



Annual Report 2022



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There are so many wonderful people here at St James that we must give thanks to God for. Everyday their loving kindness and selfless service is on show for all to see that the spirit of God is alive and bearing fruit in our church family.

We must give thanks for each and every member of our church family and give especial encouragement to those in positions of leadership: for the members of the Parish Church Council, leaders of the groups and activities listed in this annual report, our Church Wardens (Patrick Wallis and Steve Harrison), retired Clergy (John Henson and Dorothy Chapman), and our Lay Readers (Danielle Brown and Chris Childs).

We also give thanks for our church staff Claire Chambers, Paul Chapman and Chris Childs.

And we give thanks for the many volunteers who ensure the church looks good inside and out, guests are made to feel welcome, tea is poured and our Sunday Services run smoothly whether you volunteer on the sound desk, read the bible, pick up the pew sheets or serve in Kid's Church.

We see you and we love what you do in service of our Lord.

Thank you for being part of the St James Church family. Thank you for giving generously of your time, your talent, and your tithe. Thank you for being committed in prayer for the people, work and mission of our church.

THANK YOU!



View from the Vicarage

Dear Church Family,

Here's a bit of what's been going on this past year at St James.

Kid's Church started up again in January. I went out with the children and a couple helpers to give the children their own space to relate to one another and relate to God. The phrase "light up tomorrow, with the love, hope, and joy of Jesus today" was adopted as a strap line for Kid's Church. Since then, more volunteers have come forward and we're able to run Kid's church three Sundays each month without the vicar leaving the service!

Many of you enjoyed attending and bringing guests to the January Cheese and Wine evening, where Jacqui Pierrepont led us through the tasting of wines, and I shared some of my story from "RAF to Rev'd." as well as my love for cheese. At this event we launched Alpha again at St James and welcomed 6 guests who attended and completed Alpha.

Easter Celebrations included the Easter Fun Day on Holy Saturday complete with Bouncy Castle and Bouncy Slide, bunting across the church lawn, pop-up café, and a Easter trail including a trip into church for prayer stations. And then on Easter Sunday a not-quite Sun Rise service at Gedling Country Park Beacon, followed by a Holy Communion service and an All Age Celebration with outdoor baptism.

Seeing the crew yard filled with people enjoying the celebrations was a joy to behold.

After Easter we began Thursday CONNECT, which soon became Tuesday CONNECT! A place in the week at St James to connect with God, connect with one another, and connect with community. It began with a time of worship and prayer as we discerned how God would use this time and space we were creating, and then became a gazebo outside on the church lawn to give out hot drinks over the wall to anyone passing by. With games added and the occasional prayer trail the group continued outside till about October when we moved indoors to the church hall. Continuing the pop-up café and the occasional prayer activity, the group now welcomes a regular crowd of 12-20 of mixed ages, the youngest 4 to the oldest 92??

We held a quiz evening with fish and chips, where again I shared some of my story and invited people to Alpha. This was a lunch time Alpha where 3 guests attended and completed Alpha. The joy of Alpha is seeing those who come as guests take on a role helping to lead the next course, and they all did very well.

At the Jubilee we celebrated with a community celebration and fun afternoon with food, music, crafts for the children, and bouncy castles (which because of the rain went into the church!). This was a fantastic event that welcomed many from across all of the various groups and events hosted by St James through the year.

View from the Vicarage

Led by Lucy Drury and her gifted team, Girls Night Out made a return before the summer break with a "Mama Mia" theme. Welcoming 80 women for a meal and dancing, with the aim of creating a space for women to enjoy food, friendship, and fun together. A second event was held in October "No Guys" and then the Christmas Special "Come and See" with carols and guest speaker sharing the invitation to revisit the gospel story.

The new service pattern which began in September is still to be reviewed (look out for a survey in the Summer), but early feedback has indicated an appreciation for the 9am with the more traditional style and hymns played on the organ, creating space for the contemporary service at 10.30am with kid's church and All Age on the 3rd Sunday.

In September we set up a new worship group, which now has 12 members. Led by Chris Childs and Rachel Forsyth. Many of the group have gone along to the diocese led training days at the Trinity Church Nottingham School of Worship, and we're seeing their confidence increasing as they lead us in our sung worship each week. At Christmas this group formed a choir which sung at both the Girls Night Out Carols and the Carols by Candlelight, we are grateful to Alison Roe who led the group in rehearsals and provided piano accompaniment on these evenings.

Home Group Central took place in September where we looked at our RememberWhen stories. Stories of God at work in our lives that we can share to encourage others to explore and ask questions of faith. Following Home Group Central there have been more people attending home groups, resulting in a new group beginning to accommodate the growing numbers.

In addition to the above...

Drop In For Coffee has been meeting each week after the Thursday Communion Service providing warm welcome to all, a huge thank to Jill Davison who corals the team of setter uppers, cake bakers, and servers. This group serves the community with far more than coffee, cake, and conversation. I suspect it has been a lifeline to many who come each week for companionship and time out of the house in a warm and welcoming space.

The weekly Monday craft group and the monthly Saturday card making are also giving this warm and welcoming space for people from across our community to meet. Many thanks to Chris Atkin who keeps this group in touch with the many activities going on at St James.

Toast Tea and Tots could not function without Susan Day who leads each week, setting up and welcoming 30+ toddlers and their carers into the hall. Not to mention the faithful mothers union volunteers who churn out tea by the bucket loads and enough toast to sustain an army. It always amazes me how each week there's different toys out and a fresh craft activity too.

And then there's each week without the army of volunteers who turn out to make Sunday services happen, both on Sunday and in the week cleaning the church, pottering around the gardens, mending things, polishing the brass. I'm sure the list could go on. Thank you, thank you, thank you! The Lord sees you, and he knows you!

View from the Vicarage

As with any church family, as much as we celebrate there is also sorrow as we have had to say goodbye to people we love. Though it is not a forever goodbye, their going leaves us a little emptier, but their legacy continues as we carry on the mission of the gospel which they served well.

This past year we've welcomed 12 adults and 8 children to regular worship here at St James. It's been a delight to host two welcome events at the vicarage to share the vision here at St James and to invite those coming to worship here to be involved and grow their gifts as they serve within and beyond the church here.

By way of review from all the regular ministries we have at St James, the information from the Prayer Focus booklet has been included. This provides an overview and prayer points for each ministry. January prayer focus has given us an opportunity to review the year and thank God for all he has done through each of us. I commend the write up to you, and encourage you to read this piece of work by Danielle Brown, it really is a brilliant read to see both what God has done, and how he has spoken through all those who prayed, discerned and responded during our January Prayer focus.

Thank you for reading this far and thank you for your partnership in the Gospel.

God bless,

Mike.

P.S. If you have a question to ask the PCC during the APCM it would be helpful to receive it in advance to properly prepare an answer and ask the appropriate person to respond. Please send questions directly to Rev'd. Mike as the chair of the PCC.

Seasonal Verse for St James

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in?
And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not
heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to
them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it
is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good
news!'"

Romans 10:14-15



Growing Disciples Plan

Every church is encouraged to have a Growing Disciples Plan. This plan is a means of assessing how we are doing at meeting the vision we have discerned from God and fitting in with the wider Diocesan vision of Growing Disciples – reaching **Wider** in every community, connecting with **Younger** generations, nurturing **Deeper** roots of faith.

Proverbs 29:18 says that without a vision the people perish. If we don't know where we're going, we'll waste a huge amount of energy. It's a good investment to take the time to understand our vision.



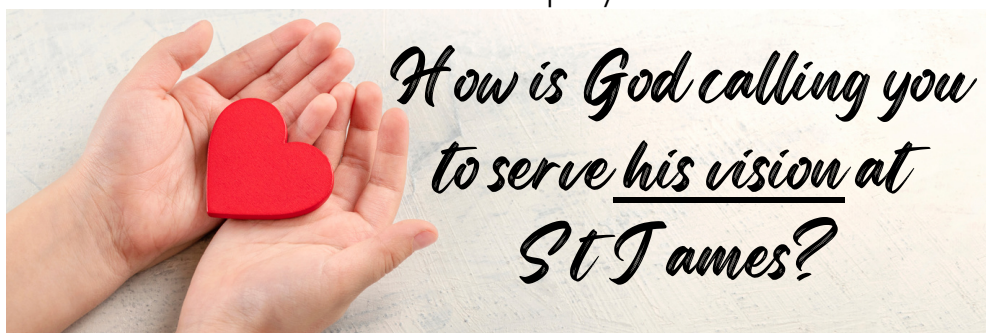
Our vision at St James Porchester, is to be a spirit filled church where Jesus is front and centre as we love our community and support one another to grow more like Jesus, celebrate God's goodness, and share the great news of Jesus.

Our vision has a focus on sharing the good news of Jesus within our community and taking every opportunity to speak of Jesus. This activity begins within our church family, as we begin to share stories of God's faithfulness to us within our church family, we'll begin sharing those stories within our community too. As we become more excited about what God is doing in and through members of our church that will create a greater hunger for more too.

It is as a Spirit filled church, we will do this, not out of our own strength or power. And also, that we want to see Jesus put front and centre in all that we do. Our priority is to enable one another, as disciples of Jesus, to fulfil this vision... and that begins with prayer.

With our vision and to help us know how we're doing, the PCC set a number of outcomes that can be measured as we seek to grow as a church "Younger, Winder, Deeper"

- 1) To re-awaken St James Porchester as a centre of faith and discipleship for the community it serves and welcoming 80 new disciples by 2026.
- 2) To focus particularly on growing new disciples among children, youth and families seeing 25+ new children/youth engaged in weekly life of church by 2026.
- 3) To connect with young adults (between 20-40) in new ways and welcoming them into the life of the church. Seeing 40 young adults engaged in weekly life of church by 2026.
- 4) To establish a discipleship culture with 80% engaged in home groups/similar by 2026
- 5) To establish St James Porchester as a centre for prayer for it's mission and for it's community



Growing Disciples Plan

So, how are we doing?

At the end of 2022, 38 people were in home groups.

In September we ran Home Group Central where 1/3 of the congregation attended.

There has been an increase of 9 children attending church at least once a quarter.

We have run two Alpha Courses with a total of 8 participants completing the course.

5 Young Adults were regularly attending Sunday worship in 2022.

Regular giving has increased through our January 2022 giving campaign and a similar campaign was held in January 2023 to develop the churches culture of generosity.

And though not in 2022, we held January Prayer Focus, gathering the church to pray for it's mission and for our community... Danielle will be sharing during the APCM more from Prayer Focus.



What have we not done in 2022?

We had hoped to appoint a Church Growth Enabler for Children and Families. This is a role to catalyse our ministry in these areas by training and equipping volunteers as well as leading by example.

We know we have gifted people in our congregation and rather than replacing volunteers this person would help by encouraging and enabling us to do more with greater focus. We're still advertising, three years salary has been ringfenced for this post including outside support from the Diocese Strategic Development Fund.

We've struggled with low volunteer numbers in key areas, particularly children and family, and youth. This has placed a greater demand on those volunteers already serving and meant that there has not been capacity to look at additional training and resourcing. We're a bit stretched!

What are some of the priorities for 2023?

- Grow a new worshipping community to reach out to those not currently engaging with church.
- Develop weekly Church for families and young children
- Appoint a Church Growth Enabler with focus on Children and Families
- Create a series of invitational events to reach out to people aged 20-40
- Deliver a rhythm of Alpha as a step-in offer to those engaging with outreach
- Train leaders
- Establish a regular church family prayer time



Agenda for Annual Vestry Meeting and Parochial Church Meeting

This year our meeting will take place within the 10.30am service followed by Holy Communion. Expect times of sung worship and prayer as we celebrate all that God has done for us in 2022 and seek him for 2023. After the “business” of the meeting we’ll complete our service with the kid’s returning for Holy Communion. After the service will be Church Lunch in the hall, please do make every effort to stay and continue the celebration together.

Beginning with Worship

- Opening Worship (led by the Worship Group)
- Bible Reading
- Vicars Address

Annual Vestry Meeting

- 1.Election of Wardens (Rev’d Mike Forsyth)

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

- 1.Election of members of the PCC (Rev’d Mike Forsyth)
- 2.Presentation from the Church Treasurer (Steve Harrison)
- 3.Highlights from 2022
 - Lucy Drury and Jill Davison “the party organisers”
 - Paul Chapman and John Oliver “a sound desk eye view”
 - Prayer Focus Match Report (Danielle Brown)
- 4.Questions for the PCC
- 5.Closing thoughts (Rev’d. Mike Forsyth)

Closing in worship

- Intercessions
- Holy Communion



Parochial Church Council 2022

The PCC (Parochial Church Council) meets roughly six times through the year as the leadership group for St James. This is where decisions on what we do and how we do it are made... and then our vicar and all our wonderful volunteers get on making it all happen!

PCC Membership 2022:

Rev'd Mike Forsyth (Chair)
Patrick Wallis (Warden)
Steve Harrison (Warden and Treasurer)
Chris Childs (Deanery Synod Rep)
Muriel Weisz (Diocese Synod Rep)
John Oliver
Danielle Brown
Jill Davison
Lucy Drury
Mary Lucas,
Catherine Wallis
Sally Smith
Jenny Murden
Rachel Forsyth

For 2023 we are seeking to appoint the following:

Deanery Synod Rep x 2
Elected PCC members x 4

Electoral Roll

The Church of England requires each parish church to maintain an electoral roll. This is a list of names of people who consider St James Porchester to be their regular place of worship. To be on the electoral roll you must either live in the parish, or regularly worship at St James (attending services at least once a month). You must also be over the age of 16, baptised and a member of the Church of England or a church in communion with the Church of England in order to join the electoral roll.

Being on the electoral roll allows you to vote in the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, and stand for election to be a member of PCC. Once every six years a complete rewrite of the electoral roll is completed, our next refresh is due in 2025. You do not need to be on the electoral roll in order to attend services and events in church.

Total number of people on St James Electoral Roll: 126

Those living in the parish: 52

Those living outside the parish: 74

Others: 0



Minutes from Annual Vestry & Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 10th April 2022

Annual Vestry Meeting (Part 1)

Rev'd. Mike Forsyth welcomed everyone to the meeting in the church hall. He gave thanks to Partick Wallis and Steve Harrison for all what they had been doing for St James throughout 2021, up to and beyond his appointment as incumbent, in particular their help as he settles into being vicar here.

Before the election of wardens could take place, Mike asked if there was any objection with the suspension of Rule 3 to allow Patrick Wallis to stand for a 9th year as warden. There were no objections so he will continue for a further year.

Muriel Wiesz commented that this was out of the ordinary for someone to serve as warden for such a long period, and gave thanks for Patrick's commitment to service as warden at St James. There was universal thanks given for Patrick's continued commitment to serve as warden.

Election of Church Wardens

Two applications have been received for the position of Church Wardens.

Patrick Wallis proposed by William Inglis and seconded by Sue Tyler

Steve Harrison proposed by Jill Davison and seconded by Lucy Drury

(Part 2)

Mike invited everyone to talk on their table about the question, "what at St James makes God smile". People wrote their responses on pieces of paper which were collected in after the APCM and made into a word cloud. Comments included... fellowship, faithful people, worship, children back in the services, Drop In For Coffee, the vicar doing action songs, and a new vicar with a family among other lovely comments. This word cloud has been on display at the back of the church hall throughout 2022.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Part 1)

1. Apologies

A number of people gave apologies for not attending the APCM, and a few extra names were mentioned who were not present on the day.

2. Minutes of last years APCM – 23rd May 2021

The minutes were agreed and signed by Rev'd Mike Forsyth as a true record of the meeting held

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising



Minutes from Annual Vestry & Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 10th April 2022

4.Elections to Parochial Church Council

As there were no members coming to the end of their 3 years term of office, a third of elected PCC members were asked to re stand for a further 3 years term of office. Catherine Wallis, Mary Lucas, and Sally Smith all agreed to re stand, in addition Rachel Forsyth also put herself forward to serve on PCC.

It was explained that without being on electoral roll for six months an individual could be co-opted onto the PCC if there were a vacancy, furthermore, Mike explained that we would be taking a vote in the usual way so to affirm any individual joining the PCC in this way.

The following people were nominated and elected to serve on PCC for 2022 – 2025

Mary Lucas proposed by Chris Child seconded by Catherine Wallis

Catherine Wallis proposed by Helen Catchpole seconded by Jenny Murden

Sally Smith proposed by Helen Catchpole seconded by Jenny Murden

Rachel Forsyth proposed by Lucy Drury seconded by John Oliver

5.Election to Deanery Synod

No one was nominated for the two posts of Deanery Synod Representative, so Chris Childs remains our only representative.

(Part 2)

6.Review previously written and circulated reports

No issues were raised

7.Accept any amendments or omissions to the annual report

No issues were raised

8.Electoral Roll Report

The electoral roll is for 2022 is made up of 123 people. It is made up as follows:

50 people living in the parish

73 people living outside the parish

9.Report of the proceedings of the Church Council

No issues were raised on this report

10.Report on the proceedings of Gedling Deanery Synod

No issues were raised on this report

11.Report on the church's fabric, goods and ornaments

No issues were raised on this report

12.Receive the examined and financial accounts of the church

No issues were raised on this report



Minutes from Annual Vestry & Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 10th April 2022

13.Report by the Parish Safeguarding Officer

No issues were raised on this report

14.Report on the financial affairs of the church

No issues were raised on this report

Rosie Bolton asked for an update on the January Giving Campaign. Steve Harison explained that he was still waiting for all the responses to come in before he could review and provide more information on the outcome.

15.Appoint the Independent Examiner

Proposed by Steve Harrison seconded by Lucy Drury

ASH accounting – All voted in favour of continuing to use the services of ASH

16.Questions about matters in other report

No questions were asked.

Lucy Drury shared how thankful she was to Wendy Riley in supporting her to re-start toast, tea, and tots. Lucy also expressed her thanks that St James now had a vicar, and welcomed Mike with Rachel, Evie and Maddie.

17.Vicar's comments

Rev'd. Mike expressed his thanks to Catherine Wallis who was stepping down from being PCC secretary after 15 years. Mike also gave thanks to the many volunteers who have been serving and enabling worship to take place at St James this year.

Mike drew attention to the leaflet produced to summarise the St James identity, vision and priorities. He explained how this was nothing new to St James, and how his first months had been to explore how as a church we are engaging with the priorities set out by the PCC in the parish profile. Mike shared some of his early encouragements from being at St James and urged the congregation to continue in growing more like Jesus, celebrating God's goodness, and sharing the great news of Jesus.

18.Closing Prayer

The meeting ended in prayer and the saying of the grace together.

The meeting closed at 12.30pm

Minutes were taken by Catherine Wallis, 10th April 2022

Later written up from Catherine's notes by Rev'd Mike Forsyth, 16th February 2023



Finances

2022 Financial Activities

St James Church (Porchester) 2022 Financial Activities

Income

Donations - Sunday Coffee	£633.95
Donations - Tea & Tots	£1,391.17
Donations - bankers orders & cheques	£48,041.04
Donations - envelopes	£3,720.20
Donations general & various	£6,160.68
Donations - gift aid envelopes	£1,114.39
Donations - plate collections	£2,463.47
Donations - tax recovery	£6,599.23
Funerals	£3,118.00
Income from wedding	£2,427.00
Hall hire	£7,376.48

Total Income £83,045.61

Expenditures

Accountancy	£1,696.80
Bank charges	£413.30
A1 - Office ministry	£4,680.50
A2 - Office general	£2,077.76
A3 - Office photocopier	£3,002.02
B - Worship	£424.85
C - Childrens Youth and Families	£161.84
D - Fellowship	£1,525.59
E - Pastoral	£593.01
F - Fabric and Finance	£1,739.98
G - Professional Development	£375.00
Diocese parish contributions	£61,922.12
Insurance	£6,496.68
Light and heat - church	£1,408.64
Light and heat - hall	£3,743.04
Rates and water	£1,332.43
Telephone	£457.89
Wages and salaries	£11,022.30

Total expenditure £103,073.75

Net operating income -£20,028.14

Spending on building works

In addition to this St James has spent money from it's investment fund on two major building works:

Replacement of heating system - £64K
Guttering and roof work - £76k

As this is extra-ordinary work to occur within one year, these transitional amounts have been removed from the overall financial activities.

How did we pay this £20k difference?

Throughout the year our treasurer moved money from the investment account to the current account so that we could maintain ministry provision throughout the year.

2022 Actual Income

20% CCLI

This amount was required from investment fund to cover deficit

2% "Other" Donations

9% Hall Hire

3% Weddings

4% Funerals

66% Regular Giving and Tax Recovery

2022 Actual Expenditure

0% Corporate Giving

11% Wages and salaries

15% Running costs

14% Local Ministry Costs

60% Diocese Parish Contributions

Finances

2023 Budget

St James Church (Porchester) 2023 budget

Income

Other donations	- £1,900
Regular Giving and Tax Recovery	- £74,500
Funerals	- £3,000
Income from wedding	- £2,000
Hall hire	- £8,000
Total Income	- £89,400

Expenditures

Corporate Giving	- £4,000
Local ministry costs	- £11,200
Diocese parish contributions	- £52,000
Running costs	- £18,668
Wages and salaries	- £11,022
Total expenditure	- £96,890

Local ministry costs broken down:

Office ministry	- £1,500.00
Office general	- £1,600.00
Office photocopier	- £3,000.00
Worship	- £500.00
Childrens Youth and Families	- £1,200.00
Fellowship	- £600.00
Pastoral	- £600.00
Fabric and Finance	- £1,600.00
Professional Development	- £600.00

Diocese Parish Contributions

Often referred to as Parish Share. The complete amount is £84,000 however St James has been given a reduction due to the fact we've had to pay out for two very large building projects in 2022 which has depleted our reserves. £52,000 is the cost associated to having an incumbent and allows us to focus on local ministry while growing our church and giving to a level where we can meet the full parish share as well as other outgoings.

Deficit budget explained

This budget is a deficit budget which means we plan to overspend by a certain amount (£7,490). Through the year we will aim to increase income and reduce spending where we can, and at the end of the year hold a gift day to reduce what deficit remains.

Fabric Report

Two pieces of major work were completed in 2022. These being the replacement of the heating system and the rainwater goods and associated repairs, in all we have spent in excess of £100,000.00 on the fabric of the church. The latter of these two encompassed most of the work which was identified in 2020 Quinquennial Inspection Report. Once the Den and Vestry have dried out then some work will need to be undertaken. There are two pieces of work which faculty applications are pending for, these being replacement of lights in church for more energy efficient ones and the replacement of the south porch doors.



St James Porchester

Ministries Overview

Tuesday CONNECT

Tuesday CONNECT is a pop-up club which meets every Tuesday in term time, 3.30pm – 5pm, for games, snacks and friendship. There's plenty for any age group from the youngest who come with parents or grandparents to the older group who come to meet friends and socialise with each other.

As the older children are feeling more relaxed they're taking turns to help in the kitchen making drinks, baking, and cooking. It's wonderful to see people of all ages mixing and building friendships and breaking down barriers.

From Tuesday CONNECT we hope to see engagement with individuals with whom church is simply not on their radar. The next steps for the Young People attending could be to run a Youth Alpha... trusting God's provision and timing are key.

Prayer requests...

- Wisdom in knowing where to take this group and when to introduce new aspects (prayer stations have worked well)
- For the individuals we connect with to know they are loved and accepted by Jesus.
- Responding to the opportunities to serve our community which develop through the conversations at CONNECT.

Alpha

Alpha is a nine week course which explores the Christian Faith. It begins with a shared meal followed by a short film and discussion. Alpha is for everyone, whether you've never stepped foot in a church or been attending 40 years, we can all grow through attending Alpha and joining the discussions. We ran two Alpha courses in 2022, with a total of 9 guests attending.

In addition we held two Alpha launch parties, a cheese and wine evening and a quiz night with fish and chips. These are great events to invite friends along to, where they can hear stories of God at work in a fun and relaxed setting.

Prayer requests...

- Pray for the 5 guests already signed up for the next Alpha course beginning on Thursday 2nd February.
- Ask God for confidence in inviting friends along to these Alpha launch parties, or to come do Alpha yourself.
- Pray for God's word to take root, and transform lives.

Eco Church

As the congregation at St James we are hoping to achieve our silver Eco church award in time for our APCM this March. As a church and as individuals we must continue to care for God's world in all areas of our lives together. In the Bible Jesus tells us that the most important commandments are to love God, and to love our neighbours. Tackling the climate crisis is vital to both of these – honouring God by protecting his creation and loving our global neighbours who are hit first and worst by this climate emergency.

Prayer requests...

- Pray for those who suffer in countries effected most by the climate crisis; to have the resources they need to adapt.
- Pray as individuals for whatever transformation is needed in your heart to care for God's world.
- Pray that as a church we use and reuse the resources that we already have, our land and other physical resources.



St James Porchester

Ministries Overview

Monday Craft Group

The Monday Craft Group (which also meets on the first Saturday) provides a warm welcome to anyone, whether they consider themselves to be a crafter or not. The craft often brings people together and helps conversation to flow in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

People of all abilities have come, and a wide variety of crafts. Tea and coffee is served and sometimes there's cake too. On a Saturday people will bring their lunch. We enjoy one another's company and support is given where needed. Long lasting friendships have been made in this group and those attending receive an invitation to anything that's going on in church, appreciating the news from the pew sheet.

Prayer requests...

- Keeping in touch with guests who become unwell and can no longer attend the group by themselves.
- Conversations to be seasoned by the love of Christ.
- Maintain the culture of welcome and invitation.

St James Youth

St James Youth meets on the second Sunday of the month in the Church for food, games, and chat. Mike runs the group with Susan, and each session begins by catching up and eating together.

The group aims to provide a space for secondary aged children to ask questions and explore their faith. We talk about what they want to talk about, and will use a bible study to get conversation going about a range of topics.

Prayer requests...

- Young People at St James to know the unshakeable love of Jesus, and trust in Him as their way, truth, and life.
- More Young People to join the group, we meet a fair few now at Tuesday CONNECT, pray for success in seeing cross over.
- Wisdom in conversations with the Young People knowing that it's the gospel that has the power to transform lives.

Home Groups

Home groups meet during the week for fellowship, bible study and prayer. This is where we do discipleship with one another, being disciples that disciple disciples!

Through 2022 our home groups have grown in size, and after the Home Group Central in September a new group started.

Group leaders meet together once a term with Mike for shared learning and prayer.

Prayer requests...

- For everyone in our church to have the opportunity to join a homegroup.
- Wisdom and guidance for home group leaders as they pastor and disciple members of their home group.
- God's blessing on these groups as members journey onwards in their faith, supporting each other to walk the way of Jesus.



St James Porchester

Ministries Overview

Kid's Church

Kid's church began again after the pandemic in January 2022 with Mike going out with the children. It was a bit of a shock for the vicar to leave the service, but shows our heart for the importance of children learning about Jesus and growing in their relationship with him.

Fast forward a year and there is now a group of 9 volunteers who help lead kid's church. There's always 2 children but can be as many as 12 attending kid's church. Each session is planned to involve fellowship time, worship and prayer, learning from the bible, crafts and games that help explore the teaching, and the important ingredient of fun.

Prayer requests...

- More children to regularly join kid's church so that the whole church might be blessed as we see them grow in faith.
- Inspiration for our Kid's Church Leaders to share their faith with the children and encourage faith in them.
- For St James to be a church where children feel that this is their church too, and that they belong to the church family.

Worship Group

The Worship Group relaunched in September 2022, leading at the 10.30am service each week. There are 12 members currently who usually meet on a Saturday evening to practice for a Sunday morning. In the build up to Christmas the group formed a choir to sing at the carol services.

Members of the group have attended two school of worship training days led by the diocese at Trinity Church Nottingham. These days have equipped and inspired the group to develop their gift of leading worship.

Prayer requests...

- Grow in confidence as we worship together.
- Delight in our worship of God as we're led by his Holy Spirit
- Pray for some instrument players to join the church!

Schools work

Mike is now regularly involved with schools in the parish, both going into schools for RE lessons and assemblies, as well as hosting school visits. Mike has also been invited to be a community governor at Westdale Infant School this year.

Through schools work we share the love, light, and joy of Jesus with a huge number of children, and naturally we see some of those children coming into church at other occasions too.

It's inspiring to hear how a child has asked their parent to take them to church because of something that has been shared in school.

Prayer requests...

- Growing a team to support schools ministry
- Good ongoing relationships with schools in our parish
- Children who hear the gospel story to respond in faith



St James Porchester

Ministries Overview

Toast, Tea, and Tots

Toast, Tea, and Tots is the toddler group at St James, which runs on a Wednesday morning, 9am till 11am during term time. The session begins with free play and craft, before toast and tea, and then more play. In the last 20 minutes we have story and song time.

Through 2022 we've been sharing bible stories, and songs that tell us about the love of God, many of the old time classics which you may remember from either your own childhood or taking children and grandchildren to groups like these.

More recently we've begun to pray with the children with the help of Prayer Bear. Children love to hold Prayer Bear and the pictures which remind us what to pray for. 30-40 children come most weeks, along with their parents and carers.

The cultural shift towards parents returning to work earlier means we get more childminders and grandparents than primary carers, and this creates a challenge in establishing an ongoing relationship with the family of the child. So we try to send a termly letter home to the primary carer which helps them to know what their child is doing and invite the families along to other events at St James.

Prayer requests...

- Please give thanks for the success of this group, and for Susan Day who has taken on the leadership of this group.
- Pray for more volunteers who can come and talk with parents and carers, as a young parent/carer often a listening ear is such a blessing.
- As stories are shared, songs are sung, and prayer is being taught, the early seeds of faith to take root. Pray that Children would know they are loved by God and precious to him.

Girls Night Out

Girls Night Out (GNO) is held on a Friday evening 3 times a year and is a time for women to come together in a safe environment, to meet with friends and be treated to a 3 course meal for £10.

Our aim is to bring women together through fun, friendship and food. GNO is an event where people can experience acceptance, friendship and a genuine welcome from our church. Each GNO has a different theme and many women come dressed for the theme. Depending on the theme and the food being served, sometimes we also include a quiz, dancing, or speed raffle etc.

In addition to the Friday GNO we also hold two GNO specials, to celebrate Christmas and Mothering Sunday, with food in different forms such as afternoon tea. These events give opportunity for Church members to invite their friends knowing that the event will include worship, sharing the Gospel, hearing from a speaker, and creative prayer. We use the roaming mic in a relaxed, fun environment to engage women and start conversations about faith.

Prayer requests...

- The team who help to make these events special, that they will continue to see God's love being shared with the women who attend.
- Our church members as they invite their friends & family, creating opportunities to talk about God and their faith over the meal.
- The women who attend and enjoy GNO, pray that they will continue to attend, hearing more about God's love.



St James Porchester Ministries Overview

Drop In For Coffee

This was started years ago by the lovely Lynn and John Bradbury as an outreach to the local community. It happens on Thursday mornings during term time from 10:45 to 12:00 offering delicious (generally home made) cakes, tea and cafetiere coffee, a warm welcome, friendly conversation and company for a voluntary donation.

It also includes some Specials' e.g. at Christmas and Easter providing lunch and a short service of praise with a message, following on from the usual morning session where our members are encouraged to consider their journey in faith.

We have a wonderful team of bakers, servers, 'room setter-uppers', washer-uppers and 'clear-aways' who create these relaxed, welcoming and spirit lifting sessions.

We have around 50 people on our list of regular visitors with a wide age range, many of whom have been coming since it started; but equally there are many recent visitors who have quickly felt at home and add to the really friendly atmosphere at these sessions.

Prayer requests...

- The health and energy of our volunteers who enable these sessions to run so successfully,
- New people to come forward to help,
- Our guests, some with personal needs, that they may continue to feel reassured of a warm welcome and a chance to chat surrounded by a loving church family.

Mission Partners at St James

At St James we have partnered with the following mission organisations and charities that share our vision and values. We commit to give them 7% of donations made to the church as well as support them in prayer through the year.

The Ark

This is a local charity based in Gedling, supported by local churches in order to provide a community meeting place, where people can access advice and support.

Framework Housing Association

Formerly Macedon, a Diocesan charity, helping people to achieve stable housing, health, social inclusion and financial stability.

Five Talents

An organisation in close partnership with the Mothers Union, providing financial advice to individuals and small businesses in East Africa, to bring communities out of poverty.

Love Burundi

A project in our partnership Diocese to help financially struggling students in their studies at the Bujumbura Christian University.

Prayer requests...

- Thank God for these mission partners. Thank God for the gifts and talents he's given them; and thank God for their willingness to use these talents to serve him.
- Pray for mission partners to be encouraged, knowing that they are not trying to please local partners, but God - and their continued faithfulness is what delights their Father.
- Ask God to give them the courage to remain focused on the gospel where they face opposition or distractions which threaten to steal focus.



St James Porchester Mothers Union



Mothers' Union is a Women led Christian movement of 4,000,000 members in 84 countries worldwide. Our aim is to show our Faith by Action. We are united by the same aims- to uphold and support family life as a central part of a flourishing community . We are an all gender embracing organisation and aspire to reach out in God's love to those of all faith and none.

By putting our faith into action we support families and children in need with financed holidays, children's groups, parenting groups, homelessness', women's refuges', local hospitals and care homes and those living in poverty.

Supporting people affected by conflict or natural disasters, our members support both practically and physically, those with urgent needs. Members are willing to be first on the ground with food and basic necessities in difficult situations. We share our collective strengths, skills and power to be supportive in difficult circumstances to build confidence and hope in our communities. We join together with local people and agencies to offer support in practical ways-by giving each other the necessary tools and abilities that we need to flourish in the future. We share our collective strengths to help tackle difficult issues by building hope and confidence in our communities.

We continue to help communities change their lives for the better by working to combat poverty , injustice and violence worldwide, including those in hard -to-reach areas. We work with people facing everyday challenges as well as in times of crisis to help them overcome inequalities and transform their lives.

Worldwide we support our workers and facilitators financially, to enable them to work alongside Tear Fund and other agencies in an overseas programme "Five Talents". We have enabled over 32,500 people, predominately women, to join community savings loan groups', helping them to set up businesses, educate their children and feed their families.

We are dedicated to praying for our fellow members and those in need; campaigning for social justice and inequality.

We meet together regularly for friendly fellowship and support, sharing ideas and others' needs. If you'd like to be part of fellowship, volunteer in our work or offer support- we would love to have you as part of our organisation.

To find out more please visit www.mothersunion.org

Contact details for Rev'd. Mike Forsyth
Email: vicar@st-james-nottingham.org.uk
Phone: 07952303463

Church Office contact details:
Email: office@st-james-nottingham.org.uk
Office Phone: 0115 9606185

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1128977

ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER
Unaudited Financial Statements
Year ended 31 December 2022

ASH ACCOUNTING LTD

Licensed Accountants
44a Gedling Road
Carlton
Nottingham
NG4 3FH

ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER
Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER

Charity registration number 1128977

Principal office St James Church
Marshall Hill Drive
Mapperley
Nottingham
NG3 6FY

The Trustees Danielle Brown
Chris Childs
Jill Davison
Lucy Drury
Steve Harrison
Mary Lucas
John Oliver
Sally Smith
Catherine Wallis
Patrick Wallis - Church Warden
Muriel Weisz
Chris Adkin
Paul Chapman
Jenny Murden
Mike Forsyth – Vicar

Independent examiner Emma Stubbs C/O Ash Accounting Ltd
44a Gedling Road
Carlton
Nottingham
NG4 3FH

ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2022

Structure, governance and management

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 1956. The PCC is exempted by order from registering with the Charities Commission. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Towards the end of 2022 the PCC agreed to move away from its previous structure of eight segments teams, which have been replaced by two committees which carry out all activity alongside the vicar's weekly planning meeting. These two committees are the Standing Committee, and the Ministry and Mission Committee. Together these committees carry out the work of the PCC, and all their activity is responsible to the PCC.

Objectives and activities

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states the PCC "is to co-operate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical". In addition St James Porchester PCC has its own vision statement which is "To be a spirit filled church where Jesus is front and centre as we love our community and support one another to grow more like Jesus, celebrate God's goodness, and share the great news of Jesus."

The activities are set out in the Church's Annual Report which is available from the church. One activity that is undertaken each and every year is to select local, national and international charities to donate up to 5% of the previous year's income per annum.

Achievements and performance

The PCC monitors its performance and achievements by means of a Growing Disciples Plan. This plan began in 2021 with the appointment of Rev'd Mike Forsyth, and will run till 2026 when a new Growing Disciples Plan will be written for the next five years of ministry. By 2026 we hope to grow by 80 new disciples, 25 children and 40 young adults attending regular Sunday worship, and 128 members of church attending home groups. Through 2022 we have made steady progress towards our Growing Disciples Plan, with 9 children and 7 young adults now attending regular Sunday worship. We also have seen an average of 20 young people attending our mid-week new worshipping community which seeks create a new space that helps young people to explore faith in their own space.

Some of the success from 2022 have been:

- 2 Alpha courses run in 2022, 8 guests attending over the two courses... 3rd now running with 16 guests in total.
- 1 Young Person baptised.

ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2022

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- Youth Group meeting monthly
- Tuesday CONNECT", regularly engaging with 20 secondary aged children, 8 primary, and 6 adults.
- School visits to all schools in the parish
- Toddler group very popular (regularly 60+ in attendance – children and careers)
- Mid-week service growing, DIFC well attended
- 32 people attended Home Group Centrals, more people joining Home Groups (total 38 in home groups)
- New Service pattern began in September, 10:30am service with greater focus on YOUNGER/WIDER
- Giving campaign in Jan 23 led to 5 new regular givers and average regular giving remained the same
- 3 new families attending
- Average Sunday Attendance steadily increasing (from 40 asa to 60 asa in past 12 months)

Financial review

In 2022 we have paid out for two major building projects (heating system and iron works), these have both been paid for with money from the CCLA investment fund. What remains of this fund has been ring fenced by the PCC for purpose of employing a Church Growth Enabler for Children and Families. Someone is yet to be appointed.

Though giving is increasing we are not yet able to meet all our outgoing commitments, and the Parish share to date has also been paid for by drawing down the CCLA investment fund. At the end of 2022 we were unable to meet all our parish share payments and enter 2023 planning to pay substantially less than has been requested. We have set a deficit budget which aims to reduce spending across all areas will our giving increases to meet our outgoings.

We are committed to employing a Church Growth Enabler because we see this role as essential to growing the number of people attending the church and for the discipleship of existing members, thus increasing the total amount given toward the ministry and mission of God through the church. In 2022 we were successful in applying to the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham for a grant worth £20k which can be used towards this appointment too.

ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
Year ended 31 December 2022

Plans for future periods

Our priorities remain the same for the coming year, we have undergone a vision refresh and PCC restructure through 2022 and much of this will continue to stabilise through 2023. The successes of 2023 have shown that through prayer and focus on our priorities the church will grow, and people are willing to give towards the mission of the church when asked to do so. So as much as we will be trying hard not to introduce anything new through 2023, we hope to bring everything that we do within our vision and values so that we are moving forward.

With these two major building projects now completed we hope to complete on some less major projects which have been put off and now need complete (internal lighting changed to LED lighting, replacement of south porch doors, internal work in vestry and "den" now the iron works are completed). We will begin to look at how accessible our building is, and what projects could be undertaken in the future to further improve on how we can be using the space within the church for a wider variety of activities.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved on.....and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Rev'd M Forsyth
Trustee

Mr S Harrison
Trustee

ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
St James Church, Porchester
Year ended 31 December 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of St James Church, Porchester ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiners statement

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

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

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


19/05/2023

Emma Stubbs
C/O Ash Accounting Ltd
44a Gedling Road
Carlton
Nottingham
NG4 3FH

ST JAMES CHURCH PORCHESTER

Statement of Assets & Liabilities - year ended 31 December 2022

			Receipts & payments basis	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
CASH FUNDS				
Bank & cash balances				
Bank savings accounts	12,642		12,642	13,286
Bank current account	28,520		28,520	18,543
Cash account	49		49	49
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS				
Debtors	-		-	-
INVESTMENTS WITH CCLA				
Deposit accounts	3,850	878	4,728	4,666
Shares	55,170		55,170	217,857
			<u>101,109</u>	<u>254,401</u>
LIABILITIES				
Trade creditors	-		-	-
PAYE	-		-	-
Other creditors	-		-	-
			<u>101,109</u>	<u>254,401</u>

ANALYSIS OF FUND MOVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR

	01/01/2022	investment	Interest & dividends	withdrawals	gains on sale of shares	movements in value	unrestricted balance 31/12/2022	restricted balance 31/12/22
Deposit accounts	4,666		62				3,850	878
Share investments	217,857		4,625	-145,000	27,897	-50,209	55,170	
	<u>222,523</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,687</u>	<u>-145,000</u>		<u>-50,209</u>	<u>59,020</u>	<u>878</u>

These accounts were approved by the trustees on and are signed on their behalf by:

Mr P Wallis

Mr S Harrison

ST JAMES CHURCH PORCHESTER

Receipts and Payments Account for year to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
RECEIPTS				
Donations etc				
Donations	70,119		70,119	60,866
Legacies	-		-	11,122
Charitable activities				
Holiday club			-	-
Transitional income	2,174		2,174	1,237
Community events	4,218		4,218	393
Wedding and funeral fees	2,069		2,069	1,075
Bereavement	3,118		3,118	2,128
Flowers		11	11	17
Other activities				
Hall hire	7,316		7,316	3,756
Magazine sales	12		12	16
			-	-
Investment income				
Income from investments	29,792		29,792	7,738
Bank Interest	2,866		2,866	41
TOTAL	121,684	11	121,695	88,389
PAYMENTS				
Weddings & funeral fees	-		-	-
Flowers	-		-	-
Holiday club	-		-	-
Staffing costs				
Wages & salaries	10,987		10,987	11,074
Pension costs	-		-	-
Travel	435		435	-
Premises costs				
Rates & water rates	1,278		1,278	1,535
Light & heat	4,675		4,675	3,406
Repairs & maintenance	118,770		118,770	1,388
Insurance	4,774		4,774	4,539
General costs				
Accountancy	1,697		1,697	1,328
Legal & professional	2,608		2,608	1,120
Telephone	1,305		1,305	945
Other office costs	2,930		2,930	1,469
Photocopier hire & copy costs	2,932		2,932	2,247
Bank charges	413		413	285
Purchases	479		479	14
Corporate giving	774		774	4,370
Ministry costs				
Transitional expenses	2,680		2,680	1,188
Clergy expenses	-		-	1,291
Segments	4,526		4,526	957
Diocese Parish contributions	-	63,518	63,518	71,610
TOTAL	161,263	63,518	224,781	108,766
NET INCOME/OUTGOINGS FOR THE YEAR	- 39,579	- 63,507	- 103,086	- 20,377

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1128977

ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER
Unaudited Financial Statements
Year ended 31 December 2022

ASH ACCOUNTING LTD

Licensed Accountants
44a Gedling Road
Carlton
Nottingham
NG4 3FH

ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER
Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2022

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Mapperley
Nottingham
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The Trustees Danielle Brown
Chris Childs
Jill Davison
Lucy Drury
Steve Harrison
Mary Lucas
John Oliver
Sally Smith
Catherine Wallis
Patrick Wallis - Church Warden
Muriel Weisz
Chris Adkin
Paul Chapman
Jenny Murden
Mike Forsyth – Vicar

Independent examiner Emma Stubbs C/O Ash Accounting Ltd
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ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2022

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ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER

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ST JAMES CHURCH, PORCHESTER
Trustees' Annual Report (continued)
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Trustee

Mr S Harrison
Trustee

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
St James Church, Porchester
Year ended 31 December 2022

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19/05/2023

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ST JAMES CHURCH PORCHESTER

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These accounts were approved by the trustees on and are signed on their behalf by:

Mr P Wallis

Mr S Harrison

ST JAMES CHURCH PORCHESTER

Receipts and Payments Account for year to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
RECEIPTS				
Donations etc				
Donations	70,119		70,119	60,866
Legacies	-		-	11,122
Charitable activities				
Holiday club			-	-
Transitional income	2,174		2,174	1,237
Community events	4,218		4,218	393
Wedding and funeral fees	2,069		2,069	1,075
Bereavement	3,118		3,118	2,128
Flowers		11	11	17
Other activities				
Hall hire	7,316		7,316	3,756
Magazine sales	12		12	16
			-	-
Investment income				
Income from investments	29,792		29,792	7,738
Bank Interest	2,866		2,866	41
TOTAL	121,684	11	121,695	88,389
PAYMENTS				
Weddings & funeral fees	-		-	-
Flowers	-		-	-
Holiday club	-		-	-
Staffing costs				
Wages & salaries	10,987		10,987	11,074
Pension costs	-		-	-
Travel	435		435	-
Premises costs				
Rates & water rates	1,278		1,278	1,535
Light & heat	4,675		4,675	3,406
Repairs & maintenance	118,770		118,770	1,388
Insurance	4,774		4,774	4,539
General costs				
Accountancy	1,697		1,697	1,328
Legal & professional	2,608		2,608	1,120
Telephone	1,305		1,305	945
Other office costs	2,930		2,930	1,469
Photocopier hire & copy costs	2,932		2,932	2,247
Bank charges	413		413	285
Purchases	479		479	14
Corporate giving	774		774	4,370
Ministry costs				
Transitional expenses	2,680		2,680	1,188
Clergy expenses	-		-	1,291
Segments	4,526		4,526	957
Diocese Parish contributions	-	63,518	63,518	71,610
TOTAL	161,263	63,518	224,781	108,766
NET INCOME/OUTGOINGS FOR THE YEAR	- 39,579	- 63,507	- 103,086	- 20,377