



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 18th April 2021

**ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH
WHITCHURCH
ANNUAL REPORTS FOR
2020**

Prepared for the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 18th April 2021



STATISTICS FOR ST ALKMUND'S WHITCHURCH				
Year	2017	2018	2019	2020
Electoral Roll	176	169	144	155
Average Sunday (*) Adult Attendance	109	108	100	(Oct) 58
Average Sunday (*) Under 16 Attendance	9	6	4	4
8.00am	13.2	12.3	11	7
10.00am	87	78	76.4	44
6.30pm (new)	15.5	17	16.5	10
6.30pm (total)	25	26	25	7
Easter Communicants (**)	193	148	136	N/A
Easter Attendees (**)	478	189	172	N/A
Advent Special Attendees	1673	1510	1710	158
Christmas Communicants	153	116	125	83
Christmas Attendees	1218	1092	1092	102
Baptism (u16)	38	20	29	12
Baptism Adult	2	0	0	1
Funerals (with Church service)	65	55	46	21
Funerals (at Crem Only)	21	14	19	55
Interment of Ashes in GoR	-	12	10	15
Weddings	9	9	10	0
Prayer & Dedication of Marriage	0	0	0	0

Statistics for St Alkmund's 2017—2020

The statistics are shown in the table above. Please note that the Average Sunday Attendance (*) for 2017-19 figures include Harvest, Mothering Sundays but exclude Baptisms, Easter, Remembrance, Christingle, Memorial & Thanksgiving and Carol Services.

Also, note that the Easter figures (**) were boosted in 2017 by Easter Eve Confirmations. 2020 figures affected by Covid-19.

Conclusion

By God's grace and through our prayer and action, we have continued to see positive developments in 2020. The way in which members of St Alkmund's work together continues to be inspirational.

Thanks to all involved and thanks be to God.

Judy Hunt, Rector
January 2021

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name & Number

St Alkmund's Parish Church
Charity number: 1129900

Address

St Alkmund's Church, c/o The Rectory, Church Street,
Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1LB

PCC Members from APCM 2020

Judy Bellingham (PCC Secretary)
Elaine Bucknell
John Castledine
Sheila Chase
Meriel Edge
David Fisher
Pauline Green (Lay Chair)
Judy Hunt (Rector & PCC Chair)
Caroline Hulse
Sam Johnson
Jane Rylands
Tom Rylands
John Stokes (Churchwarden & Deanery Synod)
Pauline Stokes (Deanery Synod)
Jill Wallace (Churchwarden)
Steve White (Deanery Synod)
Melanie Williams (PCC Treasurer)

Bankers

Barclays plc

Independent Examiner

Staff at Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

Structure, Governance and Management

PCC's Constitution

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

- Trustees (PCC members) are appointed by election at the APCM; ex-officio on the PCC are all clergy licensed to the parish, churchwardens and members of Deanery, Diocesan and General Synods.
- New trustees are given an induction pack
- A Standing Committee exists and other committees include the Bargates Hall Committee, and a Finance Committee. Other groups meet: the Social Working Group and various pastoral groups.
- Safeguarding and Data Protection have received considerable attention this year and all our policies are now reviewed annually in January

Objectives and Activities

- Promoting the Gospel and the doctrines of the Church of England
- Vision statement:
Our church is a place where all are welcome and God can be found.
We seek to:
 - ◇ build up our spiritual life through prayer and teaching,
 - ◇ actively encourage lay involvement in mission and outreach,
 - ◇ and share the good news of the Gospel with the whole community.

Public benefit

The trustees of the Charity are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of the Charity. The trustees believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Alkmund, Whitchurch, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

with service sheets, bell-ringing, welcome, music, cleaning, flowers, readings, intercessions and communion distribution

- The pastoral care exercised in many different ways, expanding and adapting during Coronavirus restrictions
- The prayer life of the church and its people; leading of Wednesday prayers by various lay people of Zoom; thanks to Judy Bellingham for setting this up
- The links and activities with the four local schools
- The publication of the magazine and Chancel Steps; the work of our Administrator, Jo Lavin and to Pauline Stokes for proof-reading. Also the work Jo has done on signage and other Covid-19 associated-needs, plus on the website has been vital for us
- The upkeep and regular use of Bargates Hall (The Foodbank exclusively during most of the year), thanks to our Manager, Wayne Edwards
- The funds given to charities from our Christingle and Harvest Services, our general involvement with Christian Aid & Fair Trade and our support of our link missionaries *via* CMS and Crosslinks
- The PCC unrestricted finances showing a small surplus; the faithful and accurate work of our banking team and treasurer
- The Plant Sale – which was the only fundraising event that went ahead (albeit in an amended way); thanks to Judy Bryant & Janet Ivens
- The continued fundraising work of the Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch
- Work on the church building
- Ongoing work on Safeguarding (see elsewhere) and on Data Protection – with thanks here to Jo Lavin, Mel Williams, Paul Williamson and Meriel Edge

Workload

There have been changes due to Coronavirus and I am aware that some church volunteers have had their ministries much diminished by the things we have not been able to do. For others, their ministries have changed, and even grown, during this time.

In past years, I have written in the annual report with some concern about my own workload and the sustainability of this. Coronavirus did add to workload initially. I have sought and gained from various types of assistance, which have been beneficial. From May onwards, the gains and losses of ministry in lockdown or during restrictions tended to even out. plus the very welcome arrival of Sam as curate, to both share the workload and to develop new areas as part of his ministry and training with us, my own workload is at a more sustainable level.

Joys

- We have gained some new members.
- Revd Sam Johnson and his family have joined us part-way through the year
- People have stepped into new leadership roles to enable us to continue to minister during the Coronavirus pandemic; many of us have learnt new computer skills for this to be possible!
- We quickly set up a large e mail list so that people could stay in touch *via* a weekly mailing of how help could be obtained, of news, and of resources for prayer and Bible Study; thanks to John Standerline for his rapid collating of data
- Over 40 volunteers offered this help with regular phoning, shopping, prayer, or picking up medication. Thanks to Jill Wallace for co-ordinating the requests for help with these offers that had been made.
- A strengthened prayer network – in St Alkmund’s but also with Fauls and Tilstock
- Regular Zoom meetings for prayer and for fellowship
- Regular Messages for Christian outreach and nurture on a local phone line and on Facebook and YouTube; these include sessions for Collective Worship in our schools
- Livestreaming of services from St Alkmund’s and recording of services to post from all three churches
- Special services recorded for our Care Homes and Hospital, plus mailings of much material to them
- Zoom nurture and outreach courses
- Zoom Time Together and Messy Church sessions
- A few meetings of Junior Church, when allowed.

Our activities

There is much to be thankful for in the year as a whole, despite the Coronavirus pandemic, as you can read above and in the rest of this booklet. First and foremost, we are thankful to God, but following closely on – we are also thankful for each other. In each area listed below, I would like to include thanks to the people involved:

- The continuing ministry of Jane Rylands as Reader and Revds Sue & Sam.
- The oversight & ministries exercised by the Churchwardens and their deputies, Treasurer, Secretary, and other PCC and Standing Committee members
- When possible to hold them, the regular Sunday services, with all the extra that had to be done before and after the services because of Covid-19, plus the more ‘normal’ preparation and ‘on the day’ work

Reserves Policy:

The Reserves Policy of Whitchurch PCC is to hold 3 months' costs in Unrestricted Reserves and £10,000 in Restricted General Reserves. Total unrestricted expenditure was £123,437 in 2020, so 3 months' equates to approximately £30,859. At the end of the year, there was £205,912 in bank accounts which by far exceeds the policy, and in hindsight due to the unprecedented lockdown in March we didn't actually need to convert shares into cash.

Mission Action Plan: MAP

We had hoped to draw up a new MAP for 2020 but Coronavirus intervened. We have kept our activities under review, bearing in mind the Diocesan priorities of Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism:

Discipleship:

Sunday services – including the talks / sermons which are available afterwards in printed form or on the church website

Discipleship and Equipping for Evangelism:

Lent Course (interrupted by Covid-19) based on Andrew Smith's book "Vibrant Christianity in Multifaith Britain"

Zoom study group on Tom Wright's book "God and the Pandemic"

Zoom Study group on Paula Gooder's Book "A journey through the Wilderness"

Vocation:

Conversations leading to people feeling able to offer new ministries during Covid-19 lockdown *e.g.*

Co-ordination of pastoral care

Pastoral phone calls

Prayer over the phone

Leading on changing the way in which congregation members give financially

Co-leading of Zoom groups – see above and below

Staying in touch with Time Together members

Hosting Zoom meetings

Getting DVD discs of messages and services to those with DVD players but not computers

Evangelism:

Christianity Explored Course on Zoom – Revd Sam and co-leaders

Reflections and services on Church Facebook and YouTube and also on a town Facebook group

Also decisions were taken to carry out two separate reviews in 2021, both of which will impact all three aspects of our church life:

a Music Review and a Review of our On-line Presence

See other sections of the report for what was done during the year

The contribution of volunteers is immense

– all activities rely on volunteers

Achievement and Performance

- See elsewhere for all the mid-week activities and the ways in which the St Alkmund's community fulfils its remit for worship, pastoral care, outreach, community service and civic involvement
- There are usually three services each Sunday; figures for October 2020—affected by Coronavirus pandemic:
 - 8.00am – average attendance 7
 - 10.00am – average attendance 44
 - 6.30pm – average attendance 17
 - (of whom 7 had attended morning services on the same day)
- All who live in the town have a right to the occasional offices. In 2020 all weddings booked were postponed, as were many baptisms, and venues of funerals were also affected by Covid-19. There were 21 funerals in church followed by burial or cremation (and 55 at the Graveside or Crematorium only) and 12 baptisms, one of which was an adult.

Financial review: 2020

Mrs Mel Williams, Treasurer

See separate documents for detailed accounts

Financial Review

.At the start of 2020 the major stonework repair project was well under-way. There were some hefty bills to pay to the contractor so we sold some of the shares we had invested for this purpose at the end of March – just as the Government were closing the country down. The contractors were sent home and the church doors were locked. It was a surreal time for all. It marked a sea change in many aspects of our way of life – including the life of the Church. Weddings and funerals were cancelled, schools were closed, we were told to work from home if possible. A new word 'furlough' has become old news. As businesses had to close, the government stepped in to pay 80% of wages – our Church cleaner included. For my part, cash handling became problematic so we took steps to negate the risks. Most of our congregation have taken up the options to donate by non-cash means willingly whether this be by standing order, Direct Debit through the Diocese's Giving Direct initiative (by which the Diocese also take care of the recovery of Gift Aid), through a Donate button on our website, or by card payment over the phone or on the Goodplate at Church services when they are able to take place. I'd like to thank all for their continued generosity and understanding.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £130,583, of which £56,227 came from planned voluntary donations, and a further £12,227 was from Gift Aid. Grants of £14,104 were received from various bodies to help with the Covid-19 crisis that has hit so many charitable organisations. All Bargates activities were cancelled with the exception of the Whitchurch Food-bank which took over the whole of the hall as its activities expanded. Re-

Rector's Report St Alkmund's, Whitchurch

Revd Judy

2020 will be remembered as the year of the Coronavirus pandemic in all aspects of life. Our Church life was affected deeply. Our church buildings were closed for many months. When private prayer, and later public worship, was allowed to resume, we had to act quickly but thoroughly in terms of signage, provision of hand sanitisers and of doing our best to ensure social distancing in and around the church building. Despite lockdowns and restrictions, we were able to continue to provide pastoral care and Christian nurture for many in our community and the North Shropshire area. Our outreach continued in different ways and, as in more normal times, we aimed to do this in partnership with others wherever possible: with those from Fauls and Tilstock parishes, the three other churches in Whitchurch and the Friends of St Alkmund's too.

Sadnesses

- The community of St Alkmund's was 'hit' by the death of a number of core members whose presence and whose contribution to the life and ministry of our church are much missed.
- The opportunity to meet together physically for fellowship and nurture has been tough – especially for those who cannot join in anything that is on-line
- The lack of congregational singing from the middle of March onwards
- Missing the physical get-togethers for both Messy Church and Time Together, plus the opportunity to serve *via* the Hospital Chaplaincy and Homes Services

Challenges

- Challenges have been linked to the sadnesses – particularly in caring for those who are bereaved, whilst feeling wider losses brought about by Coronavirus restrictions. community bereavement too.
- Continuing to minister in our community despite these challenging losses and 'down to' the creative and willingness to adapt, plus the ongoing faithful resilience and willingness of St Alkmund's congregation members in giving their time, energy, care and skills.
- Losing the Revd Elaine Attack as she moved to Frodsham and the unwillingness of Diocesan Senior Staff to allow us to advertise the vacant House for Duty post have been additional challenges.
- Other challenges have come though the work continuing on the church building: replacing the most worn exterior sandstone and repairing windows (most of which have been leaking for many years). Further water ingress has extended this work onto the roof of the building.
- Ensuring that our income did not plummet during the year
- Regular individual and corporate prayer for God's help in meeting these challenges with grace and hope has been important and has been answered.

- 2x book groups that I participated in
- Initial Ministerial Education (IME) training and events have all been on zoom but I have had several of them
- Joining in with prayers on zoom, and some Friday afternoons
- Co-ordinating Whitchurch Churches together walk around nativity
- Lots of involvement with Tilstock primary school including collective worship in each class bubble each week.
- Some involvement with time together where possible.
- Baptism and wedding visits and baptism services (before they stopped again!)
- Involvement with remembrance services
- Two online messy church videos and one opportunity for a zoom call afterwards (although no attendees!)
- Involvement in leading and preaching at Christmas services
- Planning harvest services alongside Jane
- Part of the shaping for mission team – which as of December was just moving into it's information gathering stage
- Writing articles for the parish magazine / chancel steps
- Short video with 'Jam' exploring the different objects in the church
- Creating a "harvest experience" video
- Organizing a online crib festival
- Attended some Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS) leadership events
- Leading an advent reflective service
- Recording and editing care home services

As I look ahead into the coming year I am currently involved in the music review group, exploring music in Whitchurch and across the benefice and co-ordinating the online/media group which will be looking at our engagement with digital technology.

I'm also still part of the shaping for mission group which will soon (hopefully!) be drawing some threads together from the questionnaire responses and beginning to discern where God is at work across this deanery.

As well as this we've started a weekly FTW Families video where we explore one of the set passages for the week in a family friendly and accessible way.

For 2021 I'm excited to see what God will do across the benefice and how even something as devastating as Coronavirus can reveal something of His glory. I am certain that this is a key and pivotal moment in the life of the national church, but also in the life of our church. I look forward to continuing to serve alongside you as together we discern God's call for our benefice and I feel privileged to be a part of what God is doing in Whitchurch and beyond.

Every blessing.

stricted income of £138,352 included a welcome legacy of £77,000 from Mrs Olive Clay and DCMS Grants to reclaim VAT on fabric renovations. The stonework and window repairs were almost completed by the end of the year at a total cost of £374,458 less total DCMS Grants received £55,395, meaning a total net cost of £319,062.76 – of which £251,245 was spent and £41,324 was recovered (ie net £209,921 cost) in 2020.

Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2021 accounts

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

Church Wardens' Report

John Stokes and Jill Wallace

2020 was again a very busy year for the upkeep of St. Alkmund's Church and grounds with the added difficulty of having to work with the Covid 19 Restrictions coming into place during the early part of the year.

Work commenced on the repairs and renewal to the **Stone work**, with scaffolding encasing much of the church during this time. The work was completed in the Autumn of 2020.

Work to the North and South **windows** took place, including restoring the panels of medieval glass. Cleaning of the windows also took place. Repairs to the **lead work** on the West end of the roof took place following rain ingress in the Rear Porch (Kitchen). Further repairs planned to be carried out to the lead above the Organ.

Roof – New rope installed from outside Bell ringing chamber to help with safety when moving around the Roof is required for maintenance. Installation by Wayne Edwards.

Repairs to the **roof** above the main **entrance porch** to the church.

Work on the **Organ** carried out on the organ console

Complete **deep clean** carried out to church, following the Covid 19 Lock Down

Faculty approved for **glass panels** to be inserted in the entrance doors into church (not the porch doors).

PAT Testing carried out on all Electrical appliances in church and Bargates Hall by Barlows of Malpas.

Sound System overhauled with parts renewed.

Old Grave Yard and Rectory Garden – Grass and boundary hedge cut, holly trees trimmed by new contractor, **SP. Mowing** also Rectory Lawns mowed *etc*

Gutter maintenance etc. carried out to church roof by Wayne Edwards.

Gas Boiler annual servicing.

Church Roof – Remote Intruder Alarm inspected and serviced.

Pigeon deterrent curtain working well on main door.

Fire Alarm system checked.

Tom Rylands checked the wire rope to the **Font Cover**.

Electrics inspection was carried out by Princes of Ellesmere and work carried out to bring up to required standards.

Repairs to **Water Tank** situated at the top of the North Porch Stairs.

Notice Board – timbers treated and repairs carried out to the notice doors, plus varnishing to the two church seats, situated in the church yard - work by **Dennis Edwards**

New Keys cut for main door and church vestry.

Fire Extinguishers serviced.

Lightning Conductor 5 year check by TVR, and work carried out to bring it up to the required standard

External ground lights now at end of natural life. Securasound instructed to replace 8 new lights..

Tree Work carried out by Benbow Brothers Ltd. to the Beech and White beam Trees in the church yard, close to the road (Church Street).

Bridgewater Street properties Annual safety checks carried out in line with our responsibilities as Landlords.

New **Telephone system** installed.

Safeguarding Report 2020

Meriel Edge (Safeguarding Officer)

The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to the House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Safeguarding is of immense importance in St Alkmund's Church. It features as an Agenda item at every PCC meeting and has a full and comprehensive risk assessment which is regularly scrutinised and updated, when necessary.

The following groups/people undergo training and adhere to the safeguarding policy – Incumbent, Churchwardens and Deputy Churchwardens, Time Together leaders and team, Messy Church, Baptism welcomers, Bible Study, Choir leaders, Homes Communion Teams, Residential Homes team, Junior Church, Prayers for Healing, Pastoral visitors and Transport.

DBS documentation is continually reviewed and persons are contacted who need to update/refresh their paperwork. This has obviously been more difficult these past twelve months due to COVID restrictions. People have, however, gained access by visiting <http://safeguardingtraining.org> C of E portal.org and Reverend Judy has supported others in updating their documentation.

The current position is thus: CO/1 and leadership training had been planned and advertised for 2020 but was obviously cancelled. Once training resumes, the following will be the focus:-

Time Together – one occasional helper and one involved in various forms of pastoral work (CO/1)

The Treasurers and Clergy have been in contact during the year.

Messy Church met early in the year and has had on-line material later on Time Together and the Hospital Chaplaincy are joint ventures: contact has been kept going with all through the months of the pandemic

There is now FTW section to intercessions in all three parishes in our main Sunday services and by e mail round to those who wish to pray at home too

There is an item on the agenda at each Coordinating group meeting to highlight any requests for support from any of the three parishes

There has been a sharing of resources and a working together in times of lockdown: prayer & nurture, pastoral care and ensuring communication are two areas of this in particular

Zoom meetings and telephone meetings have helped some people to stay in touch and many positive and appreciative comments have been made about our phone line messages and our Facebook / YouTube recorded or livestreamed services and messages

Thanks to all who have prayed, worked together and provided support and encouragement.

Curate's report

Sam Johnson

Hello!

Well, as far as starts to ordained ministry life and our time here in Whitchurch go – this is quite a way from how I imagined it!

After finishing my studies (MA Theology and Ministry) in Durham we arrived in Whitchurch to as warm a welcome as I'm sure would be manageable given the circumstances – so thank you for that.

Unfortunately there was no trip to Lichfield cathedral and not even any services in the churches! Instead I was licenced via zoom and spent time seeing people from the waist up. Imagine my surprise in mid-July when I realised you all had feet!

In September I did get ordained – at a very small service and Rev Sue represented the churches at the service.

Since arriving here there have been several things I've been involved with:

- Video reflections – these have been well received
- Editing together online services – a slight change from the March restrictions we moved to filming and editing together services in November
- In person services, preaching and leading.
- Several zoom meetings, and some in person for PCC and standing committee.
- Quite a large number of funerals – I'm some way ahead of my curacy cohort in that regard.
- Christianity explored faith course on zoom which I led.

FTW REPORT ON 2020

Judy Hunt, Rector

The year began with us being aware that Revd Elaine Attack would be moving on and that Sam Johnson would be joining us as curate. These may well be the only two main expectations for 2020 that actually came about!

We did become a legal benefice at the end of January. The only joint service that took place before the Coronavirus pandemic and associated restrictions started was on Ash Wednesday (26th February 2020) at Tilstock. The FTW co-ordinating group for the three parishes, with PCC representation from each, managed to meet twice during the year, in February and November.

We had a disappointing meeting with the Bishop of Shrewsbury in mid-March and it appears that the Senior Staff are no longer supportive of a House-for-Duty role that is tied to our current mission and ministry, despite having assured us that this would happen before we finally agreed to the parishes becoming a benefice. We were still charged for this post during the whole of 2020 and the same was due to happen for 2021 but a decrease in the Parish Share for each Parish has been negotiated.

We were not able to say a proper 'goodbye' to Revd Elaine but she has settled well in Frodsham.

Sam Johnson did join us at the end of June but could not be ordained (because of the pandemic) until late September. For the time in-between he was a licensed lay worker with us. This was by no means the easiest of years for a family to move or for new work which usually relies so much on 'physically being present' to be taken on. Sam, however, has more than risen to the challenge and it's a real positive to have him and the family with us. He has been leading worship, preaching and taking Collective Worship at Tilstock School among other things. His video-editing skills have been put to good use!

Church life (worship, pastoral care, nurture and outreach) has been greatly impacted by the pandemic, but the links between the three parishes have been key and have been strengthened in some ways:

Administrative support for all three parishes was provided by Jo Lavin. We have been able to keep communication going out widely – electronically and by hard copy; this has included pew sheets and magazines / Chancel Steps. Website development has also been important. Signage and other Coronavirus information and publicity has been vital.

When public worship has taken place, the Clergy and Reader team members move around the 3 parishes to lead and preach at Sunday Services. Revd Judy has overall oversight and particular responsibility for Whitchurch and Tilstock and Revd Sue for Fauls. The arrival of Revd Sam means that he has taken on some ministerial roles in Tilstock

Deputy Churchwardens and new organist (CO/1 and leadership module)
 Captain of Bell Ringers (leadership module)
 Any new members of teams
 Safeguarding Officer (C3 due April 2021)
 Rector and Reader (C3 due September 2021)

DBS

Reverend Judy has taken on the role of administrator for these. The checks are currently completely up to date with nine renewed this year and one new one completed. There are three people who may offer transport who are yet to be done.

Electoral Roll

Mr Paul Williamson

1st January 2021 is the date names are recorded for the purpose of the APCM. At that time 153 names were on the list and 14 of those lived outside the Parish. On 1st January 2020 144 names were on the list with 14 living outside the Parish

My thanks to Revd Judy and Jo for their support.

PCC Secretary's Report

Mrs Judy Bellingham

St Alkmund's PCC met bi-monthly during 2020 on a Monday evening in Bargates for January and then on Zoom because of the pandemic. Full list of members can be seen at the start of this report booklet. We started to spend the John Heatley legacy and the repairs to the stonework and windows have been completed. No work has been done on the inside of the church apart from general maintenance but we are hoping to replace the internal front doors soon with glass panels to make the church look more inviting to visitors. There has been a lot of upheaval due to Covid-19 restrictions and services had to be stopped for a time. We have increased our online presence on Youtube and Facebook with services being streamed and reflections recorded via this media and also by phone. A lot of people who do not normally attend church have viewed these services and appreciated them. We were pleased to welcome Sam and Leah Johnson and family in July. It has been a strange time for them as we are only able to meet up online or socially distanced and it has been difficult for them to meet other members of the congregation as they normally would. Sam has been invaluable in teaching us to use the technology to enable us to move online. There have not been any concerts in church this year due to Covid restrictions. We continue to be represented on Churches Together, Christian Aid, The Friends of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch Fairtrade Group, The Foodbank and the Higginson's Charities. We have only been able to reach out into the community via social media etc this year. All our usual events had to be cancelled. This has been a year like no other.

Bargates Hall

Wayne Edwards, Caretaker/Manager

It has been very different year for Bargates Hall, the first part of the year was largely as normal until we had to close to groups due to the Covid-19 outbreak and restrictions. All those affected have been very accepting of the situation—thank you. Whilst closing to these groups does not sound like very good news we are pleased that this closure has enable us to help the wider community by allowing Whitchurch Foodbank unlimited use of the premises, enabling them to help the many people who have been in particular need of their services; this number has been greatly increased by the pandemic. Extra funding for them has meant that they have been able to make a series of extra payments for which we are very grateful. I would also like to thank the foodbank volunteers for keeping the Hall clean and tidy during their sole use of the premises. The annual regular maintenance has also come to a halt to give the foodbank free run of the building—hopefully this will alter during the coming year.

Churches Together in Whitchurch

Revd Judy

Groups associated with Churches Together

Important activities in the town are undertaken ecumenically, and the Churches Together Committee receives reports from these:

- Fair Trade (including the “Big Brew” hosted in St Alkmund’s)
- Christian Aid
- The Food Bank
- Time Together
- The Hospital Chaplaincy
- The Bible Society

Church Services

We had planned to continue with our ‘liturgical year’ for the churches in the town but during 2020, all were cancelled because of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

However, St John’s hosted an on-line Christian Aid service with participation from all four churches.

Lent Activities

In Lent 2020, the Lent Lunches were cancelled and only part of the Lent Course was held (based around the book “Vibrant Christianity in Multifaith Britain” by Andrew Smith.

No AGM was held

made several donations to St Alkmund's as a thank you for use of Bargates without extra charge. Volunteers over 70 were not allowed to continue to help during the pandemic and many other younger volunteers have stepped up to help as they were furloughed.

Fairtrade Report

Mrs Judy Bellingham

We had to stop having a Traidcraft stall at the back of church on the 2nd Sunday of each month due to Covid restrictions. I continue to have a stall in the Whitchurch Market each Friday when it is open. It has been closed from time to time due to Covid restrictions. We were hoping to celebrate our 10 years of being a Fairtrade Town this year but it had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. We hope to do something next year. Thanks to all of you who have supported Traidcraft despite not having the stall in church. I have stock at home and can order from the catalogue for anyone who would like to. Every time we choose to buy a Fair trade product we are helping someone less fortunate to make a decent living for their family

The Friends of St. Alkmund’s, Whitchurch

**Revd Judy Hunt,
Chair**

The Main Project was the Church Tower Clock:

Money was raised by publicity on the need to install a new auto-regulator at a cost of £2,420 plus VAT. Donations received totalled £1,725 and some of these were gift-aided.

The Friends AGM was held on 08.09.2020.

Trustees for the coming year were appointed:

The Revd Judy Hunt Ex-officio and Chair

Mr Simon Edge Elected and Treasurer

Mrs Hilda Francis-Roberts PCC Nomination

Mr Ray Hatton Elected and Secretary

Mrs Belinda Hutchinson-Smith Elected

Mrs Alex Williamson PCC nomination and Membership Secretary

Mr Tom Rylands PCC nomination

Mr Chris Smith Elected

Events in 2020

All cancelled because of the Coronavirus Pandemic

Sunday 4th October Harvest Lunch in Bargates Hall

Saturday 14th November Christmas Coffee Morning in Bargates Hall.

Saturday 28th November Crib Festival.

Saturday 5th December Border Singers Concert in St Alkmund's Church,

Thursday 24th December Light tea to be served in Bargates between

services for those helping or taking part in the service.

As we are all too aware, due to COVID-19 most of these events did not take place .

The Children's Society

Mrs Sue Collins

We, as a church, continue to give good support to The Children's Society, with our regular contributions year on year.

There are now 71 boxes in use which are emptied once a year, unless they are full, in which case, are emptied as needed. We also had 2 very generous donations, making the total amount of box money for 2020, £1737.87 a very good result. Thank you everyone who contributes so generously.

The Christingle Service is the other major fund raising event for the Society. Rebecca Sims has taken over this part of the administration for the Children's Society for which I'm extremely grateful. Due to Covid restrictions we were unable to distribute collecting candles to the children in our schools as in the past and things had to be done differently, but I do thank Revd Judy for generously allowing the service to go ahead and for all the work she put into preparing for it. In spite the huge amount of work Rebecca and her helpers put into it, sadly the service was very poorly attended and contributions were, therefore, very low compared to previous years amounting only to £88.72. Perhaps with the advent of the vaccine things will return to normal next year.

The Children's Society does wonderful work supporting deprived children, especially helping runaways, refugee children, often unaccompanied, and child carers amongst others and I do thank everyone who supports it.

It is obvious that this year the box collections have been particularly invaluable to what we've been able to contribute to the work of the society so, if you haven't got a box, do consider it. I am always willing to supply a box to anyone who would like one, so do please ask.

Sue Collins 667845

Whitchurch Foodbank Report

Mrs Judy Bellingham

We continue to have a box at the back of church for donations to the Foodbank. Things have had to change a lot during the pandemic. All food is now delivered to clients. No one is allowed to come in person to collect food.. St Alkmund's has allowed the Foodbank exclusive use of Bargates during the pandemic as it is not being used for other groups. There has been a lot more demand on services due to the crisis. Foodbank have

The Churches Together Christmas Card

This was not produced in 2020 due to the advice against hand delivery of printed materials. One class of pupils from the White House School were asked to design a border for our poster – and three winners were chosen and used.

Welcome

During the year, we welcomed Fr Thaddaeus who is now serving at St George's.

Whitchurch (Church of England) Federation:

Whitchurch (Church of England) Junior Academy and

Whitchurch (Church of England) Infant Academy

Mrs Liz Walsh

Like most schools, this last year has been difficult for the Whitchurch C of E Federation.

The Principal, Mrs Sarah Cope, and the Senior Management team have worked tirelessly to keep the education of all the children in the Nursery, Infant and Junior Schools available as much as possible.

From the beginning of the pandemic both schools were reordered with one way systems, bubbles of pupils and numerous restrictions to keep everyone safe. There have been copious variations of the Government COVID-19 Risk Assessments to follow, the latest being number 14! All have been strictly adhered to; this often requiring last minute revisions. All Governor meetings have been on Zoom to keep us up to date with developments, visits

and most training have been cancelled.

At the beginning of November the first positive cases occurred in the Infant and Nursery school. The school was subsequently closed for a few days for deep cleaning.

At the November half term Mrs J Rowlandson the Head of the Infant and Nursery School left to take up a new headship. She has been replaced by Mrs S Gilmore.

Mrs Cope and all the staff of both schools are to be congratulated for keeping the pupils taught either in school or at home in this challenging time, and need our prayers for the future.

Deanery Report

Revd Judy

Elected Lay Members of the Deanery Synod in 2020:

John & Pauline Stokes

Steve White

Clergy Members of the Deanery Synod in 2020:

Revd Judy Hunt

Revd Sam Johnson (from Sept)

The Lay members were re-elected at the APCM on 18.10.2020

The Synod did not meet at all during 2020 because of Covid-19 restrictions

The Clergy Chapter did not meet from April to October inclusive

Revd Deborah Walton was licensed to the PEW group of parishes and to a Chaplain-type role in both Sir John Talbot's and Thomas Adams

Secondary Schools

The Deanery has formed a "Shaping for Mission Team" to take forward the work in 2021 on this Diocesan initiative. Local members are:

Mrs Marjorie Jones (Prees)

Mrs Cresswell (Shawbury *etc*)

Revd Adam Clayton (Myddle *etc* and Rural Dean)

Revd Paul Cawthorne (Hadnall *etc*)

Revd Rich Cresswell (Shawbury *etc* and Assistant Rural Dean)

Revd Sam Johnson (FTW benefice)

Whitchurch Junior C of E Academy Experience Days

Wendy Darter

This year we were not able to have the children in Church for Easter and Pentecost.

When Harvest came we had the expertise of Rev Sam and he videoed our volunteers presenting each of the types of Harvest. This video was shown in school but was rather long with none of the usual activities.

At Christmas we delivered to school all the stories, discussion topics and activities for the Y4 teachers to present to the children themselves. This went well and was enjoyed and may be repeated at Easter.

We hope that it won't be too long before we can have the children in church again.

Reader's Report

Jane Rylands

A quieter year than usual! I only began a contribution to the pattern of recorded online offerings of the church towards the end of the first lockdown when I felt I could contribute something focused towards our families with young children. Since then I have had a regular slot. It was lovely to have a few weeks of 'in church' worship in the autumn and up to Christmas and to play a part in leading and preaching for some of those, including what felt like real trips out to Fauls and Tilstock.

Plant Sale & Produce Stall Miss Janet Ivens & Mrs Judy Bryant

Covid raised its ugly head just as the plants were at their peak growing time. Realising a sale in an indoor venue would be out of the question, we were determined to find an alternative way to satisfy our faithful customers. A few phone calls later and our new system was taking shape: orders to taken by phone, payment to our wonderful treasurer Mel by card and delivery by willing members of Helping Hands to the grateful recipients. It worked and most important of all we still managed to raise around £1200.

This spring we hope to repeat the winning formula. The sale will take place around the 1st May and all details will be advertised well in advance. Thank you to everyone who supported us so magnificently last year.

Social Working Group Annual Report.

Mrs Sheila Chase

The Social Working Group is made up of members of St Alkmund's Church congregation. New members are always welcome to come along and join us.

Our first meeting of the New Year was held on Tuesday 18th February 2020 at 7:30 pm in St Alkmund's Church Office.

We started the year with our diary full of confirmed dates, which were as follows.

Sunday 29th March

FTW Songs of Praise in St Alkmund's Church @ 10:30 am

This was to include Elaine's Leaving do, unfortunately this was probably the first of the 'extra' events Cancelled due to Covid-19

Sunday 12th April Easter Breakfast.

Thursday 23rd April Nine Barrow Concert in Church @ 7:30 pm

Saturday 2nd May Plant Sale usually held in Bargates Hall was changed to a remote ordering system (see Plant Sale Report)

Friday 8th May VE Day

Sunday 17th May Rogation Service at Tremloes Stud Farm @ 6:30 pm

Tuesday 2nd June Rebecca Byrne in Concert, 7:30 pm in Church

Friday 12th June Coffee Morning at the Civic Centre

Saturday 13th June FTW Festival

Saturday 13th June Party in the Park, for those involved with Fair Trade.

Sunday 14th June Bishop Sarah (Shrewsbury) 10:00am service.

Thursday 18th June Ordination of Sam Johnson our new Curate @ Lichfield @ 5:00 pm,

Sunday 28th June Bring and Share Lunch in Bargates Hall after the 10:00 am service for all three Parishes

Saturday 4th July, Parish Outing to Llandudno.

Saturday 11th July, Jean Martyn in Concert @7:30 pm in Church

Monday 27th July Cello Concert @ 3:00 pm refreshments required,

Saturday 3rd October, Blackberry Fair.

brought pleasure and cheer to an otherwise difficult year. Thank you to all dedicated people who come along and grace this lovely building with their talent to the Glory of God. If you would like to join us just pop along on a Friday Morning or leave contact details with Jo in the Parish Office. There are quite a few dates available on the Altar Flower Rota, too.

Guild of Service

Not a lot to say about the Church cleaning rota Our teams continue to do an amazing job and as always we would love more members to join us. It's been a difficult last ten months for everyone but as usual we have continued to do our best and will not doubt carry on in the coming months. With the vaccine there is a light at the end of the tunnel unless someone turns the torch off

Bell ringing

The year started off normally enough but the lockdown in March caused the cessation of all ringing for several months. Sunday ringing resumed in July but was limited to 15 minutes on alternate bells to comply with Covid regulations. We are fortunate to have a large and well-ventilated ringing room. Further lockdowns have also interrupted ringing and the move into Tier 3 before Christmas brought us down to ringing just one bell. We have been unable to hold practices or do any teaching since March. This is a frustration to us and especially to learners Sam and Leanne. The former had just started ringing on Sunday mornings when we went into the first lockdown.

The regular band of Peter, Helen, Mike and myself have been helped out by Robin Gilbert from Tilstock on a number of occasions when one of us was unavailable. Jacob returned to Bath University but was able to ring with us in the run-up to Christmas.

We had been looking forward to a bumper season of weddings to ring for, but of course, none of them took place.

Hopefully, we will get back to more normal ringing during 2021 and that we will be able to progress our efforts to rebuild what has become a rather depleted band.

Baptism Welcome Group

The pandemic has meant that many families chose to delay their baptism bookings until 2021. For those who decided to go ahead, after church opened again, we held some pleasant services, just one family at a time, each with a few guests.

In place of home visits we had to rely on telephone conversations and all paperwork and even the Baptismal Candle had to be individually sealed and quarantined for 72 hours before the service.

We hope to be able to reach out to the families of all who have been baptised in recent times with the Rev Sam's online Bible story and activities for young people.

Sue Wainwright

Malcolm Monie

Mrs Wendy Darter

Junior Church and Sermon Slot Jane Rylands and Meriel Edge

As the year began Meriel and I continued to share leadership of the morning service sessions with our youngsters and were wonderfully supported by a team of volunteers and with a particular mention of Judy Bellingham who ensures that there are photocopied activity sheets for the children to use in the pews. As Meriel and my skill sets are complementary we hope that our different styles provide an interesting variety of activities and approaches to the sharing of the Christian message with our young people.

Of course, much of this year has been spent in lockdown with no meetings in church. We have both supported the video recordings for families collated by Rev Sam - although branded 'Messy Church' we hope that our younger 10 o'clockers also enjoyed them.

When services were allowed again in the autumn we did our best to run sessions for those children who came to church: initially the weather was good enough to go outside and to be unrestricted by masks although perhaps slightly harder to maintain the children's focus! The need to be socially-distant, to not share equipment, to create a good atmosphere within an environment which felt alien and to share a message in the shortened time scale made for a very challenging few weeks!

Time Together Report

Revd Judy

The purpose of the Time Together group is to provide social, spiritual, physical and emotional support for those with Memory Loss or Dementia and their family members or carers. We work in partnership with AgeUK and this is very helpful.

The group continued to meet twice a month on Wednesday afternoons in the first part of the year but had to stop this 'physical' meeting in early March due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

We stayed in touch with members by phone and e mail, plus the delivery of AgeUK activity packs - either by e mail or hard copy for the rest of the year. This contact was enhanced from October to December for those who could Zoom - twice monthly Zoom meetings were held. These were greatly appreciated by the 5 families who were able to participate.

We have 'lost' some members this year, through death or through health deterioration, and we have not yet gained other members. This will need to be a priority in 2021 once we can meet physically once more.

We have received several generous donations from grateful participants and from Community Organisations.

Hospital Chaplaincy Team

Revd Judy

The hospital chaplaincy team has been providing support for patients and staff at Whitchurch Community Hospital since October 2015. The team is led by Revd Canon Dr Judy Hunt and is currently comprised of eight lay volunteer members from St Alkmunds, Holy Immanuel Faults Church and the Beacon Church and also includes Revd Sue Armstrong. Revd Sue's dog, Merlin, is a qualified PAT (Pets as Therapy) dog and so sometimes visits with Sue – bringing a much appreciated canine presence. Roman Catholic ministers and a Quaker contact are also available if needed.

St Alkmund's PCC has an agreement with the Hospital to provide a service of at least 6 hours per week throughout the year. In practice it is usually more. At least one person of the team visits the hospital every weekday. Weekends and special Holy days are covered by arrangement amongst the team. Lay members are authorised to administer Holy Communion and consecrated bread and wine are kept in a cupboard at the Hospital for use, as required.

Team members provide conversation and a listening ear for any concerns for the patients and pray with all those who would like it, including visitors. Hospital Staff also appreciate being able to talk with Chaplaincy Team Members. Each patient is offered a prayer card and a bookmark contact card with the telephone numbers of Revd Judy and Revd Sue on them. In addition, small palm-size holding crosses made from smooth olive tree wood are given to those who would like one. Patients have found these comforting. The turnover of patients is often high but some are on the wards for several weeks, so Team members get to know them quite well. Interaction with those in Outpatients also occurs. Team members help each other by writing short notes in a notebook about those they have spoken with and any points of note about a patient but they are always aware of the legalities of confidentiality and Health and Safety. The visiting continued until the middle of March and was then put on hold because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Revd Judy was occasionally called in for individual patients.

The Team also plans and participates in activities at the Hospital; this usually includes an Easter / Springtide event, a Harvest Celebration and the Christmas Crib Service but all had to be cancelled in 2020 because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

We stayed in touch with the Hospital by e mail and by providing resource activities and on-line services. This continuing contact which was much appreciated as were Christmas Cards sent to be given to patients.

The Team usually meets regularly at St Alkmund's Rectory to reflect on this ministry, to discuss improvements or any difficulties, and exchange ideas for engaging and helping the patients. In the middle and later part of 2020, these 'physical' meetings were replaced by Zoom meetings.

I continue to enjoy working with Revd Sue, & Revd Judy, and look forward of building a good working relationship with our new curate—Revd Sam. I would like to urge the congregations to continue to provide articles, reports and especially photographs for use in all the above publications when it is possible. Together we can continue to improve the quality of our publications.

My thanks, as always, to Mrs Pauline Stokes, for the help and support she gives me each week and especially this year for her phone calls which have helped keep me sane. Thank you.

Afternoon Bible Study Group

Mrs Celia Camplin

This will be a very short resume of what happened in 2020 regarding the group. We managed to start looking at the Acts of the Apostles in 2019 and finished it in January / February 2020. We were wondering how St Peter arrived in Rome about the same time as St Paul was there, and how they both managed to be martyred about the same time. We looked to see if the Bible was any help, and as we couldn't find any references we decided to see if St Peter's Letters offered a clue.

So these Letters were due to be started in March. However the lockdown put pay to that!

Keswick too was cancelled this year, but there is always some hope in 2021.

I have kept in touch with the group by sending cards for the major festivals and kept in touch in other ways. I've booked the room in Bargates and sent a list of the hopeful dates to all members of the group. Hopefully when we can meet again, we shall look at St Peter's Letters. I'll let everyone know when that will be!

May I wish everyone safe months ahead, and keep to all the rules. If anyone would like to join us, we meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month, at 2.00pm in Bargates Hall. You will be very welcome. My phone number as in the magazine. See you there.

God bless, and stay safe.

Flower Arrangers

Firstly, the whole team were saddened by the loss of our longest serving member Mrs Muriel Simkiss who died 31st July 2020. Muriel led the team for many years along with Olive Walker and Shirley Lakin before they hung up their florist's scissors and afterwards with Ruth. We give thanks for Muriel's life and service and miss her terribly. Rest in peace.

The Team continued to work as hard as ever when the Covid-19 restrictions permitted. Fortunately they were able to do displays for many of the Sundays and were especially pleased to be able to do so for Harvest—even though they had to work in a Covid Safe manner. 'We each took charge of a particular display and worked dotted around the church'. We all have our favourite flowers and colours so hopefully they have

Boyne Clarke and Angela Davies returned to play at Evening Prayer where, once we were allowed to sing again, first an anthem was sung, and then gradually, one of the canticles and sometimes another hymn was added. The choir is now rather depleted of men with the sad death of Roger Duffell and the retirement of John Malam, both of whom are sadly missed, but we are grateful to Celia and Garry Churchill who have joined us. We also much appreciate Rev Judy singing with us when she can. Thanks to the work done by Rev. Judy, we were able to have a Carol Service, different from usual as everything else is, but enjoyable none the less.

Singing in a choir, socially distanced from each other, is not easy and we have had no choir practices for any service, including the Carol Service, since March, but we continue to do the best we can.

Without doubt, the greatest sadness of the year was the sudden death of Dr Bob (Rob) Fowler, our brilliant organist, in November. Bob could always be relied on to play whatever was asked of him, traditional or modern hymns alike, and was faithfully there for the few who turned up for choir practice for the morning service on a Wednesday evening, before Coronavirus struck. He also had the ability to fill any gaps that the hymns didn't fill, with totally improvised music. If anyone congratulated him on his excellent playing, he always said it was a God given gift and nothing to do with him!!

He was a great musician and will be hugely missed by us all.

We are grateful to Ted Chegwin and Angela Davies for helping out with playing the organ for 10.00am services in December, including at Christmas.

Parish Office

Jo Lavin, Parish Administrator

During the course of 2020 the Parish Office continued to publish the Parish Magazine of St Alkmund's, Fauls & Tilstock and The Chancel Steps, which also accommodates news from our other two parishes. The website www.stalkmunds.com was replaced by a new site which went live early 2020 and towards the end of the year efforts turned to setting up a website, for each of Fauls and Tilstock which will go live in early 2021.

The production of the regular weekly Pewsheets along with extra 'Covid Restrictions' versions of service booklets to use during these strange, stressful and frightening times.

The role of Parish Administrator has continued to be a busy one though out the pandemic, for many weeks work having to be done from home instead of the office. And much of the work moving from the printed word to being online which has meant an expansion of the St Alkmund's website to include more pastoral content including Pewsheets, links to Prayer Resources and welfare resources in addition to links to online services and weekly prayer contributions from the clergy and reader.

Pastoral Care Group Report

Jill Wallace

2020 has been such an unusual, difficult, frightening year for many during the Pandemic, and continues to be into 2021, but HOPE is looming with the advent of the Vaccine being rolled out as fast as possible.

The Church Pastoral Care Team has been busy helping in a variety of ways, putting faith into practice ... along with Helping Hands, a Whitchurch Town -based team, also helping in a variety of ways.

Our aim is to support the vulnerable who are shielding, the elderly and any others needing help in various ways ... sending out Church materials, doing shopping, collecting prescriptions, phoning those on their own, and trying generally to prevent anyone from feeling neglected or uncared for.

So much comes under the term 'pastoral care'!

Revd Judy, Revd Sue, Revd Sam and Jane Rylands our Reader, have made it possible for those with computers to access the on-line services, and those without computers, to listen to a spoken 'Reflection' on a local phone number once or twice a week. Also Judy Bellingham has learned how to copy the services onto discs so that those with DVD players can watch the services at a later date in the comfort of their own homes ... so much has been going on as we all discover new ways of using modern technology, some finding it easier than others! We also try to put the sermons/ talks/reflections on line and also hard copies in a folder in church for anyone to take home to catch up or reflect on further.

FTW Prayer Link is a way of encouraging us to pray at home ... we receive weekly information by email or hard copy of those who are ill or who have passed away in our 3 parishes, Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch. Also any prayer requests for our schools and communities, and from the notes written by anyone and put on our **Church Prayer Board**, for two weeks at a time, when they are removed to make room for others. Please let us know if anyone else would like to receive the Prayer Link sent regularly.

Pastoral visiting to help with the Care Homes' Communion and private home communions have had to stop since Covid-19 arrived, but church materials are sent by Revd Judy to the Care Homes and some of the Residents can watch the Videos and Services in this way. We recorded a special Harvest and a special Christmas service for them. Also one Care Home requested a Worship Service that they could take themselves.

Personal Bible Reading Notes are sent from The Bible Reading Fellowship and Scripture Union regularly and samples are on the shelves in Church if anyone would like to take a sample home to try.

Thanks to everyone who has helped in so many different ways this year.

Jesus said: 'I am the Vine, you are the branches. If anyone remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing' from John's Gospel, and in James we read: 'faith, if not accompanied by action, is dead.'

Residential/Nursing Homes' Communion Mrs Pauline Stokes

2020 certainly a year we shall never forget!

Our small, but committed team of visitors to the Homes, started the New Year by taking Communion into the Care and Nursing Homes in our town. Usually the second week each month we start by visiting Edgeley House & Court, followed by visits to Weston House, Cloverfields, and to Snowdrop and Bluebell at Greenfields, also calling at St. John's Park, too (when we enjoy catching up with news with some of the Residents.) – Sadly, but understandably, we were only able to take Communion into the Homes in January, February, & March, before Covid struck and *Lockdown!!!*

Our short Communion Service begins with a hymn, usually fitting in with the churches year (e.g. Epiphany, Lent, &c) a Reading and a short reflection on the theme of the reading, the service is usually led by Revd Judy, though occasionally a member of the team will lead the service, and closing with a final hymn. We then take the opportunity to have a chat to the residents, some of whom have become old friends of ours over the years.

We value, too, our visits to the residents who have Dementia, when we sing just one verse of a very well known hymn, say the Lord's Prayer with them, and finish with singing the verse again – and it is lovely when memories are re-awakened!

We were pleased to have two Songs of Praise services at Greenfields, in January and February *before Lockdown* - when the residents really enjoyed singing the hymns! Jane Rylands our Reader leads this informal service, and she too gives a short reflection on a reading – always 'food for thought, too.'

Though we have been unable to visit the Homes, because of Covid, since March, the Residents and their families, and all the Staff *are* very much in our thoughts and prayers – and sadly, we lost some of our friends whom we have come to know over the years – God Bless them!

Dementia-Friendly Church

Pauline Green

Much of our Dementia-Friendly Ministry as a church takes place through Time Together, the Hospital Chaplaincy, general Pastoral Care and the work with our Residential and Care Homes. We publicise this work in the local press and, when Covid-restrictions allow, through involvement in town events. We were awarded a Diocesan Certificate again for this work in 2020. We keep in touch with other churches involved in similar work through the regional meetings hosted by Sarah Thorpe.

Messy Church

Messy Church would usually meet every other month on a Sunday in Bargates Hall.

We have been unable to meet in 2020 due to the Covid Restrictions. Instead we have put a video on Facebook/YouTube. During Covid-19 we have missed our messy church families. We hope to re-start in 2021 (dates tba). Messy Church families were invited to set up the Crib at a special Sunday service on the 20th December. <https://www.facebook.com/StAlkmundsWhitchurch>

Church Music (part 1)

Dr Robert Anthony Fowler

MUS.DOC, MA, FWTC, L.L.S.M.

Organist & Choirmaster, St Alkmund's Church

In January the keyboards of the organ were removed and remedial work carried out including re-felting and renewing pins. The electronic keyboard was used for Sunday services and several funerals. It was wonderful once this work was completed towards the end of February and the improvements to the organ very noticeable.

We welcomed Bishop Sarah to our service on 15th March, but unfortunately a few days later a national lockdown was announced and services suspended. After a few weeks it was agreed that organ maintenance was allowed so I played once a week to ensure the organ was kept in good working order.

All weddings planned for this year were postponed. After a short respite of normal services we were put in to the tier system meaning reduced numbers, social distancing, no singing except for the choir and no chatting or socialising inside the building.

"Dr Bob" prepared this report early in November but unfortunately he died suddenly on 2nd December. The church has lost an extremely talented and committed organist and I have lost a wonderful loving husband.

Elaine Bucknell

Church Music (part 2)

Mrs Sue Collins, Choir

Church music has suffered considerably over the course of this year for various reasons. The obvious one, of course, was the coronavirus lockdown when, from late March to mid- July we had no services or music.

Services began again on July 19th, though no singing was allowed, but it was a joy to have Dr Bob Fowler, our organist, playing before and after the 10.00am services, and one or two hymns during the distribution of communion. This was extended to playing a joyful piece during the offertory. Singing was at last allowed by small choirs, socially distanced, on September 6th, and Bob then accompanied the choir for hymns during the service.

The PCC of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch

End of Year Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2020

ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH, WHITCHURCH PCC - 1129900

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Prior year total funds £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2(a)	91,436	680	124,012	—	216,128	139,690
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	10,808	—	—	—	10,808	17,151
Other trading activities	2(c)	11,861	—	240	—	12,091	16,610
Investments	2(d)	14,147	—	14,037	—	28,185	34,632
Other income	2(e)	2,340	—	62	—	2,402	3,849
Total income		130,583	680	138,352	—	269,616	212,034
Expenditure on:							
Expenditure on charitable activities	3	129,437	1,632	266,294	—	391,363	282,082
Total expenditure		129,437	1,632	266,294	—	391,363	282,082
Gains / losses on investment assets	7(b)	211,886	—	7,459	—	219,345	128,271
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		219,032	(952)	(110,482)	—	107,597	58,222
Transfers							
Gross transfers between funds – in	8	662	—	662	—	1,116	1,442
Gross transfers between funds – out	6	(562)	—	(562)	—	(1,116)	(1,442)
Other recognised gains / losses							
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use		—	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds		219,022	(952)	(110,472)	—	107,597	58,222
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward	11	892,690	3,381	648,911	—	1,544,883	1,486,860
Total funds carried forward	12	1,111,613	2,429	538,439	—	1,652,481	1,544,883

ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH, WHITCHURCH PCC - 1129900

Balance sheet (Church of England)

As at: 31 December 2020

	Note	As at 31/12/2020 £	As at 31/12/2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7(a)	892,300	686,973
Investments	7(b)	553,562	709,636
		<u>1,445,862</u>	<u>1,396,609</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8(a)	5,598	109,330
Cash at bank and in hand	8(b)	205,912	43,419
		<u>211,511</u>	<u>152,749</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	9	2,842	4,408
Provision for liabilities and charges due within one year	9	2,050	67
		<u>206,618</u>	<u>148,274</u>
Net current assets less current liabilities		<u>206,618</u>	<u>148,274</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,652,481</u>	<u>1,544,883</u>
Total net assets less liabilities		<u>1,652,481</u>	<u>1,544,883</u>
Represented by			
Unrestricted			
Unrestricted - General fund	10	1,111,613	892,590
Designated			
Designated - Bell Ringers	10	2,429	3,381
Restricted			
Restricted - GENERAL FABRIC	10	528,015	639,058
Restricted - LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	10	2,514	2,201
Restricted - LECTERN	10	1,000	1,000
Restricted - Dementia Friendly - Time Together	10	6,909	6,652
Restricted - Agency collection		—	—
Funds of the church		<u>1,652,481</u>	<u>1,544,883</u>

Approved by the PCC on 22/02/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

The Revd Canon Dr Judy Hunt (PCC Chairman)

Judith M Hunt

The notes on pages 4 to 12 to form part of these accounts

The PCC of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900

Cash Flow Statement

As at: 31 December 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
Net Cash from Operating Activities		35,784		(211,774)
Cash Flows from Investing activities				
Dividends, interest and rent from investments	28,185		34,533	
Sale of Fixed Asset investments	<u>170,092</u>		<u>97,192</u>	
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities		198,277		131,725
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>234,061</u>		<u>(80,049)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		43,419		123,468
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		<u><u>277,480</u></u>		<u><u>43,419</u></u>
Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)				
Net Income before investment gains/(losses) 31 December		(111,897)		(70,048)
Adjustments for:				
Dividends, interest and rent from investments		(28,185)		(34,533)
Decrease/ (increase) in debtors		103,732		(108,342)
(Decrease)/ increase in creditors		267		(851)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u><u>(35,783)</u></u>		<u><u>(211,774)</u></u>
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents				
Cash at bank and in hand		<u><u>277,480</u></u>		<u><u>43,419</u></u>

The PCC of St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

1) ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCC's and with the Regulations' true and fair view' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Currently these consist of Buildings - namely Bargates Hall and property No 3 Bridgewater Street, Whitchurch which is converted into 2 dwellings 3a and 3b.

The valuation of 3a and 3b Bridgewater Street are based on the Ecclesiastical Insurance re-build value. This has increased by almost 30% since the last revaluation in 2013. Bargates Hall has been increased by the same proportion from the 2013 figure. The valuation of Bridgewater Street has also been compared to the valuation of similar properties in the same area. No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value.

Judgement and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting practice requires the trustees to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of income and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results in the future could differ from those estimates. In this regard, the trustees believe that the only significant area of judgement relate to the valuation of the properties.

Investments

Investments are shares held with CCLA in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund and are valued at the published value 31st December.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its 'free reserves' as disclosed in the Trustee's report.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

ST ALKMUND'S CHURCH, WHITCHURCH PCC - 1129900

**Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	This year £	Total Last year £
Income and endowments							
<i>Donations and legacies</i>							
40100 - Regular Giving - Bankers Orders		46,419	—	300	—	46,719	41,912
40110 - Regular Giving - Weekly Envelopes		9,808	—	—	—	9,808	18,304
40120 - Regular Giving - White Envelopes		1,470	—	—	—	1,470	4,455
40130 - Collections - Cash		2,839	—	—	—	2,839	9,960
40140 - Donations (incl GAYL)		2,859	—	—	—	2,859	5,642
40150 - Wallbox Collections		768	—	—	—	768	1,613
40200 - Gift Aid Recovered		12,227	—	112	—	12,340	26,286
41140 - Other Donations - Restricted		—	—	82,275	—	82,275	15,649
43100 - Appeal Income - Restricted		—	—	—	—	—	425
46120 - Non-Statutory Fees - Weddings		—	—	—	—	—	297
46140 - Non-Statutory Fees - Funerals		949	—	—	—	949	2,205
46130 - Income for Bell Ringers Fund		—	—	—	—	—	69
49000 - Grants		14,104	680	41,324	—	56,108	14,070
Donations and legacies Totals	2(a)	91,436	680	124,012	—	216,128	139,890
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>							
42100 - Fund Raising		1,139	—	—	—	1,139	2,774
46110 - Statutory PCC Fees - Wedding		157	—	—	—	157	2,965
46130 - Statutory Fees - Funeral		5,212	—	—	—	5,212	6,212
46200 - Income from Social Group activities		—	—	—	—	—	900
46400 - Hospital Chaplaincy		4,300	—	—	—	4,300	4,300
Income from charitable activities Totals	2(b)	10,808	—	—	—	10,808	17,151
<i>Other trading activities</i>							
46100 - Church Hire		—	—	—	—	—	822
46300 - Bargates Room Hire		11,264	—	240	—	11,504	13,944
46100 - Magazine Advertising		240	—	—	—	240	154
46110 - Photocopier Income		120	—	—	—	120	139
46120 - Parish Magazine		74	—	—	—	74	215
46140 - Memorial Book entries		25	—	—	—	25	750
46180 - Sundry Income		127	—	—	—	127	585
Other trading activities Totals	2(c)	11,851	—	240	—	12,091	16,610
<i>Investments</i>							
44100 - Dividends Received		2,855	—	14,037	—	16,893	23,413
44110 - Bank Interest Received - PCC Current Acc		159	—	—	—	159	378
46500 - Rental Income - 3a Bridgewater Street		5,460	—	—	—	5,460	5,460
46510 - Rental Income - 3b Bridgewater Street		5,672	—	—	—	5,672	5,280
Investments Totals	2(d)	14,147	—	14,037	—	28,185	34,532

		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	This year £	Total Last year £
	Note						
Other income							
43110 - LDBF Decoration Scheme Bonus		—	—	62	—	62	62
48200 - LDBF Mileage Refunded		70	—	—	—	70	185
61910 - Administration Contribution from Fauls		1,788	—	—	—	1,788	1,674
61920 - Administration Contribution from Tilstoc		481	—	—	—	481	1,926
Other income Totals	2(e)	2,340	—	62	—	2,402	3,849
Income and endowments		130,583	680	138,352	—	269,616	212,034
Grand totals							

Expenditure

Expenditure on charitable activities

50100 - Parish Share	54,416	—	—	—	54,416	53,415
51000 - Mission Giving and Donations	2,750	—	—	—	2,750	19,245
52000 - Retired Clergy Fees and Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	14
52010 - Other Fees & Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	228
52110 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Mileage	333	—	—	—	333	—
52130 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Publications	76	—	—	—	76	—
52140 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Hospitality	10	—	—	—	10	120
52150 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Telephone	48	—	—	—	48	—
52160 - HFD/ Curate/ OLM Computer	160	—	—	—	160	—
52210 - Rector Expenses - Mileage	586	—	—	—	586	873
52220 - Rector Expenses - Postage & other misc i	55	—	—	—	55	37
52230 - Rector Expenses - Publications	100	—	—	—	100	116
52240 - Rector Expenses - Hospitality	273	—	—	—	273	300
52260 - Rector Expenses - Telephone	982	—	—	—	982	970
52260 - Rector Expenses - Computer	200	—	—	—	200	240
52270 - Rector Expenses - House Insurance	36	—	—	—	36	35
52280 - Rector Expenses - Training	200	—	—	—	200	200
52290 - Contribution to upkeep of Rectory Garden	1,125	—	—	—	1,125	1,440
52410 - Reader Expenses	90	—	—	—	90	—
54100 - Church Electricity	2,004	—	—	—	2,004	1,731
54110 - Church Gas	3,300	—	—	—	3,300	4,637
54120 - Church Water	176	—	—	—	176	155
54210 - Church Cleaner	2,683	—	—	—	2,683	2,546
54300 - 'Green' Grounds Maintenance (SPM)	5,397	—	—	—	5,397	4,938
54310 - Church Maintenance	9,058	1,632	—	—	10,690	7,775
54320 - Church Insurance	5,751	—	—	—	5,751	5,732
54400 - Service Consumables	2,872	—	—	—	2,872	2,486
54410 - Annual Subscriptions	1,588	—	—	—	1,588	1,343
54500 - Organist	2,149	—	—	—	2,149	6,037
55100 - Maintenance Costs - Restricted	—	—	243,198	—	243,198	115,988
55110 - Professional Fees	150	—	12,666	—	12,816	16,971
56110 - Hospital Chaplaincy Fees	300	—	—	—	300	1,200
56120 - Hospital Chaplaincy Travel Expenses	27	—	—	—	27	275
58100 - Christian Education	303	—	430	—	733	1,159
58120 - Churches Together Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	100
60110 - Printing/ Photocopying	1,373	—	—	—	1,373	2,798
60120 - Telephone/ Broadband	1,685	—	—	—	1,685	1,018
60130 - Stationery	1,195	—	—	—	1,195	777

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	This year £	Total Last year £
Note						
60140 - Office Equipment	2,158	—	—	—	2,158	2,141
60150 - Bank Charges	624	—	—	—	624	707
61000 - Administrator Wages	12,270	—	—	—	12,270	11,784
61100 - Administrator ER Costs - Nil/ Pension	368	—	—	—	368	325
62100 - Bargates - Electricity	721	—	—	—	721	726
62110 - Bargates - Gas	1,221	—	—	—	1,221	907
62120 - Bargates - Water	287	—	—	—	287	273
62130 - Bargates - Maintenance	280	—	—	—	280	3,776
62140 - Bargates - Running Costs	59	—	—	—	59	622
62150 - Bargates - Caretaker Costs	3,088	—	—	—	3,088	5,088
64110 - 3a Bridgewater Street Maintenance	258	—	—	—	258	208
64120 - 3b Bridgewater Street Maintenance	175	—	—	—	175	135
64210 - 3a Bridgewater Street Insurance	242	—	—	—	242	234
64220 - 3b Bridgewater Street Insurance	242	—	—	—	242	234
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	123,437	1,632	256,294	—	381,363	282,082
Expenditure Grand totals	123,437	1,632	256,294	—	381,363	282,082

The PCC of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
4 (a) Staff Costs		
Salaries	16,498	18,391
Pension Costs	368	325
	<u>16,866</u>	<u>18,716</u>

During the year the PCC employed an administrative clerk, a cleaner and an organist.

4 (b) Related Parties

2 Trustees have been reimbursed £3,062 (2019 £2,891) for travel, phone and other such expenses incurred during the year.

No other expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

Donations from 12 Trustees (PCC members) totalled £11,316 (2019 £12,214).

5 Independent examiner's remuneration

The amount payable to Lichfield Diocese Board of Finance for independent examination services for 2020 is £150.

6 Analysis of Transfer between Funds

	Unrestricted	General	Restricted	Time Together	
	£	£	IDS	£	£
Payment to Diocese becomes Restricted debtor	(250)		250		
Time Together use of Bargates Hall	240			(240)	
Corresponding contras	313		(313)		
Corresponding contras	(313)		313		
	<u>(10)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>(240)</u>	
Transfers In	553		563		1,115.0
Transfers Out	(563)	0	(313)	(240)	(1,115.0)

The PCC of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1126800
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

7 FIXED ASSETS

7(a) Tangible Assets

	Bargates Hall	3 Bridgewater Street	Total
	£	£	£
At Cost or Valuation			
As at 1 Jan 2020	449,833	237,140	686,973
Additions in the Year			
Disposals in the Year			
Revaluation (if any)	134,449	70,878	205,327
Value at 31 Dec 2020	584,282	308,018	892,300
Accumulated Depreciation			
As at 1 Jan 2020			
Charge for the Year			
Disposals			
As at 31 Dec 2020	-	-	-
Net Book Value at 01 Jan 2020	449,833	237,140	686,973
Net Book Value at 31 Dec 2020	584,282	308,018	892,300

7(b) Investments

	At 01-Jan	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	Change in Market Value	At 31-Dec
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Investments	95,385				6,559	101,944
Restricted funds						
Investments	614,251		(170,092)		7,459	451,618
Endowment funds						
Investments						
Total	709,636	0	(170,092)	0	14,018	553,562

8 CURRENT ASSETS

8(a) Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accounts Receivable	552	72
Sale of shares 30/12/19		97,192
Gift Aid Receivable	777	936
IDS Account	2,514	2,202
VAT reclaim	1,755	8,365
Other Debtors		545
	5,598	109,330

8 (b) Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2020	2019
	£	£
Barclays Current Account	15,682	13,119
Barclays Deposit Account	190,003	30,000
Petty Cash	127	200
Bargates Petty Cash	100	100
	205,912	43,419

9 Liabilities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year		
Accounts Payable	1,627	5,457
Agency Collections	1,215	(1,048)
Accruals	2,050	67
	4,892	4,476

The PCC of St Alkmund's, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

10. FUNDS

The restricted funds comprise:

General Fabric	To maintain the Church building.
LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	Fund set up to assist funding for the decoration of the Rectory.
Lectern	Bequeathed by Mabel Bancroft in memory of her great great great grandfather who made it.
Dementia Friendly - Time Together	Dementia sufferers and their carers meet regularly in Bargates Hall to socialise and share experiences.

The designated funds are to help maintain the bell-ringing services of the Church.

11. SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS - 2020

Fund and type	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted						
General - General fund	892,590	130,583	123,287	-10	6,559	906,436
Sub-totals	892,590	130,583	123,287	-10	6,559	906,436
Designated						
BELL - Bell Ringers	3,381	680	1,632	—	—	2,429
Sub-totals	3,381	680	1,632	—	—	2,429
Restricted						
FABRIC - GENERAL FABRIC	639,058	137,362	255,864		7,450	528,015
IDS - LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	2,201	62	—	250	—	2,514
LECTERN - LECTERN	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
TIMETOG - Dementia Friendly - Time Together	6,852	927	430	-240	—	6,809
Sub-totals	648,911	138,351	256,294	10	7,459	538,439
Totals	1,644,883	269,616	381,213	—	14,018	1,447,304

SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS - 2019

Fund and type	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted						
General - General fund	857,686	153,891	133,630	(387)	15,030	892,590
Sub-totals	857,686	153,891	133,630	(387)	15,030	892,590
Designated						
BELL - Bell Ringers	3,312	69	—	—	—	3,381
Sub-totals	3,312	69	—	—	—	3,381
Restricted						
FABRIC - GENERAL FABRIC	618,741	54,157	147,055	(25)	113,240	639,058
IDS - LDBF Interior Decoration Scheme	1,889	62	—	250	—	2,201
LECTERN - LECTERN	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
TIMETOG - Dementia Friendly - Time Together	4,032	3,854	1,397	162	—	6,652
Sub-totals	625,662	58,074	148,452	387	113,240	648,911
Totals	1,486,660	212,034	282,082	—	128,271	1,644,883

The PCC of St Aikmund's, Whitchurch - Charity Commission No 1129900
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

12. SUMMARY OF ASSETS BY FUND

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted	Endowment	At 31/12/2020	At 31/12/2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Fixed assets</i>						
Tangible assets	688,973	—	—	—	688,973	688,973
Investments	101,944	—	451,618	—	553,562	709,836
Fixed assets	788,917	—	451,618	—	1,240,635	1,398,809
<i>Current assets</i>						
Debtors	1,328	—	4,269	—	5,598	109,830
Cash at bank and in hand	116,592	2,429	84,890	—	205,912	42,419
Current assets	118,921	2,429	89,159	—	211,511	152,249
<i>Liabilities</i>						
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	353	—	2,838	—	2,692	4,408
Provision for liabilities and charges due within one	2,050	—	—	—	2,050	67
Net current assets less current liabilities	117,518	2,429	86,921	—	206,768	148,274
Total assets less current liabilities	906,436	2,429	538,439	—	1,447,304	1,544,883
Total net assets less liabilities	906,436	2,429	538,439	—	1,447,304	1,544,883
<i>Represented by</i>						
<i>Unrestricted</i>						
Unrestricted - General fund	906,436	—	—	—	906,436	892,630
<i>Designated</i>						
Designated - Bell Ringers	—	2,429	—	—	2,429	3,381
<i>Restricted</i>						
Restricted - GENERAL FABRIC	—	—	528,015	—	528,015	539,058
Restricted - LDRF Interior Decoration Scheme	—	—	2,514	—	2,514	2,201
Restricted - LECTERN	—	—	1,000	—	1,000	1,000
Restricted - Dementia Friendly - Time Together	—	—	6,909	—	6,909	6,652
Restricted - Agency collection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Funds of the church	906,436	2,429	538,439	—	1,447,304	1,544,883

13 PRIOR PERIOD COMPARATIVE SOFA for the year ending 31 December 2019

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>					
Donations and legacies	103,410	69	36,410	—	139,889
Income from charitable activities	17,151	—	—	—	17,151
Other trading activities	15,650	—	950	—	16,610
Investments	13,891	—	20,840	—	34,632
Other income	3,786	—	62	—	3,848
Total income	153,891	69	58,074	—	212,034
<i>Expenditure on:</i>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	133,630	—	148,452	—	282,082
Total expenditure	133,630	—	148,452	—	282,082
Gains / losses on investment assets	15,030	—	113,240	—	128,271
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	35,291	69	22,862	—	58,222
<i>Transfers</i>					
Gross transfers between funds - in	480	—	952	—	1,442
Gross transfers between funds - out	(877)	—	(565)	—	(1,442)
<i>Other recognised gains / losses</i>					
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	34,904	69	23,249	—	58,222
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>					
Total funds brought forward	857,686	3,312	625,682	—	1,486,680
Total funds carried forward	892,590	3,381	648,911	—	1,544,883



**DIOCESE OF
LICHFIELD**

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of The PCC of Whitchurch

Registered charity number 1129900

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

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

It is my responsibility

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the with the accounting records
- the accounts 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 come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 14/04/2021,

Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

St Mary's House, The Close, Lichfield WS13 7LD

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance

St Mary's House, The Close, Lichfield, WS13 7LD

Tel: 01543 306030 Fax: 01543 306039

Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance Inc. is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England (Company No. 239561).
The Board is a Registered Charity (No. 1107827).



Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of The PCC of Whitchurch

Registered charity number 1129900

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

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

It is my responsibility

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- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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Independent Examiner's Statement

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- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the with the accounting records
- the accounts 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 come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 14/04/2021

Jonathan Hill FCMA CGMA
Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance
St Mary's House, The Close, Lichfield WS13 7LD

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