



St. Mary's Church
C h i d d i n g f o l d

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

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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	Oli Shepherd	Louise Taylor
	James Parton	Catherine Stovold	Gilly van Oppen
	Chris Ryan		
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
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'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

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.



Games Night!

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.



Baking bread, learning the stories, sculpting, playing games and asking big questions!

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.

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!



Celebration of Revd Gill Welford's ministry



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

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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:

 <p>The Children's Society</p> <p>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.</p>	 <p>Christian Aid</p> <p>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.</p>	 <p>The Trussell Trust</p> <p>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.</p>
 <p>The Royal British Legion</p> <p>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.</p>	 <p>UNICEF</p> <p>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.</p>	 <p>Oxfam</p> <p>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.</p>
 <p>Midhurst Macmillan</p> <p>Midhurst Macmillan provides specialist palliative care support to patients and families in this area affected by complex life limiting illness.</p>	 <p>Winston's Wish</p> <p>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.</p>	 <p>Crossways Counselling</p> <p>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.</p>
 <p>St. Mary's CofE Primary School</p> <p>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.</p>	 <p>Refugees at Home</p> <p>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.</p>	 <p>The Hunter Centre</p> <p>The Hunter Day Care Centre in Haslemere provides care, companionship and stimulation for people living with a dementia diagnosis.</p>

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

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.



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



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 waste 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.

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.



Parish Communion during the Flower Festival

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 Gorringer
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 breach 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.

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.



Fr Raj's farewell service

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.

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!



Open the Book Assembly

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
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Church Room Bookings

Elizabeth Ottley	stmarysbookingsclerk@outlook.com	01428 685797
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Wedding Administrator

Tracy Verrier	stmarysweddingclerk@outlook.com
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Bell-ringing

John Cowburn	jj.cowburn@btinternet.com	01428 685940
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Choir / Organist

Helen Bendall	stmarysorganist@outlook.com	07986 127855
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Church Flowers Organiser

Mary Doig	marydoig69@gmail.com
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Friends of St. Mary's

Rosemary Gorringer	rg@hartland3.plus.com	01428 683518
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Churchyard Records & Archives

Jane Bradford	j.bradford59@hotmail.co.uk
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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
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**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
C h i d d i n g f o l d

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**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
FIXED ASSETS	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
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)	<u>-787</u>	<u>71,976</u>	<u>-2,114</u>	<u>53,807</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		71,976		53,807
REPRESENTED BY				
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	60,899		41,372	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>11,077</u>	<u>71,976</u>	<u>12,435</u>	<u>53,807</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		71,976		53,807

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
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)	<u>-140,295</u>		<u>-129,447</u>	
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	<u>19,527</u>	<u>19,527</u>	<u>-9,157</u>	<u>-9,157</u>
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	<u>-2,560</u>		<u>0</u>	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	<u>4,634</u>	4,634	<u>6,839</u>	6,839
CAMPBELL-ORDE BEQUEST				
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	<u>2,000</u>	2,000	<u>2,000</u>	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	<u>4,085</u>		<u>0</u>	
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	<u>2,250</u>	2,250	<u>2,250</u>	2,250
BELLS & ORGAN REPAIR FUND				
BALANCE B/F @ 1 JANUARY	1,346			
DONATIONS VARIOUS	847			
BALANCE C/FWD @ 31 DECEMBER	<u>2,193</u>	2,193	<u>1,346</u>	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

<u>Notes</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
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

<u>Notes</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>£</u>
7 RESOURCES EXPENDED				
MINISTRY				
PARISH SHARE	75,000		60,000	
MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	<u>2,709</u>	77,709	<u>3,732</u>	63,732
SERVICES				
WORSHIP MATERIALS	2,897		2,679	
ORGANIST & CHOIR	4,037		3,774	
YOUTH	<u>5,388</u>	12,322	<u>3,967</u>	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	<u>4,480</u>	24,396	<u>0</u>	28,671
CHURCH ROOM RUNNING EXPENSES	<u>1,288</u>	1,288	<u>1,752</u>	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)	<u>662</u>	10,942	<u>248</u>	13,475
MAGAZINE EXPENSES	<u>8,638</u>	8,638	<u>8,897</u>	8,897
OUTREACH SUPPORT (Note 8)	<u>5,000</u>	5,000	<u>2,500</u>	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

<u>Notes</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
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	<u>500.00</u>	2,000.00	<u>250.00</u>	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	<u>0.00</u>	2,000.00	<u>200.00</u>	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)	<u>0.00</u>	1,000.00	<u>250.00</u>	750.00
RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>	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)	<u>147.00</u>	793.00	<u>147.00</u>	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: 

The Revd Dr Rachel Greene, Rector

Dated: 11th May 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S CHIDDINGFOLD

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

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Maple House
2 Woodberry Close
Chiddingfold
Surrey GU8 4SF



A Kelly FCA
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

10/3/25