucharist went on being offered weekly from the Rectory and clergy homes, despite there being no congregation. The Church is, fundamentally, a eucharistic community, and amid the strangeness and privations of the time it was important it remain so. We are so grateful that they were able to bear all of us before God at the altar, even on altars made from coffee tables, sideboards and desks.

Evening Prayer was said at home and Morning Prayer was led on WhatsApp in the first lockdown and latterly on Zoom as well. It has been good to see this faithful group of parishioners grow in number and our heartfelt thanks go to Gill Beckwith who nurtured and facilitated the prayer group.

Our planning for each liturgical season is built on our review of previous services and feedback, to ensure ongoing work is done to enable all ages and stages to '*know Christ better*' through the services we offer and includes adaptations necessitated by Covid-19 restrictions.

Prior to lockdown we were developing our Sunday Services to create more opportunities for families to worship together, while ensuring younger members of the congregation had

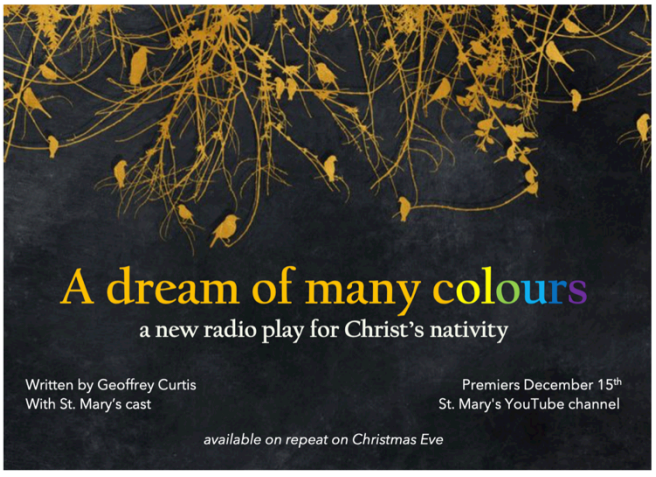
plenty of opportunities to take part in All Stars and to lead worship. We hope to introduce these new services at some point in 2021:

Celebration Services: Mothering Sunday, Harvest Festival and Christingle

Festival Services: Easter Day, Pentecost, Patronal Festival and Christmas Day

For Lent and Advent we are keen to introduce a setting of the communion service by John Rutter to delineate these more reflective, pared down seasons. We also chose the bright and accessible "*The English Folk Song Mass*" by Malcolm Archer to use in our most joyous Celebration Services and look forward to being able to use these settings once congregational singing is permitted.

In September, our regular services were greatly enhanced by several services celebrating special occasions and seasonal themes, where opportunities for all generations to worship together included the Patronal Festival, Harvest Festival, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We celebrated the Feast of All Saints with a Family Service and welcomed many recently bereaved families to our annual Service of Light to remember the departed. Our Remembrance Sunday Service was conducted in Church without a congregation and live-streamed when public worship was suspended for the second time.



Celebrating Christmas in lockdown required lots of creativity. The Carols by Candlelight Service was pre-recorded with music and readings and broadcast on 20th December. A radio play created by Canon Geoffrey Curtis was also pre-recorded and broadcast on Christmas Eve. With the help of David Goddard, CDs of our 2016 Carol Service were distributed to 60 members of the congregation who were shut in, without internet access or greatly missing Church. We were able to offer three opportunities to attend a Family Nativity Service in the afternoon of Christmas Eve, which had needed to be re-organised at short notice when some involved had to self-isolate, and to accommodate so many families whose Christmas travel plans had been cancelled at the last minute. *"The Twelve Days of*

Christmas" booklet of reflections, prayers and activities was designed to be enjoyed by young and old alike and proved to be another welcome addition to our 'At Home' offerings.

Our worship is enriched by the ministry of St Mary's Lay Preachers, Ken Lindup and Richard Flenley, and by St Mary's Associate Priests: the Revd Gill Welford, the Revd George Rowe, Canon Geoffrey Curtis and the Revd Dr David Neaum. We are delighted that Helen Bendall is beginning training in occasional preaching and that Richard Flenley is discerning a call to part-time ministry.

We continued to focus on ensuring accessibility and offering a warm welcome to everyone attending services at St Mary's, both online and in-person.

In 2020, we were delighted that many couples and families were choosing to celebrate significant life events at St Mary's, although most of these have had to be postponed until restrictions are lifted. All the scheduled weddings have been postponed to 2021; there were two baptisms conducted prior to the first lockdown but other families have postponed these services too. In total, 19 services for the departed were held, including Funeral Services, Burial of Ashes and Services of Thanksgiving. We look forward to being able to resume services of Holy Communion in people's homes throughout the parish and further afield.

In the year ahead we will continue to work on the development of our two new service formats, with the needs of children, young people and their families in mind. We will also begin to work on building more bridges between the services held in Church aimed at children, young people and their families and the services held in Church that we put on for the students, parents and staff of St Mary's Church of England Primary School, so that we can grow in faith together.

Worship Focus Group members: Revd Dr Rachel Greene (Chair), Helen Bendall, Roger Crocker, Jan Fellingham and Revd Gill Welford

Helen Bendall
stmarysorganist@outlook.com

Caring for our Possessions

The Fabric and Maintenance Report

We have pleasure in providing our report for the year to December 2020.

General

The year has obviously been a very difficult and different one, particularly for our finances, but fortunately once the first lockdown was lifted and we and our various contractors could again obtain access to the premises, we were able to carry out the normal functions of maintenance and care for the Church and Churchyard without too much disruption.

Churchyard Working Party

Very sadly John Doig decided to relinquish responsibility for the Churchyard Working Party and a replacement has still not yet been found. Our thanks are expressed to him for his leadership of the group and to Irving Johnson who has assisted the Churchwardens in keeping this valuable resource going.

Regrettably several of the scheduled meetings have had to be cancelled due to lockdown and social distancing requirements. However, the Village Bonfire Crew volunteered to assist with a major clean-up of the Churchyard and on 10 October a crew of about 20 did in one day what would have taken the CWP at least 5 months to complete. There seems every chance that they may be prepared to do another session this year and we are very grateful for their assistance.

Bonfire Crew

Digital Services

A YouTube Channel was established in the early days of the lockdown and the Rector was able to start streaming services, but with some difficulty due to lack of proper facilities. We have subsequently changed from a rather poor broadband service to a new 4G Router, which has greatly improved the wi-fi in the Church. This has enabled services to be live-streamed satisfactorily and our gratitude is expressed to Dave Stinson for the enormous input he has given to this.

A new Charity Pay card reader system has been installed and has resulted in a steady stream of donations. Obviously, this will only really come into its own when there is a greater footfall in the Church and services resume.

Repairs

The Tower Flagpole halyard was repaired in January 2020 by a steeplejack and gratitude is expressed to the Chiddingfold Parish Council for their contribution of £500. The flag was flown for VE Day and Remembrance Sunday. It was reported that flashing on the Tower Roof had come adrift, which could have resulted in leaks. The original roofing contractor, (Clarke Roofing) was contacted, they responded immediately, and the repairs were done on 16 September.

Before

After

Ted Hobbs kindly repaired the old bench removed from the Upper Churchyard because it was unsafe, and it has been placed to the East of the South Aisle. Gilly van Oppen and her family have donated a new bench.

The gate to the neighbouring driveway opposite the Church Room was replaced. The cost of materials was borne by the adjacent property owners.

Decay and disappearance of the historic barrel graves – the quote for restoration was too expensive and CWP will maintain them.

The T-junction on the path down to the Church Room was patched.

The lid of the gas meter enclosure has been repaired.

Stonework

Two issues reported by the Quinquennial Inspection and two others discovered subsequently have required attention:

- Moisture and flaking of plaster and paint inside the North Chapel in the Church. It was found that pointing on the gable slabs of the North Chapel is missing and several slabs are damaged.
- Masonry re-pointing and lead cill drip protection to the south aisle east window.
- Re-pointing and repairs to the Churchyard boundary wall north east corner.

- Re-pointing and repairs to the Churchyard boundary wall south west side, mostly on the far side of the wall.

We have instructed the firm of Anstey & Stone Ltd to proceed with all four items of stonework repair, and The Friends of St Mary's have confirmed that they will meet these costs, for which we are very grateful.

Work started in February 2021, but unfortunately it was found that the problem was greater than had been expected as several slabs were broken and came away by hand, which required replacement.

Services

The five-yearly Full Scope Inspection by an electrician was carried out on 6 July and the report is satisfactory.

Routine inspections and services have been carried out to the Tower Clock, Fire Extinguishers, Alarm System and all electrical appliances have had a PAT Test completed.

Services of the Church boiler and lightning conductor took place in February 2021, and that for the Church Room boiler will be done in March.

We have persuaded Waverley Borough Council to provide refuse, recycling and food waste bins and collect them without charge, thus obviating the need for the cleaners and others to take the refuse home with them.

Quinquennial Report

An Action Plan to implement the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection that was held in November 2019 was compiled and presented to the PCC Meeting.

Good progress has since been made on addressing these comments, in that the report contains:

- Seven items of work to be carried out within the next 18 months, of which six are now complete.
- Nine items of work to be carried out within the Quinquennium, of which six are complete.
- Four items of Desirable work, one of which is in progress and the rest require budgeting and approval by the PCC.
- Eight items requiring monitor/maintenance, all of which are routinely checked as part of the Churchwarden's Monthly Checklist and of which five have been attended to.
- A further twelve additional items extracted from the report or current discussions which we consider worthy of consideration by the PCC, the Churchwardens or the Churchyard Working Party, of which six have been resolved.

The items still to be dealt with are:

- Updated Accessibility Audit.
- South Porch Ramp – worn.
- Rainwater Goods and other external metalwork decoration every 5-7 years.
- Carry out further Fire Risk Assessment based on EIG format.
- Carry out a condition survey of the Churchyard for gravestone stability.

- Install a hooped access ladder on the north aisle west wall to enable safe access onto the main valley gutter.
- Masonry repairs and repointing – budget for ongoing works every say 5-11 years to keep on top of the soft and friable masonry walls.
- Lady Chapel walling – regular redecoration.
- Monitor for any trip hazards on paving in Churchyard.
- Service for bells – tightness of bolts, lubrication of bearings, condition of ropes.
- Check bird-proofing in doorways and in Tower openings, especially Belfry louvres.
- Up-to-date plans of services.
- Installation of photo-cells to control the floodlights.

Churchyard Management Plan

A comprehensive Churchyard Management Plan was approved by the PCC at its November meeting. Flowing from this the following may be noted:

- We now have an up-to-date plan of the Churchyard.
- Mowing and strimming will in future be done on a rotational basis, balancing the requirement to retain a tidy and 'cared-for' appearance in the immediate environs of the Church with the need to sustain and celebrate wildlife resources. This challenge has been addressed by way of 'zoning' the management regime to reflect the prominence of different functions in various areas of the Churchyard. Our mowing contractor has been informed of the zones deliberately being left for plants to flower and seed at particular times of year, and for animal life to thrive, and which areas are being managed mainly for appearance purposes.
- Phil Darley has donated and planted English bluebells, winter aconites, wood anemones and snowdrops, for which we are very grateful.
- The PCC approved a new project to erect informative signboards at the Lych Gate and the far end of the Churchyard and funding for the signboards has been received from the Chiddingfold Parish Council, the Community Fund, The Caram Trust and a private donor and our thanks are due to all. We are proceeding with obtaining Diocesan approval, which requires only the Archdeacon's approval, not a Faculty.

Documentation

The Terrier, a written survey or inventory giving details and photographs of all the property, buildings, equipment, monuments, vestments, plate, windows etc. in the Parish owned by the Church has not been updated this year and we propose that given the very limited access to and usage of the Church in the year, the 2019 Terrier will be accepted as being adequate.

Thanks

Our thanks are extended to the Church cleaners, those who wash and iron the Church linen, the flower arrangers and key holders who have enabled us to keep the Church open and attractive. Finally, a big thank you to the Organists who have kept some music going in the Church. We look forward to the day when the Choir, Chalice Assistants, Acolytes and Bellringers will be able to return to their valued functions.

February 2021

Beverley Draper, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden2@outlook.com

Chris Everett, Churchwarden
stmaryschurchwarden1@outlook.com

Budgeting for our Future

Finance Group

During 2020, the important decisions regarding drawing down from our reserves to finance our outgoings during the pandemic, together with reducing our level of Parish Share payments were beyond the remit of the Finance Focus Group and needed to be taken by the full PCC.

However, with cash income almost ceasing as our services were restricted, members of the group have investigated the direction we should move online to ensure we can access many sources of income in new ways. The addition of a 'Giving' page to the website, a QR code for use on posters, service sheets and other literature linking to the website, together with handheld devices and the permanent Good Box in Church have enabled us to take more and more payments and donations by debit and credit card.

Our next goal is to investigate potential grant awards and centralise applications for such to assist us with funding specific projects. We are mindful of the need to find significant reliable income to fund a Youth Worker as soon as possible.

Finance Focus Group members: Gilly van Oppen (Chair), Jan Fellingham, Martin Johnson and Gerald Williams.

Gilly van Oppen, Treasurer
stmarystreasurer1@outlook.com

Raising Money, Having Fun

The Fundraising Team

When we wrote in our 2019 Report "Thank you to everyone who supported us in making 2019 such a successful fundraising year, and we look forward to the challenge of 2020!" we had no idea exactly how challenging 2020 was going to be! Nearly all of our normal fundraising activities were unable to take place, including the Giant Jumble Sale in March, the Quintessentially English Sales in April and November, the Village Fete and the Christmas Ball.

Fortunately we were able to hold a Spring Plant Sale and several fresh produce sales, which not only raised some much-needed funds, but also proved to be a great morale booster. Thanks are given to Beverley Draper and her team on their success with the produce sales. We were also delighted that St Mary's 2020 Fundraising Raffle went ahead in August and September – congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who participated and especially Gilly van Oppen for all her hard work organising it.

Overall in 2020 we were able to raise just under £2,500, which is remarkable considering the circumstances – thank you to everyone who has supported us. New ideas are afoot for 2021 so look out for notices!

Fundraising Focus Group members: Martin Johnson (Chair), Beverley Draper, Susan Hodges, Pauline Kaye, Lindsay Sleap, Sue Smith and Melanie Wotherspoon

Using our Gifts to make a Difference in the World

Stewardship Group

Stewardship Focus Group members: Gilly van Oppen (Treasurer) and Jan Fellingham.

There were no official meetings in 2020. Members communicated when necessary by email and text messages.

At the beginning of the first lockdown, there being no services in Church, we contacted all the Church members who donated by weekly envelopes, informing them that this method of giving would be discontinued to avoid the necessity of counting cash during the pandemic and asking if they would be willing to find an alternative way of giving to the Church. Most of this group kindly agreed to change, opting to donate by Banker's Order, bank transfer or monthly cheques. We are extremely grateful to all our regular donors, as with no weddings or occasional services taking place this is our only source of income at present.

Because of the Covid pandemic, it has reluctantly been decided not to run a Stewardship campaign in 2021.

Gilly van Oppen, Treasurer
stmarystreasurer1@outlook.com

He Washes Us Clean...

The Baptism Visiting Team

Two Baptisms were held in February and five more were booked for the next few months, but these of course had to be postponed because of lockdown.

The Baptism Visiting Team met face to face with Rachel when we were allowed to, in September, and it was agreed it would not be sensible to book any more Baptisms in 2020 due to changing restrictions.

Anniversary of Baptism cards were sent to all the thirteen children baptised in 2019 and we have kept a light touch with all our Baptism families in the hope of better times in 2021.

Wendy Johnson
wej1811@gmail.com

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Choir and Music

Choir and Music

The purpose of the choir is to enhance and support the worship in St Mary's Church. We sing music which reflects the significance of the season and the focus of the services.

Membership and Attendance

It would be an understatement to say that the last year presented us with challenges. Only around half of the singers were able to take part even remotely, but they still made an uplifting contribution to the life of St Mary's and its worship.

As a result, nearly all the choir's musical and rehearsal work moved online including rehearsals and services. While the technology was a lifesaver, the musical quality of our work was limited. The exception was when the children were able to have a brief in-person socially distanced meeting for the online Carol Service. Most older adults were shielding, and some were not always able to join the Zoom meetings due to technical limitations of the internet in rural locations.

The work of David Stinson (one of the tenors in the choir) in making sure we maintained an online presence on St Marys YouTube Channel was remarkable, and the whole congregation was thankful for his talents and time in ensuring we have maintained a presence in our Church musical community.

We welcomed Harriet Cook to the children's choir and Jolande Murray has joined the online meetings and recordings. Most other activities were postponed or abandoned during the pandemic, but Rachael Quickfall now steps up as Head Chorister and all other choir roles will re-emerge when things settle down. We thank Daniel Barlow for leading us so well and hope he is soon back singing with us again.

The Arthur Barnett Choristers Cup was awarded to Rachael Quickfall.
We welcomed John Doig as Choir Treasurer.

Weddings

As all 2020 weddings were postponed, the choir looks forward to being able to support these couples when they are hopefully able to get married in 2021.

Festivals and Highlights

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene introduced us to several new services in Holy Week, which raised our awareness of supporting the Word in different ways in 2020. We marked Easter, the Patronal Festival, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday, Advent and Christmas with a home-worship and/or online contribution. The Carols by Candlelight Service, which was broadcast on 20th December, was one of the choir's greatest achievements and was very well received, especially as other village Christmas events that the choir supports, such as Carols round the Tree of Faith, Hope and Love, were not able to take place.

Other Notable Events

We were extremely saddened by the passing of Seb Welford, whose name would usually be appended below. His Memorial Service was held on 25th January 2020.

Leadership

During the pandemic, both Roger and Helen continued where possible to provide music before and after services and, while singing has not been allowed for the congregation, we recorded short anthems for use during the administration. Roger continued to provide material support to the school online and the children were encouraged to follow online alternatives to keep their voices in trim at home.

The parish was invited to take part in home-based music activities for the voice and Roger provided links to YouTube versions of the hymns suitable for each Sunday up to the second lockdown.

Future developments

A Choir dinner and Choir barbecue will be planned for 2022 and we hope to take part in the Diocesan Festival in October 2022. It is unlikely any major event will take place in 2021 unless it is online. Choir funds were held over from the previous year, there being no pastoral activities due to the pandemic.

Roger Crocker, Director of Music
stmarysmusicdirector48@outlook.com

Helen Bendall, Assistant Organist
stmarysorganist@outlook.com

Christine Barlow, Choir Administrator
chris@dottydragon.co.uk

John Doig, Choir Treasurer
johndoig65@gmail.com

Part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

Deanery Synod Report

The Godalming Deanery Synod was due to meet on three occasions in 2020 in March, July and November, but all business was suspended due to Covid-19.

The Deanery had looked forward to hosting Bishop Daniel Kgomosotho from South Africa during the Lambeth Conference in July, which would have included an event at St Mary's, but the Conference has now been rescheduled to 2022.

At St Mary's Gerald Williams decided to stand down as Deanery Synod Representative, having served since April 2019, and Ken Lindup was duly elected to the role at the APCM in October.

The Deanery Synod is now looking forward to working with and supporting parishes in 2021.

Ken Lindup, Godalming Deanery Synod Representative
klindup@gmail.com

Eco Church

"The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it." Psalm 24.1

In 2019 St Mary's formally launched Eco Church, an initiative run by a Christian charity called *A Rocha*, which supports the Church in taking steps to safeguard the integrity of creation and to renew the life of the earth, as a crucial part of the Christian mission. The Eco Church group at St Mary's aims to help our Church play its part in renewing the earth by using resources responsibly, creatively and unselfishly. Our goal is to empower individuals, the congregation and the wider community to model good stewardship by reducing our environmental footprint, increasing awareness of environmental sustainability and encouraging the appreciation of God's creation.

The Eco Church Scheme helped us to survey different aspects of Church life, so we could identify steps we could take in order to move towards our goal. We reflected on our current practices in key areas: Worship, Building, Land, Community and Global, and Lifestyle. From there we began to identify changes that we could make and actions we could take to benefit our environment. Some of those things are easy to do, and some things take a bit more time and thought.

Some of the things we have done include becoming a recycling hub for candles, switching to recycled paper and recycling our ink cartridges. We ran a weekly campaign called "Pause to Pray" from May – July which provided reflections to keep us mindful of creation and its needs. At the same time, work was begun to create a plan for managing Church land, which would draw together all the different considerations that play a role in the use of our Churchyard. Chris Everett made this big project one of his missions in lockdown, and we are especially thankful to him for spearheading it.

In July, the first phase of a survey of the bat population was undertaken, when members of the Surrey Bat Group made a site visit. They began the second phase in October with the installation of a bat detector. We wish to thank Jolande Murray for making it possible for St Mary's to take part in this survey, and we are delighted to report that there are both Pipistrelle and Brown Long-Eared Bats in the Tower. In July, Fiona Haynes of Butterfly Conservation surveyed the Church grounds with a view to promoting butterflies, and came across the rare Wood White butterfly. Thanks to Fiona's work St Mary's has been recognised as a site of the Wood White butterfly, which is exciting news indeed. It brought St Mary's to the attention of the local press, who helped spread the good news!

Haslemere Herald

The Herald 10th September 2020 5

Rare butterflies return to forest

ONE of the UK's rarest and most threatened butterfly species has begun returning to Chiddingfold Forest.

It was believed that the Wood White butterfly had almost completely disappeared from the country – with only one colony left in the south-east – a small, isolated population in Chiddingfold Forest.

But now, butterfly conservationists have seen a rise in numbers of the rare butterfly in the forest.

This is thanks to re-wilding initiatives by local conservationists, as well as the efforts of the congregation of St Mary's Church, and Chiddingfold Parish Council.

And as a result of their efforts, St Mary's churchyard has been named as an official Wood White butterfly site by the Butterfly Conservation Charity.

The Wood White butterfly, Leptidea sinapis, is usually encountered in sheltered situations, such as woodland glades or scrub.

It relies on a habitat with abundant caterpillar food-plants as well as a variety of good nectar sources, including Bird's Foot Trefoil and Meadow Vetchling, of which there is a great deal in the St Mary's Upper Churchyard.

BY LAUREN WISE
news@haslemereherald.com

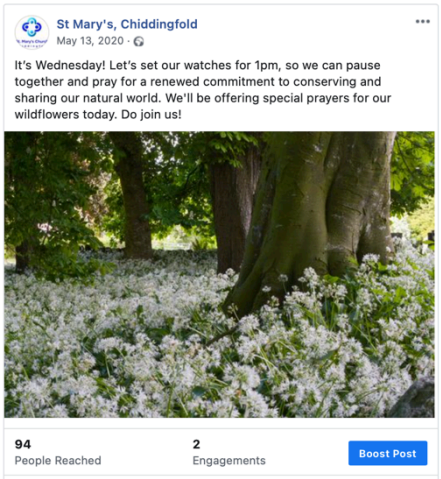
Local conservationists have launched the Wonderful Wildflower Project to create additional butterfly-friendly wildflower strips suitable for the Wood White, and the charity Butterfly Conservation has been monitoring the butterfly population to enhance our understanding of the Wood White and to inspire more habitat creation.

St Mary's Parochial Church Council is particularly keen to promote wildlife conservation and in 2019 became an EcoChurch, in recognition of its efforts to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God's earth.

To find out more about the Eco Church initiative, email stmarysecochurch@gmail.com

To find out more about the Wood White project contact fhaynes@butterfly-conservation.org

For further information on the Wood White, see www.butterfly-conservation.org/butterflies/wood-white



With so much happening in St Mary's Churchyard, we have been investigating the feasibility of erecting new signage to increase awareness of Churchyard management aims and to inspire budding naturalists in our community. Chris Everett has worked hard to secure funding and develop the proposals for signage at each end of the Churchyard to communicate the importance of our Churchyard as a tranquil place of prayer and reflection, a habitat for wildlife, a site of remembrance and beautiful green space for the whole community. We look forward to seeing the signs erected in 2021.

As autumn arrived, Eco Church compiled and shared an environmentally-themed film list to inspire and accompany us into the longer, darker nights.

All of these efforts put St Mary's on track to be awarded *A Rocha* Bronze award for care of creation, but having enjoyed the journey so far we are already taking steps towards a Silver award. Together there is so much we can do. Come and join us!

Further information about the work of St Mary's Eco Church is available on the Church's website or email: stmarysecochurch@gmail.com

Rachel Greene, Acting Chair
rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

Catherine Stovold, Secretary
catherine.ogden.celo@gmail.com

Food for Fellowship

Covid-19 brought all Church events requiring refreshments to a standstill from March 2020. The Parish Breakfast managed two sittings: January and February.

Felicity Evers and Sandra Gilbert retired after the January sitting, having prepared the breakfasts for 25 years. It was arranged that for the foreseeable future pairs of volunteers should take up the reins and this began with Wendy and Irving Johnson covering February. It is hoped that this event will continue when the Government and Church give the authorisation enabling the 8 o'clock and 10am congregations to socialise once again.

Beverley Draper, Felicity Evers, Sandra Gilbert, Faith Reynolds

With a Little Help from our Friends

The Friends of St Mary's

I do hope this finds you all well and still coping after what has been a very hard 2020. Both my husband and I were struck down with Covid, he in particular was extremely ill, but with medics and the power of prayer we both are now recovered. Sadly I know of some in the village who were not so fortunate; our thoughts go out to the various families.

As you would expect, fundraising events came to a complete halt in 2020. However, I must thank so many of our loyal "Friends" who continued to support us with their membership donations, which are very much appreciated.

Sadly, in November, we lost to cancer, Sara Rowe, one of our hard-working committee members. She will be greatly missed. Our thoughts go to her husband, Revd George Rowe, and the family.

As I write this the sun is shining, snowdrops, crocuses and the odd daffodil are out in our garden, spring is on the way, and with the vaccine being rolled out at an ever increasing rate, let's just hope and pray that life as we knew it will gradually return to some sort of normality. I am so longing to get fundraising with you all again.

The committee and I wish everyone a healthy and happy 2021. I am looking forward to some great events later on this year; so all you wonderful cake makers, I am sure your skills will be needed shortly.

Please read the parish magazine for our future plans, when we are allowed to resume our events. Keep well and safe in 2021.

Rosemary Gorringe, Chairperson
rg@hartland3.plus.com

Many Members, One Body

The Joint Churches in Chiddingfold

In this extraordinary year of pandemic and lockdown we might be forgiven for believing nothing has happened. However, in spite of it all, we found ways to reach out to one another and the community, both in prayer and practical support.

The Joint Churches committee comprises of the clergy and two lay members from each Church. Andrew Stewart continues as the Treasurer and Mike Danson as Secretary. The committee met three times across the year, once in person and then via Zoom.

The committee's commitment to worshipping together and organising events within the village continued, despite the restrictions faced by the pandemic.

The Lent Course was due to run for 6 weeks, led by Michael Byrne, former Bishop of Chester. Unfortunately this only continued for two weeks, but was very well attended. The Lent Supper was unable to go ahead.

Easter and Christmas cards are a longstanding part of the Joint Churches work. Each year a number of committee members sort through St Mary's Primary School drawings to choose the winning front cover design. The cards give details of the services that will be held at the three Churches across the periods, and are delivered to every household in the parish by the Good Neighbours. Despite the pandemic, the cards were still printed and distributed, but with a blessing inside rather than any specific details of services due to the uncertainty of whether they would take place.

The Big Bike Ride was unable to take place. As such a big part of the year's fundraising this was a real shame. It is an event that brings the community together and is normally a fun day for all.

During the first meeting of 2020, it was decided that The Annual Welcome Lunch should be simplified. Since it began, Faith Reynolds, Rosemary Harris and their team have organised and run a seamless full Sunday lunch, providing the opportunity to welcome new residents to the village and allow them to meet one another and the representatives of our Churches, plus other village organisations. In past years the Lunch had upwards of 80 attendees from new families across the village. We hope to be able to run The Annual Welcome Lunch this year, welcoming those who have joined the village since late 2019, and anyone who missed the 2019 Lunch.

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) and Messy Church have always been such a big part of the work the Joint Churches do. These have not been able to run during the pandemic and it is hoped by all that these can restart again soon.

In January we celebrated the work of the Joint Churches over the last 18 years at a special service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which was held at St Mary's with Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD, speaking. Christine gave an excellent talk on the subject of 'Unusual Kindness', using the symbols of a rowing boat and eight oars, symbolic of us all pulling together.

The Good Friday Walk of Witness was unable to take place this year.

The primary focus of the Joint Churches is to provide a united Christian witness in our village community, to reflect the love of God and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

In spite of the restriction placed on our usual activities there have been so many acts of kindness; those who deliver the meals cooked by the Lunch Club and The Crown to our Lunch Club members in the village (every week), and the regular phone calls, visits and offers of practical help.

In many respects these are gifts that have arisen as a result of the pandemic that have deepened and developed a new togetherness.

Faith Reynolds, Member of the Joint Churches Committee
faith.reynolds41@gmail.com

Parish Link with St Paul's Church, Hook

St Paul's and St Mary's have shared a friendship link for many years although we have no formal representative at St Paul's. We continue to exchange Parish Magazines and weekly pew sheets, and nurture our relationship by praying for and supporting one another. Unfortunately, since March any face-to-face hospitality has been severely restricted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Olive Ellis accompanied me on 26 January 2020 when we attended St Paul's Patronal Festival and we were warmly greeted at the Church by Sue Russell and Diane Tink. After the

Communion Service we walked to the Parish Hall and shared a most generous cold buffet. Olive enjoyed meeting her friend Sheila Draycott; Miriam Dean told me of the difficulties of her life as a single mother since Alan died in 2017 (Alan was their representative to St Mary's). Dave Freeman talked to me about the rewiring and new lighting in the Church which is now complete.

Tolworth, Hook and Surbiton Team Ministry consists of the Churches of St George, St Paul and St Matthew led by the Reverend Luke Wickings, but we only maintain a link with St Paul's. As the end of lockdown approaches I trust that we will once again be able to share services and events with our friends at St Paul's. This link is valuable to both parishes.

Nita Draper, St Mary's Representative for St Paul's, Hook
nitadraper@btinternet.com

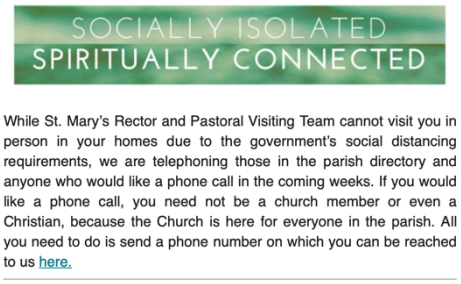
You Visited Me...

The Pastoral Visiting Team

Caring for our Community

St Mary's offers pastoral support to all parishioners regardless of their religious beliefs. St Mary's is also committed to caring for those who are unable to attend Church due to sickness or age. I celebrate communion with them in their homes and in hospital and visit all who request it. In this I am ably assisted by St Mary's Associate Priests and by the Pastoral Visiting Team. The ministry of the Pastoral Visiting Team is primarily one of listening. Some of the Team also take Holy Communion to those who are no longer able to attend Church. Team members are trained in specific areas of pastoral care which may include bereavement, stress, depression, suicide, dementia and age-related issues. Confidentiality is paramount and team members do not divulge any personal problems of those visited. In March, Wendy Pollington and Sue Spicer asked to step down and the Team was reduced to three active members; however, the process of recruiting a new member also got underway, and we hope to welcome Tom Markham to the Team soon.

While membership of the Lay Pastoral Visiting Team was changing, visiting itself was changing in lockdown. St Mary's Associate Priests and Lay Pastoral Visitors rose to the occasion and helped us keep in pastoral contact with parishioners through phone calls, emails, and the occasional socially distanced visit. Under the banner of "Socially Isolated | Spiritually Connected" we received prayer requests and raised awareness of how the Church is supporting people through new prayer and worship resources. As lockdown lengthened, we organised and expanded the pastoral phone calls into a telephone contact ministry headed up by Tina Johnson. That work helped to manage our efforts to stay in contact with parishioners and has also enabled better coordination, better record keeping and the creation of a GDPR compliant contact database.



In addition to offering pastoral support, St Mary's cares for our community in offering practical support. One of our priorities early on was to ensure that those who rely on the hearing aid clinics that St Mary's hosts had recourse to help during the pandemic. Getting

the village's network geared up to help deliver practical support to vulnerable and isolated people soon became the top priority. I worked in an advisory capacity with the leadership team of the Good Neighbour's Scheme as they transitioned to a community action response team, finding them a new communications volunteer to build their first website, identifying new volunteers to deputise for area leaders who are shielding, equipping them to make referrals to specialist services and encouraging them to work in accordance with safeguarding principles.

All this requires getting the word out and so, as part of the Parish Magazine's management team, I worked to ensure we could still produce and distribute the Magazine under lockdown conditions. This has not only helped shore up communication across the parish amongst our readership but also secures an important income stream for St Mary's. I am particularly grateful to the Parish Magazine management team for their cool heads and their work to ensure that our 33 volunteers could continue to deliver the magazine safely each month.

For a number of years St Mary's has supported Godalming Food Bank with donations. When Godalming Food Bank was becoming overwhelmed, we increased our efforts and began to collect donations to keep Haslemere Food Bank stocked as well. This has given Chiddingfold residents in difficulty recourse to help at both centres. When all places of worship were closed, it became imperative to set up another local drop-off location for food bank donations and we are grateful to be given space in the Roberts Store. We are also grateful that whenever the pressure on food banks increased, your generosity increased as well. When St Mary's re-opened in July we decided to keep both drop-off points to make donating as convenient as possible. Ted Hobbs and Mary and John Doig deliver items at our donations drop-off points to the food banks on a weekly basis to keep up supplies.

In spring we reached out to some of our key workers, bringing hampers with treats for the staff of the GP surgery and the staff of the village school to let them know how much we appreciated what they were doing for our community.

Children aged 3-5 Class 1
Winner Liberty Hillage

VILLAGE COMPETITION

St. Mary's Church Chiddingfold

Chiddingfold Horticultural Society

In autumn, we ran a special family-friendly competition in partnership with the Horticultural Society called "Autumn Glory!" in order to bring some cheer as the days shortened. All residents were invited to participate, and the community competition was a fun way of enabling folks to take delight in the natural world and prepare for the changing of the seasons.

In the year ahead we hope to build our Pastoral Visiting Team back up and to prayerfully re-imagine what caring for our community will mean as we emerge from the pandemic, both in terms of the pastoral and practical support St Mary's offers. We'd welcome the help of new volunteers in this vital work!

Lay Pastoral Visiting Team: Faith Reynolds, Margaret McComish, Gill Marshall.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Work in St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Chiddingfold

St Mary's Church has a special relationship with our village school, as St Mary's Primary is a Church of England school. That means the Rector is a foundation governor and has responsibilities for the pastoral care of teachers and staff. In that role, I am also tasked with bringing elements of the RE curriculum to life, offering an act of collective worship one day each week and for leading services for the whole school. Many of those responsibilities are best shared and made ever more enjoyable by the combined efforts of St Mary's Children, Youth and Families Minister and of volunteers. St Mary's Church has a small but talented pool of volunteers who enrich collective worship by taking turns to lead it; and we are keen to see more volunteers come forward.

St Mary's Church coordinates the "Open the Book" Team of Storytellers, who are drawn from all three Churches and who contribute by leading assemblies twice a term. These assemblies are incredibly popular with the children and teachers alike, and exceptionally good fun for all involved. The "Open the Book" Team also bring their wonderful story telling into some of St Mary's Family Services to create a bridge for pupils who come to Church.

Since March the village school has been closed to volunteers. Nevertheless we have created new ways of working together to support pupils, staff and learning and to mark important milestones. For instance in June, against all odds, the sun suddenly broke through the clouds and I was able to hold a Leavers' Service for St Mary's Year 6 students in the school amphitheatre. And it was recorded so that parents, grandparents and siblings could join me

in giving thanks for all that these 16 young people had accomplished. On behalf of the three village Churches, I presented each leaver with a bible and then the ice cream truck arrived so that the celebrations could get into full swing!

Over the Autumn Term, during the relaxation of lockdown, I was able to welcome three year groups into Church to explore its treasures, symbols and stories and to answer any questions they had. Canon Geoffrey Curtis produced a truly wonderful series of pre-recorded assemblies. Later in the year I was also able to go into the school to lead a Harvest Service as well as a Service of Remembrance working within year group bubbles. Whether we are together in the Church, in the school hall or amphitheatre, or in a Zoom room, there is so much fun to be had learning together. At St Mary's we count it privilege to contribute to the flourishing of the village school and treasure the relationship we have with it.

The Reverend Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Looking after Children and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding Report

The PCC's Safeguarding role is clearly defined in The Church of England's 'Parish Handbook' and is carried out with the support of the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) – Ruth Goddard, and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Validator – Beverley Giles. Katherine Hylton is the Safeguarding representative on the PCC. The House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church: Policy Statement' has been adopted by the PCC and this is displayed in St Mary's. A copy of the Handbook is available on the Parish website, as is a full list of contacts and organisations providing help and advice. Although Safeguarding is on the agenda of all PCC meetings, complete confidentiality is maintained where matters are raised with the PSO or the Rector.

The present situation with the coronavirus has meant that services and activities for all ages where people meet have been severely curtailed but this provides new challenges. Sadly, extra vigilance is required to ensure that there is an awareness of situations which might arise and the increased possibility that people of all ages will be vulnerable. The move to hold services and activities online has also meant reviewing procedures and the assessments of risk.

The extension of activities online has meant that PCC members have been able to undertake the Church of England's safeguarding training remotely to strengthen their understanding of their roles and responsibilities in accordance with the Parish's Action Plan following the 2019 Audit. Other actions in this Plan, which relate to such activities as letting the Church Room, will be kept under review and an updated Plan approved as lockdowns are lifted.

Ruth Goddard, St Mary's Safeguarding Officer
stmaryssafeguarding@outlook.com

Membership of St Mary's

Electoral Roll Report

The Electoral Roll is the Church membership list. Anyone is eligible to join the Electoral Roll if they have been baptised and live within the parish, or if they are baptised and have regularly attended worship at St Mary's during the previous six months.

Membership of St Mary's implies:

- that you are committed to grow in faith through prayer, Bible reading and regular worship;
- that you take an active interest in the life and purposes of this Church;
- that you are willing to use your time and talents to help build up the Church and its ministry;
- that you undertake proportional regular planned giving to financially support this Church (which is entirely self-funded).

The Electoral Roll Officer reported that a revision of the Parish Electoral Roll had been completed on Monday 23rd March 2020 in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During this process, four applications for inclusion had been received and there were seven deletions in respect of those who had died or moved away. However, between the 23rd March and the rescheduled APCM on October 25th there had been a further three additions and four deletions. The total number on the Parish Electoral Roll now stood at 125 members. The figures were presented at the 2020 Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on Sunday 25th October 2020 and were duly notified to the Secretaries of the Guildford Diocesan Synod and the Godalming Deanery Synod.

Since the 2020 APCM there have been no further additions to the Electoral Roll and one deletion in respect of someone who has died or moved away. The total number on the St Mary's Electoral Roll, as of 31st December 2020, was 124.

Helen Bendall, Electoral Roll Officer
stmaryschurchcouncil@outlook.com

Other St Mary's Church Links

Individuals, groups and organisations linked to St Mary's Church are listed below.

Bell Ringing:

John Cowburn — jj.cowburn@btinternet.com
01428 685940

Choir / Organist:

Roger Crocker — stmarysmusicdirector48@outlook.com
07713 155805

Helen Bendall — stmarysorganist@outlook.com
07986 127855

Friends of St Mary's:

Rosemary Gorringe — rg@hartland3.plus.com
01428 683518

Churchyard Records & Archives:

Nita Draper — nitadraper@btinternet.com
01428 682052

Church Flowers Organiser:

Mary Doig — marydoig69@gmail.com
01483 200798

Church Room Bookings:

Katherine Hylton — chiddhoop@outlook.com
01428 681379

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults:

Ruth Goddard — stmaryssafeguarding@outlook.com
01428 683925

Beverley Giles — stmaryschidd@btinternet.com

Parish Magazine:

Anne Sheppard — Anne.Sheppard@btinternet.com

Tony Wiener — tony.wiener1@gmail.com

St Mary's Church of England Primary School:

School Office — admin2@stmarys-godalming.surrey.sch.uk
01428 683115

To know Christ better, to make Christ better known

Annual Report
for the year ended 31st December 2020

Approved by the Members and signed on their behalf by:

Signed:

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 25th April 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MARY'S, CHIDDINGFOLD

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages (v) to (ix), is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3 (3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ("the Regulations") and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner:

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3 (3) and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of this 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 Church Guidance 2001 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. 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 item or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you, as trustees, concerning any such matters. The procedures taken do not include 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 cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

28 February 2021

Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF

A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner