

**Parish Church of St. Georges  
with St Mary Magdalene, Barbourne,  
Worcester Annual Report and Financial  
Statement  
of the Parochial Church Council for the year  
ended  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**





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## **Introduction**

The Parish Church of St Georges with St Mary Magdalene is part of the Diocese of Worcester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Claines Parish Hall, Cornmeadow Lane, Worcester, WR3 7NY.

The Parochial Church Council is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Number 1128943). Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are either ex-officio or elected annually by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

## **Church Officers**

**Standing Committee:**  
**Priest in Charge**  
**Churchwardens**  
**PCC Secretary**

Reverend Sarah Carwardine from June 2024  
Trish Greenwood & Margaret Stokes  
Lyn Crowther

**PCC Treasurer**  
**Elected Member**

Trish Greenwood  
Alex New

**Ministry Team:**  
**Priest in Charge**  
**Associate Priest**  
**Associate Priest**  
**Licensed Lay Ministers**

Reverend Sarah Carwardine from June 2024  
Reverend Jennie Hayward  
Reverend Peter Davies  
Jan Kear & Rachel Cramp

**Authorised Lay Ministers**

Alison Clarke & Lyn Crowther

**Parish Administrator**  
**Health & Safety Officer**  
**Electoral Roll Officer**  
**Data Protection Officer**

Tammara Adams  
Robert Rolison  
Trish Greenwood  
Lyn Crowther

**Safeguarding Officer**  
**Children's Worship**  
**Independent Examiner**

Lyn Crowther & Anthony Corfield  
Elisabeth Witter  
Douglas B Lee

## **PCC MEMBERSHIP at the end of 2023-2024 term**

### ***Ex-Officio***

Reverend Sarah Carwardine  
Patricia Greenwood  
Margaret Stokes

Chair from June 2024

### ***Elected Members (up to 9)***

Robert Rolison (2026)  
Christopher Bishop (2025)  
Lyn Crowther (2025)  
Pam Summers (2026)  
Alex New (2026) – Lay Vice Chair

### ***Deanery Synod Members***

Sue Cottam

The appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and may stand for election to the PCC. The work of the PCC is carried out at regular meetings, throughout the year. In addition regular Standing Committee meetings have been held, comprising the Vicar or Chair, Wardens, PCC Secretary, PCC Treasurer and one other elected member.

## **PCC STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT**

The work of the PCC was also undertaken through meetings of various sub-groups:

**Standing Committee**

**Ministry Team**

When they have met, these groups have provided regular reports to the full PCC meetings, in addition to reports from the Deanery Synod representatives.

## **ELECTORAL ROLL - Barbara Rolison**

The Church electoral roll is the register of electors for the parish. In the same way that being on the civic Electoral Roll allows you to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the Church Electoral Roll means that you can vote on Church matters, attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC. In 2025 the electoral roll has been completely refreshed, and everyone has been required to re-apply to be on the roll.



At the time of the APCM there were 54 members on the roll. Of these, 24 were resident in the parish and 30 non-resident.

## **MINISTRY REPORTS**

### **WORK OF THE PARISH- Reverend Sarah Carwardine**

2024 started with the church in vacancy and, as I understand it, run by a very capable team of people and supported by visiting clergy. It seems only right to begin this report by thanking the whole ministry team, Rev Peter, Rev Jennie, Jan, Rachel, Alison & Lyn for continuing the ministry of the church in a period of vacancy so well. They were of course also well supported by Margaret and Tricia who stepped into the warden roles last year and Alex as lay chair. Thanks is also extended to all the visiting clergy who supported the church during this time.

My licensing service was on 5th June at St George's with a wonderful Joint Service of celebration on Sunday 9th June at Claines. Both of these services were so lovely, and I'd like to extend my personal thanks to all who worked to make the services what they were and all who came long to both. I received such a warm welcome from both churches as I began, and I have felt well supported through my first 7 months in post. Thank you.

### **Working Together**

Once I'd started, we began hold joint services on the 5th Sundays. These have been uplifting times that we have shared together, and they have been well received. Over the Christmas period, Claines, St George's and St Stephens united together along with other ecumenical churches to sing carols at care homes and sheltered accommodations,

visiting Homenash House, Fernhill House, The Belmont, Noele Court, St Stephen's, The Willows and Northwick Grange bringing much festive cheer to the community around us!

A lent course and an advent course were run jointly across Claines, St George's and St Stephens with each church well represented. These were good times of coming together, breaking down barriers more and pursuing God together.

Looking to 2025, we look forward to joining with St Stephen's too for 5th Sundays as Rev Lindsey and I formally become associates in one another's churches.

### **Children's Work**

Our monthly youth group has gone from strength to strength during 2024. There are 12 members of the youth group, and almost all attend every month. The group rotates around the churches and is leading the way in how we work together well. The group was started by Becky a couple of years ago and Becky, alongside Helen Laird (Jan-Nov) worked so hard to make sure it continued to happen this year. This was supported by Rev Lindsey and myself, as well as two other brilliant volunteers, Elisabeth and Rachel.

A children's group is offered twice a month during the main Sunday worship which is they all seem to enjoy. Special thanks to Helen, Lyn, Elisabeth, Becky and Pam for ensuring that this continues to happen.

Helen Laird felt the nudge of the Holy Spirit to apply for a job with the URC and left us on 30th November after being in post for 13 months. We're so grateful for all that she accomplished in the time she was here and wish her well for her new post. We began the process to employ someone new quickly and managed to interview for the post in

November. We changed the job title from 'worker' to 'minister' in recognition that it is an important ministerial role and are delighted that Heather Murphy will be joining us as our new Children, Youth and Families Minister in February 2025.

Our schools work continued to flourish throughout the year with huge thanks to Helen, Barbara, Pam and Alison for all their work with St George's primary school. The school come into the church regularly for different occasions and they are always well received, we love having the relationship with the school that we do and will be looking to strengthen that even more in 2025. Connections were built and strengthen with the Riverside PRU also during 2024, and again we look to build on this in the coming years.

### **Occasional Offices**

Baptism and Wedding packs were redesigned once I started, and we look to increase the number of offices we get at St George's. I've done one baptism at St George's during the year, and Peter took a wedding there the weekend I started! I'm so deeply grateful to the Mother's Union who are so supportive at the baptisms we do – thank you so much! I know your work is such a blessing to the families who come in. The church has supported a few families through times of bereavement this year and we've had several funerals.

### **Worship**

I have been truly blessed to arrive and to find such talented musicians at St George's and I would like to extend special thanks to Sue Ashby and Des George who lead the majority of our services musically. It's been wonderful to see them joined by accompaniments many times too, so a big thank you to the other musicians within the church who really help to lift our worship.

Café Church is a newer form of church, but one that reaches children and families in a way that maybe a traditional Sunday Service doesn't, and I'm so delighted to see how well this is run. The Café Church team do such a great job, so thank you to all those who've been involved in this; although I don't get to come along often, I hear about it every month and I'm so pleased with how it's going.

Sunday worship that happens in the church comes in a wide variety from a Morning Praise service to a Celtic Communion. Each form of worship is valid in its own right and each gives us that time with God that we all need. I'm enormously grateful to the ministry team who run so many of these services and enable everyone to meet with God in the space we have in different and creative ways.

### **Thank you!**

I couldn't list all the people I'd like to thank, it'd fill a book already, but I am so so grateful to everyone who serves our church in anyway, there is a whole army of people who keep this church running and half of them you wouldn't even know about. My deepest thank you to everything that you do and the part you play for our community, it is so appreciated.

### **Looking to the Future**

2025 will be an exciting year for us, and I'm eagerly anticipating all that God might have planned for us! I'm looking forward to working more closely with Rev Lindsey and to Heather starting in post. I'm also very much looking forward to our PCC away in March as Claines and St George's, and I'm excited to start discerning God's vision for us as Churches.

## **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT- Trish Greenwood & Margaret Stokes**

Churchwardens Report Following our election in April last year, our first unofficial duty on the 5th. June was to welcome and take part in the licensing of the Rev. Sarah as Priest in Charge of St. George's Church here in Barbourne and St. John the Baptist Church, Claines. Our official admission and licensing by the Archdeacon, to the office of Churchwarden was held at Malvern Priory on 11th. July, supported by Rev. Sarah and Alex New. Having been given the Archdeacons Charge, we declared we would 'faithfully and diligently perform the duties and office of churchwarden and serve for the coming year to the best of our skills and understanding.' Each month we meet with Sarah and the churchwardens of Claines church for an informal meeting, this helps us all to have an understanding of the two churches and their ministry. As wardens we attend the Standing Committee which meets prior to PCC meetings to set the agenda and can also meet and act in an emergency situation. We have this year, arranged for the Quinquennial inspection to take place, consult with our insurance company, and have worked to get other administration up to date, This, has been done with the unstinting help and support from all members of the church council, together with members of the congregation. We have an amazing team --- thank you. Our year will end with the 'Archdeacon's Visitation'. Following our APCM we will again meet with the Archdeacon,

where we present the financial and annual reports and share in an informal way our past, present and future ministry together. Trish Greenwood Margaret Stokes

### **Inventory**

This has been checked and found to be in good order.

## **Fabric, Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture - Robert Rolison**

### **Church Fabric and Fixtures:**

- Clock had annual service.
- All gutters cleaned.
- Quinquennial inspection carried out.
- 5 yearly Electrical inspection carried out.
- Weekly maintenance continues with ongoing repairs, mending, fixing, signage etc.  
eg:-
  - Put up 3 pictures in the office.
  - Replace vestry locks.
  - Connected the microphone on the lectern to the XLR socket in the adjacent grating.
  - Replace fire extinguishers.
  - Tightened the castor wheels on the altar.

### **Magdalene Room Fabric and Fixtures:**

- Replaced the smashed glass in the bottom panel in the door into the quiet garden.

- Replaced fire extinguishers.
- Replaced cabin hook on the Magdalene door.
- Archived some old paperwork into the small Magdalene loft.
- Moved many items from the resources cupboard into small Magdalene loft
- Fitted new push plate to door to porch.
- Paper dispenser in 1st toilet re-fixed to the wall.
- Tightened loose door handle on one of the porch doors.
- Replaced all spotlights in Magdalene room with LED types, and replaced both of the outside (flood) lights on the Magdalene Room also with LED types.
- The gutters on the porch have been adjusted so they actually slope, and therefore drain correctly!
- Back door made to fit better, so making it easier to lock.
- Re-positioned the lower shelf in the resources cupboard, so that the mic stands and amplifiers can be stored there, vastly improving the floor space.
- Lubricated wheels on kitchen trolley.

#### **Other:**

- First bench in the quiet garden was mended.
- The fan in the boiler room toilet was replaced.

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY - Robert Rolison**

The Fire extinguishers were replaced.

The access to the office has been identified as needing a hand rail. Faculty in progress, with Chris Bishop.



## **SAFEGUARDING-**



### **Safeguarding Report - By Anthony Corfield**

The PCC are committed to abide by the Church of England's safeguarding guidance to ensure we are protecting our children, young people and vulnerable adults. The safeguarding policy was signed on 16th January 2024 and reviewed and signed again by the PCC on 27 th January 2025. Lyn Crowther remains as the Parish Safeguarding Officer and she is your first contact for any safeguarding concerns. If you have any sort of query or concern then please raise it with her, even if you think it is of little significance. Following Mark Hugill needing to step back from the Administrative role and my relocation to being back in Worcester I have now become the Parish Safeguarding Administrator. I wish to thank Mark, and Lyn for their support and guidance as I have taken on this role.

I have continued to process DBS checks for participants in church activities involving children and vulnerable adults, and tracking progress in several areas on the Safeguarding Portal. The Portal now includes an area for people management including monitoring role requirements and the various checks and training that are needed. This is a work in progress to build up this database of information but once in place will be a useful aide.

The Diocesan Office has continued to be a valuable source of support and guidance to achieve this aim. The audit last Summer of safeguarding practices in the Diocese of Worcester and Worcester Cathedral has highlighted good practice and commended the 'solid foundation for a safeguarding culture that prioritises the well-being of individuals

and fosters a safer environment for everyone in the diocese. As a church we should ensure we comply with the Church of England's Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance so that we are protecting our children, young people and vulnerable adults. Anyone running or supervising a church activity should please seek guidance and support from either myself or Lyn. The DBS checks and training can seem daunting at times but we will do what we can to make it as straightforward as possible.

## **DATA PROTECTION**

There have been no instances of data breaching. Good GDPR practice is followed.

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

.....

.....

Date:

## **ACTIVITIES OF THE PARISH**

**POG (Path of God) The Joint churches Youth Group** has continued to meet monthly, moving around the three churches in turn: Claines, St George's and St Stephen's. The numbers of young people has been growing and everyone enjoys the range of themes, games and activities and the lovely food they share, s'mores being a particular favourite! Helen Laird, Becky Lowe and Elisabeth Witter have led these sessions with support from Rev Sarah, Rev Lindsey and Rachel.

### **Schools Report - Louise Norris (Headteacher)**

The link between St. George's Cof E School and Church continues to be a strong one. The school is very grateful for the support of our foundation governors and the church community in general. Special appreciation to Pam Summers who has just retired following 8 years as a governor. We really appreciate everything she has done and are pleased that she will continue to come into school to help out. Barbara, Alison and Mike continue as St George's representatives on the governing body. We have a PCC vacancy which we will be advertising soon.

Each term we attend major festival services in church. Harvest and Easter are led by the whole school while Remembrance and Candlemas are led by year 6. The key stages take turns at Christmas; this term it was the turn of key stage 2. Parents continue to enjoy the services and it's always wonderful to be able to join together in worship as a whole community. The harvest festival earlier in the academic year resulted in a variety of food, toiletries and clothing being donated to Maggs, the local homeless charity.

The classes continue to make visits to church as part of R.E. They enjoy the opportunity to explore and ask questions. They also enjoy trips to the quiet garden to explore and spend time reflecting. They also enjoy quizzing members of the church on what their faith means to them! Last year's kind donation of money to support buying resources for RE has made a big difference. We have bought a selection of Bibles for the library such as the graphic Bible and Minecraft Bible, some additional books to support the teaching of RE about various religions and some class sets of Bibles for children to use in RE. A huge thank you to the PCC for their generous donation!

We would also like to say thank you for our lovely knitted teddies which were recently donated to the members of our Reception class. The children were delighted to receive them. Thank you to the knitters!

We have continued our work on developing our collective worship. The Open the Book team are a key part of this and the children enjoy the interactive stories. It's also always a pleasure to welcome various church members: Rev Sarah, Barbara and Pam, to lead collective worship. I think it's really key that the children feel this connection with members of the church to consolidate their sense of community.

The school was inspected under the SIAMS framework in October and I am pleased to say we were confirmed as being an effective church school. The report was positive while also outlining areas for development. These were already part of our school improvement plan, so we continue to develop a shared understanding of how our vision undermines the whole of school life. Our vision is of a welcoming, inclusive community based on Romans 12: v4 -6. For us this expressed succinctly in the following:

### **Believe, Belong, Flourish**

We **believe** in ourselves, each other and have faith.

We **belong** because we all have a place in our school community.

We **flourish** when we use our strengths to be the best we can.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all those associated with St George's Church who help and support us at school. We greatly appreciate everyone's on-going support and prayers and are proud to be part of the St George's family.

### **THE ALTAR GUILD - Sacristy (Trish Greenwood)**

The Lord's Table is prepared each Sunday by a team of ladies. The team consists of Judith Peachey, Carolyn Corfield and myself. We cover for each other if need be should one of us be ill or away.

The silver is polished, candles checked, wine and wafers put ready with the linen. All is made ready for the Eucharist Assistant to put on the altar on Sunday morning. Thank you, ladies, for all you do, and covering for me if I'm away.

Put your heart and soul into every activity you do, as though you are doing it for the Lord himself and not merely for others. Colossians 3: 23-24

### **CHURCH & MAGDALENE ROOM BOOKINGS - Barbara Rolison**

This year there have been many enquiries and an increase in bookings. Thank you for the continuing support of Trish and Bob. Hire charges remain the same, with necessary rises imminent, due to increased costs.

## **Church**

The highlight of the year was the licensing service for Rev. Sarah Carwardine an evening for celebration and thanksgiving!

Church services are held weekly and weekly silent prayer includes a monthly Holy Communion.

There were many joyful occasions with Infant Baptisms and a Wedding in the summer.

There was a service for Women's World Day of Prayer and a meeting of the Deanery Synod.

The Christmas services were plentiful, and the annual carol concert was appreciated.

- The Vestry office is a base for Children Youth and Family Ministry and for PCC meetings.
- A Ceilidh was held in October and greatly enjoyed.
- Two local Piano teachers held annual pupil concerts.
- Opera Worcester gave a most enjoyable concert.
- Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra continue to hire the church weekly, for rehearsals.
- Kingdom Arts continues monthly with a diverse programme and a soup lunch.
- Saint George's school were able to hold school services for Candlemas, celebrated in February, and Year 6 Leavers, Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas services.
- The free lunchtime concert organised by Shulah Oliver, continues on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month at 1.00pm and many regular and new visitors are welcomed to our lovely Church and 2 family concerts were very popular. There is a regular donation to church funds.

## **Magdalene Hall**

The Hall, kitchen and toilet facilities are admired when people look around for a venue. A warm welcome to Plamena our regular weekly cleaner with thanks for her thoroughness and cooperation and thank you to Kathy, who was our cleaner until recently.

Eco cleaning and recycled products are bought in bulk when possible.

All year hirers take regular classes both during the day and in the evening namely: -

- Squirrels [small Sea Scouts]
- Me-time Pilates, Pilates Therapy, Core Pilates and Pilates For All
- Stay Young Yoga, Yoga with Shelley
- Lynlees Dance classes
- Classical Guitar Society. who also gave a summer concert in the quiet Garden.
- There were party bookings both for two Baptisms, seven children's birthday parties, several adult birthdays, [plus a Christmas party] and a Wake.
- It was used twice as a polling station.
- The Local Artists hired the hall for two days for a Christmas fair.
- A more unusual booking was for a Nursery School "prom".

There is regular use on Sundays for children's worship, Café church, refreshments and the Youth group.

The Mothers Union hold monthly meetings in the church and the Hall.

Kingdom Arts serve a Soup lunch after their monthly meeting.

I have been booking secretary since 2020 and I will endeavour to continue for a further year, while I still have the energy to relish the challenge!

Barbara Rolison [stgbookingsec@gmail.com](mailto:stgbookingsec@gmail.com)

### **FLOWER GUILD - Jan Tovey**

Each week I arrange or tidy the flowers in church and go in 2-3 times to give them a drink.

Easter and Christmas are still the biggest challenge, when I must rely on my immediate family for help – for which I am most thankful.

Our main event this year was the installation of Sarah, our Vicar – as Priest in Charge of St George's with St Mary Magdalene – a wonderful occasion which demanded a little more in the way of flowers.

Thank you for your generous donations toward the special festivals, it is much appreciated.

It is becoming increasingly obvious that my time serving the church in this way is coming to an end, and I would urge anyone interested in taking over to come forward soon.

I would continue to support you in any way I can.

### **FOODBANK - Lyn Crowther**

At both churches we support Worcester Foodbank by giving a regular supply of both food and essential household goods. Financial support is also given from church funds and



from individuals. Both churches give support from volunteers either working in the warehouse or as delivery drivers. December 2024 saw record numbers needing the services of the Foodbank as well as during peak times of the year such as school holidays. The increased opening times of 2022 have continued into 2024 and it looks as if they will be needed for the foreseeable future. The premises are being extended into the former salon services in the near future which will give much needed increased capacity. In the meantime, our regular giving of food, goods, time and money are essential to the ongoing work of the Foodbank here in Worcester. A heartfelt thanks to you all.

## **OPEN THE BOOK - Barbara Rolison**

The Open the Book team, part of the Bible Society, now has 5 members. Pam Summers, Sue Cottam, Helen Gilbert, Chris Graham and me. We were fortunate that Helen Laird was a trainer, and she held a Core Training session in person for several groups of storytellers [renewable every 3 years online!]. We then registered with Open the book, had DBS checks and were each able to purchase the **new** Storyteller Bible and ring binder of stories. [Full membership £20 per annum, associate £5]. There are regular updates by email.

We visit St George's School each half term for Monday Collective Worship, to tell a story and offer a reflection and prayers. The children in year 6 have enthusiastically joined the cast when necessary!

### **QUEST BEREAVEMENT GROUP- Tricia Greenwood**

The group is for someone who has lost a loved one and can chat to others in a similar position. The numbers have stayed at a steady 15 including. We meet every third Thursday of the month for tea and cake.

Unfortunately we did not have outings in 2024 and they were certainly missed. We will rectify this for 2025! We did have our Christmas Meal at the New Inn which was well accepted. They look after us very well. If you are interested in joining the group or having a chat please contact Trish for more details. 01905 28580

### **PARISH MUSIC - Alison Clarke**

Saint George's church continues to be a great venue for musical activities. Throughout the year there are free lunch time concerts where a variety of musical genres can be experienced through the generosity of the musicians. The popular Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra continues to rehearse here and the Magdalen Room is host to a guitar group.

The versatility of the church building allows family ceilidhs to take place. These have proved very popular with encouragement from our caller Elisabeth Witter, and Folk Music

evenings occur with our home grown folk group 'Five For Silver,' with proceeds generally going towards Christian Aid or the Food Bank.

This year our normal Christmas Choir was unable to rehearse and sing for the carol service, due to Elisabeth being out of action. That was sorely missed, but hopefully we will be back on track for next Christmas.

The music for services varies in style depending on who is playing. We include modern worship songs along with the more traditional favourites and hope that all tastes are catered for. Alison is working on a new selection for Volume 2 - Café Church Songbook, to keep us up to date with current songs.

Thanks go to Alison, Des, Sue and Trevor, Frances, Elisabeth, Rory and occasionally Gwenda, for their contribution to worship. Instruments include piano, organ, clarinet, flute and drums. Alas, because the musicians are mostly involved with other church commitments it is a rare treat for us to play together.

We are always on the lookout for musicians willing to join in with music making, as music is a very important and sensitive part of worship involving prayerful preparation and dedication.

Sue Ashby

## **KINGDOM ARTS - Alex New & Sue Ashby-Davies**

It has been another full and exciting year at Kingdom Arts. We are grateful to God for what he has taught us, for the people who have joined us in this special community and for the support and encouragement we receive from one another.

After a time of worship, we share the theme for the morning. This always guides our thoughts and fashions our creative activities. This year we are looking at the work and

lives of some Christian artists and also the stories behind some of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Christian Martyrs depicted in stone statues at Westminster Abbey. After being creative for the morning we have a time of sharing and it is wonderful to hear from people what they have learnt during this time or what God may have put on their hearts to share. The creative writing that people produce is very special and a very encouraging and exciting part of the morning. Do look at the website and see what is produced each month. ([www.kingdom-arts.co.uk](http://www.kingdom-arts.co.uk))

This year in November, we celebrated the start of our 10<sup>th</sup> year of Kingdom Arts. We exchanged surprise gifts together to mark the occasion. Everyone was encouraged to bring something they had made, stitched, painted or written to give away. What lovely surprises we had!

None of this would happen without the support, love, hard work, commitment and encouragement of the amazingly gifted team. Each member willingly and tirelessly brings their own unique gifts and talents. Barbara and Bob, Clive and Lyn, Jan Butterworth, "Coffee maker" Pam, Trevor, Margaret Stokes, Carolyn. Our morning would not be complete without the delicious soup lunch that our "Super Chef" Jan Kear makes. We are also grateful to David Moore, from St Peters, Ipsley, who helps lead our Worship every month.

We look forward to all that this year may bring to us as we journey together in the creative community that is Kingdom Arts.

**CHRISTIAN AID - Alison Clarke**

‘Everyone is equal in the sight of God.’

‘The unstoppable power of hope’ is how Christian Aid sums up its mission in this 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of its work. Events are being planned nationally and locally to mark this special year.

As a Christian Aid Emergency Church, St George’s is able to respond quickly in times of need. In October 2024, with need horrendously increased in Gaza, you donated generously to Christian Aid’s Middle East Crisis appeal.

In May at St George’s, our invited speaker at our Christian Aid Week Café Church was Batanai Padya (church engagement and fundraising officer for CA in the Midlands). We focussed on Burundi, where we learnt about Aline, victim of an abusive marriage and torn from her children. We learned how, with Christian Aid’s help, she was able to acquire new skills, make a fresh start and welcome back her children. Your prayers, gifts and campaigning make such a difference. At Claines your church collection raised £86.50. Thank you! At St George’s we raised £750.67 through a folk concert and church collection. Thank you!

To get involved with Christian Aid activities or to find out more, please speak to Alison Clarke [clarke.alison@gmail.com](mailto:clarke.alison@gmail.com)

## **LEGACIES - MAKING A LASTING DIFFERENCE**

Only five per cent of people in the UK have left a gift for a charity in their will, and yet

legacies are the largest single source of income for many charities in this country today. Once you have provided for your family and friends, leaving a gift to St. George's Church will ensure that our work can continue for many years to come.

Legacies have over the years, and thanks to the generosity of those who have made bequests, contributed greatly to the work and mission of St. George's church. The PCC appreciates all bequests both large and small. There are many types of gifts that can be made:

***Pecuniary legacy*** – a cash gift of any size.

***Specific legacy*** – items of value such as property, a car or jewellery.

***Residuary bequest*** – balance of your estate after all debts, taxes, expenses and other legacies have been paid.

All legacies are tax free. If you make such a gift in your will, its value will be deducted from your estate before inheritance tax is calculated. If you are thinking about leaving a legacy or have already remembered us in your will, we would love to talk to you about it; everything you say will be treated in the strictest confidence. We would then have the opportunity to thank you for your generosity. When considering leaving a legacy, we recommend that you consult a Solicitor who will be able to give you specialist advice according to your own individual circumstances.

**PCC of St George with St Mary Magdalene, Worcester  
Accounts  
For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

**Independent examiner's report to the members of the Parochial Church Council of  
The Ecclesiastic Parish of Saint George with Saint Mary Magdalene, Worcester.  
Charity Number 1128943**

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2023

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner**

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissions (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the



**The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of  
Saint George with Saint Mary Magdalene, Worcester  
Charity Number 1128943  
Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds £ note 4	Designated Funds £ note 5	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	2023 £
	Note						
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>2</b>						
Voluntary income		35451	20923	440		56814	115597
Activities for generating funds		4414				4414	4552
Church activities		13128				13128	13281
Income from Investments			96			96	1443
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>52993</b>	<b>21019</b>	<b>440</b>		<b>74452</b>	<b>134873</b>
<b>RESOURCES USED</b>	<b>3</b>						
Fund Raising costs		1306				1306	1147
Mission & Charitable giving		5000				5000	4247
Church Activities		63628	459			64087	60464
Legacies							
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>		<b>69934</b>	<b>459</b>			<b>70393</b>	<b>65858</b>



The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of  
Saint George with Saint Mary Magdalene, Worcester  
Charity Number 1128943  
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	2023 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>							
Investments	7				3280	3280	3210
		0			3280	3280	3210
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>							
Debtors and Prepayments		4873				4873	2605
Short term deposits			74675	13443		88118	88119
Cash at Bank		25830	18274			44104	43095
		30703	92949	13443		137095	133819
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Amounts falling due within one year	9	5155				5155	4935
		25548	92949	13443		131940	128889
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>							
		25548	92949	13443	3280	135220	132094
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>							
		25548	92949	13443	3280	135220	132094
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>							
Unrestricted Funds		25548				25548	38492
Designated/Restricted Funds			92949	13443		106392	90392
Endowment Funds					3280	3280	3210
		25548	92949	13443	3280	135220	132094

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 18.03.25 and signed on its behalf by

Rev. S Carwardine  
PCC Chair  
S. Carwardine

P A Greenwood  
Treasurer  
P Greenwood

**Parochial Church Council of Saint George with Saint Mary Magdalene**  
**Charity Number 1128943**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for the investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

**Funds**

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated by the PCC for a particular purpose are also unrestricted. Endowment funds are funds of which the capital must be maintained. Only the income from the investment may be used as unrestricted income.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust, donation or grant received for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

**Incoming resources**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Realised gains or losses on investments are recognized when the investment is sold. Unrealised gains or losses on investments are accounted for in the valuation of the investments at the year end.

**Resources expended**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is



**The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of  
Saint George with Saint Mary Magdalene, Worcester  
Charity Number 1128943  
Notes to the Financial statement for the year ended 31 December 2024**

2 INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2024 2023 £ £	
Voluntary income						
Planned giving:						
Gift Aid Donations	23,101				23,101	26,308
Tax recoverable	6,596				6,596	7,150
Non gift aid	4,095				4,095	4,100
Collections (open plate) at all services	1,001				1,001	1,184
Sundry Donations	658	704	385		1,747	1,739
Legacies		20,219			20,219	75,116
WCC Grants						
Organ Fund				55	55	
	35,451	20,923	440		56,814	115,597
Activities for generating funds						
Fund raising	4,414				4,414	4,412
Traidcraft					0	140
	4,414				4,414	4,552

Church Activities



The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of  
Saint George with Saint Mary Magdalene, Worcester  
Charity Number 1128943

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	2023 £
Fundraising Costs	1306				1306	1147
Missionary & Charitable giving						
Overseas						
Home	4250				4250	
Other Charities	750				750	4247
	5000				5000	4247
Legacies						
Church Activities						
Ministry:						
Diocesan Parish Share	28170				28170	26828
Ministry Support Fund	0				0	0
Clergy expenses	348				348	962
Visiting Clergy	0				0	123
Music and Worship	3448				3448	3210
Church buildings						
Running expenses	7282				7282	4487





**The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of  
Saint George with Saint Mary Magdalene, Worcester  
Charity Number 1128943**

**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024**

6	Fixed Assets used by the PCC	None	None
7	UK Investments	Market Value	Market Value
	Endowment Funds comprise four funds held in the name of The Worcester Diocesan Trust Registered (as Trustees), for the PCC:-	2024 £	2023 £
	The CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund 6896.96 Income Share -Charity for Ecclesiastical Purposes		66
	The CBF Church of England Investment Fund - 55 Income Shares Bequest of the late Emily Hughes for Assistant Clergy	1272	1,243
	The CBF Church of England Investment Fund -79 Income Shares T A Jones Discretionary Trust	1827	1,786
	The CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	181 <u>3,280</u>	181 <u>3,210</u>
8	Debtors: Amounts falling due withing one year	2024	2023
	Income tax recoverable	2,272	£ 2,386
	Debtors	2,601	219