

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MICHAEL NEW MALTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1130648

Details

Other names ST MICHAEL MALTON PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-07-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

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

Activities: The PCC works alongside the clergy of the parish to promote the mission of the church pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Classification

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

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£69,019	£90,675	-	-
2023-12-31	£73,873	£90,603	-	-
2022-12-31	£78,059	£79,400	-	-
2021-12-31	£90,501	£64,720	-	-
2020-12-31	£63,511	£79,424	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Barry William Gillespie		2020-11-15
Graham Adam Clarke		2026-05-10
HEATHER MARY WILLIAMS		2012-04-23
JANET CHRISTINE PATTEN		2020-11-15
MRS SUE WRIGHT		2013-04-17
Rev John Richard Walker		2026-05-10
Robert Charles Slade Hall		2020-11-15
SAMANTHA JANE FREE		2019-04-28
Sarah Barry		2026-05-10
Stewart Smith		2026-05-10
Susan Jane Thackray		2025-01-01
TRACEY YOUNG		

Accounts

St Michael's Church, New Malton



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Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the

Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December 2024

**together with Reports given to the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Sunday 18th May 2025**

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc

Yorkersgate

Malton

Independent Examiner:

Mr A W Richardson FCCA

White and Hoggard

St. Michael's Church, New Malton

Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Contents

	Page
Annual Report	3-6
Deanery Synod 2024	8
Safeguarding Report	8
Choir Report	9
Working with Families	10
Report of 20s-40s Minister	11
Treasurer's Report	12
Independent Examiner's Report	13
St Michael's Statement of Financial Activities	14
St Michael's Balance Sheet	14
Treasurer's Explanatory Notes	15

St Michael's Church – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Administrative Information

St Michael's Church is situated in the Market Place, Malton (YO17 7LP). It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address was The Vicarage, 17 The Mount, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7ND.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2024 until the date of this report was approved ,18th March 2025 are:

<i>Vicar</i>	The Revd Glyn Diggins (up until 1 April 2024)
<i>Wardens</i>	Mrs Heather Williams (Electoral Roll Officer) Mr Mike Rhodes (Lay chair)
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mr Barry Gillespie Mrs Tracey Young
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Tracey Young Mrs Sue Wright Mrs Samantha Free (Safeguarding Representative) Mr Robert Hall (Treasurer) Mr Barry Gillespie Mrs Janet Patten Mr Hendrik Klaver/Mavis Klaver (ex officio) Mrs Susan Thackray Mrs Rachel Watson Mr Andrew Watson Mrs Patricia Atkinson (from APCM 2024)
<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Helen Shaw

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) operates under the Parish Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Michael, New Malton"

The charity number is: **1130648**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the PCC is to work alongside the clergy in promoting the mission of the church in matters pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. St Michael's embraces the five marks of Mission of the Church of England:

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom

To teach, baptise and nurture new believers

To respond to human need by loving service

To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

St Michael's is a church which invites and welcomes others, to journey together, growing in our love of Christ and deepening our relationship with Him.

All the activities of the parish noted elsewhere in this report are in furtherance of this objective.

Achievements and Performance

At the ACM in 2024 there were 109 members on the Electoral Roll, comprising 80 living within the parish and 29 outside our parish boundaries.

This year, 2025, saw the scrapping of the old Electoral Roll (as required by church law) and the creation of an entirely new one, prepared for this ACM. Currently there are 93 members on the Electoral Roll, comprising 25 living within the parish and 67 outside our parish boundaries.

Despite the parish being in vacancy for 8 months of 2024 the church saw an increase in numbers in a number of categories required to be submitted to the Church of England's statistics department.

The total number of communicants on Easter Day was 88 (78 - 2023)

The total number of communicants on Christmas Eve/Day was 94 (65 - 2023).

The total number of people who attended church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was 367 (314 - 2023) (this includes the Crib Service which saw the Church almost overflowing with families!)

Other aspects of performance are described in the following reports.

Church Wardens' Review of 2024

Last year we said 2023 was an interesting and challenging year with the Rev'd Glyn's absence through illness. 2024 has probably been more interesting and challenging because we have been in vacancy since Rev'd Glyn's departure at the end of April. This has meant more reliance on visiting clergy to ensure that only a very small number of services have had to be changed or cancelled. Our grateful thanks go out to the nine clergy who have regularly presided at our Eucharists. Without their diligent and good-natured support, we would have struggled greatly with our spiritual guidance.

We are fortunate at St Michael's in that we have a large number of enthusiastic and willing volunteers. This year has been especially demanding and it has been an uplifting and also humbling experience to see the number of people willing to give their time and talents to make our church grow. The congregation was involved in the development of our Vision and Mission statement which helped enormously in the development of the Parish Profile.

Whilst the visiting clergy have covered the Eucharistic services, our All Age Team have been magnificent, not only in the lay-led services, which have been greatly enjoyed, but also expanding the provision of additional opportunities to explore faith e.g. Navigate. It has been rewarding to see the number of young people involved in our worship.

Our verger, Andrew, continues to be a jack-of-all-trades and we are grateful for all his hard work.

Rosie Miller has done sterling work over the years, tending the church garden and managing the tubs at the entrance. Rosie has now decided to hang up her trowel and secateurs and take a well-earned rest. We are all very grateful to Rosie for doing such a good job and we hope we will be able to maintain her high standards in the coming year.

Our church is blessed with a large number of volunteers who are involved in every single aspect of church life, without whom, our church would not function. We are truly grateful and appreciate all your support.

Sadly during 2024 we said goodbye to some of our friends who have supported St Michael's for many, many years, including Romey Willis, Viv Pope, Nora Woodall and Peter Clark. They will be sorely missed.

Our church has been open every day and we give thanks for the many positive comments said and written in our visitors' book. The votive candles continue to be well-supported by donations in the west door wall safe.

Despite the lack of a vicar, our services have continued virtually unaltered:-

Our scheduled services	One-off events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Age Worship (no Eucharist) • Parish Eucharist (Wednesdays) • Parish Eucharist (Sundays except first Sunday of month) • Rise and Shine • Iona style service • Navigate • Lego Church (fourth Sunday) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefice Profile prepared with St Mary's • PCC Action Plan developed • Advent Processional Service • Pancake Party • Processional Palm Sunday Service • Passiontide Service • Maundy Thursday Service • Good Friday Family Event • Ascension Day Service • Harvest Festival • Service of Light • St Clement's Festival • Christmas Fayre • Carols by Candlelight • Crib Service • Christingle Service • Light and Sparkle Event

At the beginning of the vacancy it was agreed to re-establish a Benefice Eucharist whenever there is a fifth Sunday in the month. The services will alternate between churches. The first service was held at St Mary's on 29 September and the second at St Michael's on 29 December.

We have also re-established joint services with the Methodists and there will be four services per year. They will join us for Palm Sunday and Remembrance Sunday and we will visit the Wesley Centre for their Covenant Service in January and a second service in August.

The PCC decided to adopt a more open baptism policy which resulted in 6 baptisms (only 3 in 2003). Further baptisms are already arranged for 2024 and there are plans for an All Age Service (including baptism) in April.

A men's breakfast discussion group has been established and meets in church one a month on the last Saturday of the month (see below).

Our Saturday morning Coffee Stops continue to be popular with church members, non-church members and tourists enjoying the warm welcome provided by those on duty. Coffee Stops for the Food Festivals and St Clement's Festival are for the benefit of the church and raised £1,157. Coffee Stop donations at other times of the year have enabled us to donate £2,274 to charity. This year we have supported Crisis, Camphill Village Trust, Christian Aid, UNICEF Children in Gaza Appeal and Ryedale Community Foodbank.

The church continues to be a drop-off point for Ryedale Community Food Bank. Approximately 140kg of food was donated via the Church throughout 2024, a further 50kg came from donations for the Harvest Festival.

Tuesday Tea has flourished and is helping combat loneliness and isolation and provides a warm, safe space for conversation and fellowship. It meets once a month on the second Tuesday.

In November the second St Clement's Festival took place. Although the weather was unkind, driving all events indoors, the church was a hive of activity from early morning to late afternoon with nine choirs, singing groups and bands. Coffee Stop ran all day (in aid of church funds) and everyone (church members and visitors alike) really enjoyed the day.

Mike Rhodes, Heather Williams (Church Wardens)

Fabric Report 2024

The Quinquennial Inspection (QI) Report was received in April. Apart from the clerestory work which we are already planning to address, the architect also noted that there is outstanding repair work on the tower which should be tackled within the next 5 – 10 years.

The clerestory repair/re-ordering project has made little progress this year. Because we are in vacancy, the PCC has not been able to devote as much time as it would like to the project. In April a sub-committee of Rob Hall, Alan Young, Tracey Young, Heather Williams and John Patten agreed to take matters forward. John and Tracey attended a Funding information Day given by the National Heritage Lottery Funding (NHLF) where they learned how much bureaucracy and ‘non-church related’ work would have to be done to qualify for their large grants (over £250,000).

After reporting back to the PCC it was agreed that the project should be broken down into smaller projects which could be developed over a period of time. This would allow us to tap into smaller less onerous funding options. The team met with the architect to agree a smaller project consisting of repairs to the south wall, roof related items from the QI and access improvements. The architect is now reappraising quotes for the more limited scope of work.

In August part of the cast iron guttering at the side of the Lady Chapel roof came away. It was removed and replaced by Pinnacle Conservation for £1367+VAT.

In April we had a shock when the churchwardens’ staves, usually kept at the end of the pews, were vandalised and smashed into pieces. An anonymous donor funded the repair and Barry Gillespie kindly volunteered to source replacement oak shafts and refit the original brass finials. The finished staves are now kept in the vicar’s vestry. We thank Barry and our benefactor for their help with this.

Mike Rhodes, Heather Williams (Church Wardens)

Eco Church 2024

Pressure of work during the vacancy has meant that work on Eco Church has been limited.

Spent votive candles are a major source of waste in the church and Andrew has found a firm that will recycle them.

Throughout the year regular items have been included in the Parish Newsletter to help raise awareness of environmental issues and their relevance to our lives as Christians and the 5 marks of mission. Prayers for the environment and social justice are regularly included in our weekly intercessions throughout the year.

The PCC had plans to address the carbon footprint of the church along with the repairs and re-ordering but the estimate for the whole package came to approximately £1.7 million. The PCC intend to tackle this in sections, starting with the repairs. It is hoped that in future there will be technological improvements in heating systems, and costs will decrease, which will allow us to pursue our nett zero goals more cost effectively.

The social responsibility aspect of Eco church ethos continues to be tackled, especially by the Coffee Stop Team, raising money for charities nominated by the PCC. (See Church Warden’s report). The church also supported the Ryedale Community Foodbank throughout the year providing 140kg of food for the community.

St Michael’s has also hosted community events (Friends of Malton Museum consultation, Music for All (White Star Band) and Minster Strays Morris Dancing) and was a major participant in the town’s St Clement’s Festival.

Heather Williams (Church Warden)

Annual Report on the PCC in 2024

In December 23 the PCC discussed the matter of the collection plate and how confusing and awkward it must be for visitors to see it being passed around but hardly anyone putting money in it (mostly because they are signed up to the Parish Giving Scheme). It was decided that in the New Year we would trial leaving a plate at the back of church for people to put their offering in as they enter or leave. Later in the year it became apparent that collection receipts had gone down significantly, therefore, the PCC determined that passing the collection plate around should be re-introduced.

Rachel’s vision of a cosy corner with comfy seating and a book shelf at the eastern end of the north aisle came to fruition and has been a successful venture with the area being well used during the week.

Following Glyn’s resignation an additional, special, PCC meeting was held in February to discuss our future mission, as a precursor to producing a new Parish Profile. (The Profile is required in order to attract and recruit a new vicar). The result was the mission statement “Growing a visible presence of God’s love and welcome at the heart of Malton.” The PCC then considered the things that we do well as a church, the things we do adequately, and the things where improvement is required. This resulted in an Action plan being drawn up to accomplish some of the improvements that were identified.

In April, the PCC voted to turn down the central heating thermostat by one degree to try to reduce the increasing cost of heating the church.

The Diocese suggested selling the present Vicarage on the basis that a Vacancy is the best time to do it. The PCC considered the matter and agreed that 17 The Mount no longer meets the needs of an incumbent and authorised the property team to pursue a sale.

Regarding services; Wednesday morning Holy Communion at 10.30am remains in place, although on some occasions, when it has not been possible to book a celebrant, a Service of the Word has been held. The PCC is most grateful to member Barry Gillespie for taking on the leadership of these services to save them from cancellation. This service is especially valued by some of the older members of our congregation, who appreciate the later start time.

The All-Age service has become non-Eucharistic and continues to be held on the first Sunday of the month. As a complement, Janet Patten and her team continue to provide an Iona-style service at 4pm on this first Sunday of the month and the number of attendees has steadily increased over the year. Rise & Shine on the third Sunday of the month goes from strength to strength. Our annual Christingle service, Crib service and our traditional Carols by Candlelight service were all enjoyed by large congregations. The Service of Light was run again and was well-supported and appreciated.

The APCM was held within the Parish Communion service on Sunday 28th April, with Revd Glyn in the chair. Heather Williams and Mike Rhodes agreed to continue as church wardens and Rob Hall continues in his role as Treasurer. One new member of the PCC (Trish Atkinson) came forward to join and all others continued in office. At the end of the meeting, Revd Glyn handed over his keys to Warden Heather as a symbol of taking responsibility until such time as a new priest is appointed.

A first Vacancy meeting was held on 14th May, attended by the St Michael's and St Mary's PCCs, the Archdeacon, Area Dean and the Lay Dean. Archdeacon Sam laid out the procedure for appointing a new vicar. In June, the PCC approved Sue Thackray and Andrew Watson as our representatives on the interview panel. A four person sub-committee began meeting to share ideas on producing the Parish Profile.

At a further meeting with consultants in July, the question of how to proceed with the repair/re-ordering project was again discussed. They made plain that the full project necessitates an application to the National Heritage Lottery Fund for a major grant and this would involve a great deal of work and likely stretch over 2-3 years just for the application! NHLF insists on value for money for people who play the lottery, with a huge emphasis on community engagement. Our chances of succeeding at this level were felt to be slim and a smaller project, where our application would be for less than £250,000, was thought to be more achievable.

The Christmas Fayre in the Milton Rooms in mid-November was once again masterminded by Sue Wright and proved successful and enjoyable, with greater numbers attending than at the previous year and more money raised.

Hendrik and Mavis Klaver have attended meetings during the year to update the PCC on their activities as our Associate Minister for the 20-40s age group. We have carried on with welcoming an observer from the Methodist church at our PCC meetings and Barry Gillespie has attended a Methodist Council meeting as observer. The PCC agreed that St Michael's would join with the Methodists for four services a year. The new Superintendent Minister preached the sermon at our Remembrance Sunday service.

As our Safeguarding Officer, Sam Free, updates our policies annually and meets with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer. Sue Wright is our Parish verifier and ensures that all the necessary Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are done.

Heather Williams reviewed and updated our Health & Safety policies.

The PCC agreed that the employment of our Verger should be renewed in the light of Andrew's very significant contribution to the smooth running of St Michael's church.

Helen Shaw (PCC Secretary)

Report on Parish News 2024

The newsletter has been published every 3 months, keeping the St Michael's family in touch with what is going on. It is especially helpful for those who don't or can't use online facilities. About 25 copies are distributed each quarter and a dozen are printed and left at the back of church for any visitors. The majority of people will read it online when it is sent out along with the pewsheet.

Janet Patten (Parish News Editor)

Southern Ryedale Deanery Report 2024

The Benefice of The Street Parishes has recently appointed Revd Jane Brown as incumbent, and she was licensed at a service in All Saints' Church, Slingsby on Thursday, February 27th at 7.30pm.

The Benefice of Buckrose Carrs remains in vacancy and continues to be supported by Revd Cate Turner for one day per week.

Deanery Gatherings: These have been 'on hold' during a consultation period. Completed questionnaires from across the Deanery provided indicators in favour of maintaining Gatherings with preferences for meetings that included guest speakers, sharing of news and opportunity to worship together. There was also interest in training and learning in practical church matters, eco-church and deepening discipleship.

Deanery Services: There were two in 2024 on Ascension Day (reasonably well attended but it had clashed with various other services) and a Choral Evensong on 29 September (well attended). There will be more in 2025 (see below).

Deanery Plan; 'Living Christ's Story':

Deanery Training: Canon Bill Ankers has delivered a number of training sessions on 'Being a Eucharistic Minister' and 'Leading Intercessions', with more to come, including 'Leading Worship'. Feedback on the sessions to date has been very positive.

'Rhythm of Life', about a pattern of holy living, covering a range of aspects, is being used and encouraged, with resources available online and from the Diocese.

'Introduction to Ministry Courses' (formerly known as the Deepening Discipleship Course) have recently started. These are one-year courses exploring our faith as well as potential callings to lay or ordained ministry.

There have been some very successful Summer Club events, generating new contacts with a good number of families and young children.

Safeguarding: all with responsibilities are encouraged to make use of the Safeguarding Dashboard as a useful tool to keep ourselves and parishes on track as regards training etc.

A number of Deanery events are planned for 2025, please see the Weekly sheet for details.

Barry Gillespie

Safeguarding Report 2024

Introduction:

Safeguarding involves ensuring that the church and all its activities are a safe space, especially for children and vulnerable adults. It means that the care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the church.

The PCC is ultimately responsible for upholding high standards of Safeguarding and receives regular updates as well as approving policies. Safeguarding is a standing item at PCC meetings and the PCC has complied with its duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding policies and actions

The necessary policies have been accepted by the PCC and are in place, and the appropriate information is displayed on our church noticeboards and the website (please do take time to familiarise yourself with the content of the safeguarding noticeboard at the back of church, in particular). Activities run on behalf of the church are managed appropriately.

DBS checks

Three new Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed this year, with certificates obtained, and one other has been renewed. These have been completed by our Parish Verifier, Sue Wright. For information, all members of the PCC must have a DBS at enhanced level, as well as all church members who are involved in children's work or work with vulnerable adults.

Thank you Sue!

Training

All of those who have responsibilities within the church have been safely recruited and are up to date with their safeguarding training. Members of the PCC regularly renew their basic safeguarding training, and those in positions of responsibility for work with children and vulnerable adults are in the process of completing their safeguarding training at a higher level. If any members of the church generally would like to complete basic safeguarding training, please do let me know.

The parish safeguarding dashboard continues to work well, making it easier to collate and update safeguarding information and training.

Safeguarding incidents

There has been one safeguarding incident this year.

Samantha Free (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Choir Report 2024

Once again, both choirs have completed a successful, busy and varied year of singing.

Particular musical highlights from the past year are:

1. Rev. Glyn's final Sunday service with us at St Michael's. Several of Glyn's favourite hymns were chosen, complete with descants and Widor's mighty "Toccata" to round off proceedings.
2. The celebration of Music Sunday (an annual event organised by The Royal School of Church Music). Both choirs sang; the hymns were all selected by the choirs; the Director of Music gave a "talk" on the importance of music in our worship; and the choirs sang two anthems, the first being "Make a Joyful Noise" by Andrew Lloyd Webber, which was composed for the Coronation of King Charles III.
3. During the summer, Alison was lucky enough to go to London and play the mighty organ at St Paul's Cathedral: a once-in-a-lifetime experience! She also gave August's Coffee Concert at St Mary's Priory, with a programme of all British organ music.
4. October saw St Michael's hosting a very successful "Come and Sing Evensong". Singers came from across our region to sing Stanford in C, Wesley's "Blessed be the God and Father" and Pitoni's "Cantate Domino". Philip Moore, organist emeritus of York Minster, was kind enough to play and the Right Revd Paul Ferguson, former Bishop of Whitby, precented. £270 was raised towards replacing the aged, tatty choir cassocks.
5. Advent Sunday witnessed our now traditional candlelight Advent Processional Service. Archdeacon Sam Ruston presided and was impressed by the atmosphere, choir and organisation. The congregation was the largest that we have had for this event.
6. Finally, the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was hugely popular and successful. The combination of the choristers and the augmented adult choir produced a choir of 25 singers who sang a range of music to a packed congregation.

The choristers have been working towards their RSCM initial awards with their customary lively enthusiasm. White Awards will be presented soon.

Alison Forster. (Director of Music)

All-Age Services and Working with young children and families within our community.

2024 has been a year of both change and constancy in the life of our mission to the families of our parish. The constancy of seasonal festivals and events continues to be a source of joy and opportunity for outreach and change has come in the shape of the regular worship for young families at our church. Our monthly Rise and Shine and All Age Worship services have been lay led by the 'All Age Team' during the current vacancy. They continue to meet our families on their faith journeys and as a result we have seen a growing number of baptisms. It is a privilege to be part of the adventure as our young families grow in faith together. Lego Church, which restarted after Christmas on the 4th Sunday of the month has been most valuable for the children who attend. The children's expressions of faith in Lego are always a lesson to us all.

'Children and Young Family' events have again taken on a pattern of seasonal celebration. They are seen as an important mission to the community and are well supported by a 'broad sweep' of families from our local community. Our 'Easter Adventures' event on Good Friday morning was again a happy celebration of the Easter season with crafts, story and song.

Last year we introduced a 'Pentecost and Pizza Party' which was a joyous event of fellowship for our young families.

Our alternative Halloween event, the 'Light and Sparkle Party' took place in October. The luminous pasta, glow sticks games and 'light' challenges were hugely enjoyed by all, as were the hot dogs and sparklers in the Market Place.

Again, another very special event was the 'Sticky Christingle' afternoon which we held in December, with lots of sticky fun for the children as they made candle holders, orange pomanders and their own Christingles. This was followed by a beautiful candlelit Christingle service when all the church family gathered together.

Our promise of 'nativity costumes for all' at the Christmas Eve Crib Service was severely challenged when around 100 children appeared to take part in this joyously chaotic service, alongside 180 adults! Church was heaving with angels, shepherds, kings and even a 'donkey' as we retold the story of Christmas.

We have long seen the value of opportunities throughout the year to meet together as a Church Family, young, old and in-between, to encourage fellowship and nurture faith. The Pancake Party in February was a great example of this type of event, as all enjoyed being together over a delicious pancake or six!

2024 saw many, many blessings and we will continue to seek out the ways God wishes to lead us in 2025.

Sue Thackray (All Age Worship Team)

Navigate

Navigate has completed its first year! Aimed at teenagers, our youth discipleship group meets to nurture and develop faith in young people and to give young people a space to ask big questions about Jesus and the Bible. We are a group which is made up of teenagers from a variety of churches in Malton and Norton. Navigate has grown in numbers over the year and we thank God for this growth. When we asked for feedback at our summer social, the young people said what they really enjoyed was 'hanging out with other young Christians'. Therefore, we start every session with 'hang out' time, in which the young people can socialise over some food and a game of ping pong or table football. We then get going with some discussion, games and activities on a theme and a speaker is often invited to talk about their faith. This year, our guest speakers have included visiting vicars, members of our congregation as well as an ex premiership football referee! The young people have engaged maturely and enthusiastically with the sessions and kept the leaders on their toes by asking some fantastic questions! Some young people have expressed an interest in being confirmed and we will use the first sessions on 2025 as confirmation preparation. We are really excited to see where God leads Navigate this year!

Rachel Watson (All Age Worship Team)

Men's breakfast

We have had 4 meetings of Men's Breakfast and served a wide range of food including sausage sandwiches, fresh fruit salad and particularly good homemade porridge! It is a great space for guys to meet, chat and share ideas, stories and good coffee! We have people who come for the full hour and those who just drop in before getting on with their day. We hope to continue to connect with men in the community and share faith and fellowship with each other. We thank God for the generous donation from the Ryedale Filling Station that allows us to provide breakfast for free for several more months. We meet at 8am on the last Saturday of the month in St Michael's church. Come along and join us for a free coffee and breakfast!

Andrew Watson (All Age Worship Team)

House Group

The house group has met every other week for a whole year. During that time, we have seen growth in numbers, faith and fellowship. We have explored a range of resources including texts and online short films, which have challenged and inspired us to consider what it means to follow Christ today. We have just completed the 'How to Pray' course by Pete Greig and we look forward to starting to read and explore 'The Return of the Prodigal Son' by Henri Nouwen as our Lent course. The sessions are informal and friendly, full of lively discussion and debate.

Andrew Watson (All Age Worship Team)

20s to 40s Minister's Report 2024

Free Pop-Up Shop for Families

The Free Pop-Up Shop continues to be a much-valued initiative. In 2024, we successfully ran two events—one in the spring and another in the autumn. The November event saw a turnout of 1,159 visitors. Encouragingly, more people have stepped forward to volunteer, helping to strengthen this community effort. One volunteer commented, "I think the work you do is amazing, always with a smile, even if it is tiring. It's a wonderful thing for the community and truly appreciated."

We are incredibly grateful to Ceri for her leadership, our dedicated team of volunteers, and the Fitzwilliam Estate for generously providing the shop space free of charge.

Parents' Chat, Chill, and Play Space

This group has been running for over a year on Thursday mornings during school term time. Sadly, this year we experienced the passing of one of the babies from our group. Alongside other parents, we supported the family during the child's illness and in the difficult time that followed.

After the summer, we relocated to School House at Malton Primary Academy, which was kindly offered to us free of charge. The school has been very supportive, actively encouraging parents to join. During Christmas, we shared the Christmas story with the families. Our new location at Peasey Hill has made us more visible and accessible to the wider community. Special thanks to Adam, Helen, and Sue (from St Mary's) for their continued help at Parents' Space.

Family Bible Adventures and Sunday@4

Once a month, on Saturday afternoons, we hold Family Bible Adventures at St Leonard's Church Hall. Each session explores a Bible story through crafts and other activities, with a soft play area available for younger children. Although attendance varies, this initiative remains an important space for families, particularly those from Parents' Space, to engage with faith and scripture. We extend our thanks to Father Tim and the Catholic Church for allowing us to use their hall.

Our Sunday@4 gatherings continued at St Mary's Old Malton community centre, where we share a warm meal, explore a Bible story together, and pray as a community.

Stay and Pray & Other Meet-Ups

Stay and Pray is a monthly informal gathering for women, offering a welcoming space to connect over tea, coffee, and pastries while exploring a Bible passage and sharing in prayer. Several parents from Parents' Space attend regularly. Over the past year, it has also become a safe space for raising awareness about domestic abuse and the support available to victims, particularly in response to Lisa's tragic death at the hands of her ex-partner.

Meanwhile, some of the men in our network continue to meet informally, gathering around a firepit or at a local pub, fostering fellowship and community support.

Cargo Bike Initiative

The OMG Cargo Bike Pop-Up Café was made ready for use in the early months of the year, allowing its first outing in May 2024 at St Mary's RC Primary School. Through several trial runs, we developed an approach that fosters meaningful interactions, enabling us to connect with new people. The schools have responded with great enthusiasm, frequently requesting our return, demonstrating the initiative's positive impact on the community.

Deanery & Churches Together

Hendrik continues to serve on the Deanery Leadership Team. At Easter, we assisted the church in Sherburn in hosting an Easter event attended by over 50 people.

We also collaborated with Southern Ryedale Churches Together to support Victoria's family, friends, and the wider community following her disappearance.

Christmas Events

Our Christmas Live event at St Mary's Old Malton was a joyful outdoor celebration around a firepit, featuring live music, homemade mince pies, cakes, hot chocolate, and mulled wine. It was encouraging to see new faces from the community join us. For the first time, we also hosted an International Meal on December 21st, which was well attended and provided a valuable opportunity to connect with newly arrived families in Malton.

Additional Activities

St Mary's has launched coffee mornings for those exploring baptism, and we have been actively involved in supporting these. Additionally, we ran a short series of meetings for a teenager interested in baptism, alongside her mother and others keen to explore baptism and confirmation. Over three Wednesday evenings, we gathered for pizza and discussions around faith, and most participants expressed interest in joining confirmation preparation.

Hendrik and Mavis Klaver (20-40s Ministers)

Treasurer's Report

2024 was a more difficult year, financially, than 2023.

Income has fallen for the second year running – having dropped over £11,000 in that period. That equates to a 17% reduction in income. Expenditure was broadly the same at a little over £90,000; Very similar to 2023. In crude terms this is £21,000 loss for the year, however this does include a little over £8,000 in major works, primarily the new tech kit in Church. However, in order to balance our books, we have had to raise £17,000 from our investments in capital receipts.

The Parish Giving Scheme continues to be a success with a little over £39,000 coming in from this source (including the Gift Aid attributable), with the Dona/Sum Up income delivering nearly £150 per month, (which far outstrips the £15 per month it costs us to use). Sales of coffee, candles and donations all continued to make positive contributions. We received no legacies this year. Expenditure was broadly in line with anticipation, with the largest single item being the freewill offering of £43,000.

However, I am concerned about the cost of our utilities, up by over 60% in 2024. This is a major cost for the Church, and obviously worse in the winter when the monthly invoice for gas is close to £1000. This is a perfect storm for the Church, noting how well my predecessor had done in locking in the low costs of utility contracts, which all expired in the last 18 months, and the need to provide a warm welcome for visitors to our Church.

Our investments maintained their value – and performed satisfactorily. Whilst they are lower in total value than at the end of 2023 at a little over £259,000, (2023: £269,295), as I mentioned earlier, we realised £17,000 from our investments to manage our current cash flow. The continued use of capital receipts to ensure we can pay our operational costs is not a situation that can continue.

Looking forward, there are three items I would like to draw your attention to:

- **Income:** We need to increase our giving. To that end during the year there will be a two week campaign to encourage all of us to increase our giving. Currently it costs us over £1,500 per week to run the Church, whilst we are generating a little under £1,300 per week in income. We need a further approx. £10,000 per annum to break even.
- **The Freewill Offering** has not been increased in 2025. This is primarily due to the shortfall we had in our income last year. This situation cannot remain, and we will have to increase our freewill offering in 2026.
- **Water Rates:** I have been in contact with Yorkshire Water to arrange for the installation of a meter. Hopefully this will mitigate the increase in water costs coming in during 2025.

Robert Hall (Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of St Michaels Church, Malton

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Michael's Church, Malton for the Year Ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirement of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act")

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: **Andrew Richardson**

Date: 10 April 2025

Andrew W Richardson FCCA

White & Hoggard, Chartered Certified Accountants,

1 Wheelgate,

Malton, YO17 7HT

St Michaels Church, Malton
Statement of Financial Activities
Year ending 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Voluntary Income	7a	49,775.00	-	-	-	49,775.00	53,048.00
Activity for generating funds	7b	3,575.00	-	-	-	3,575.00	5,658.00
Church Activities	7c	11,242.00	-	-	-	11,242.00	10,356.00
Income from Investments	7d	4,427.00	-	-	-	4,427.00	4,811.00
Other	7e	-	-	-	-	-	-
		69,019.00	-	-	-	69,019.00	73,873.00
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Cost of generating funds		599.00	-	-	-	599.00	690.00
Charitable Activities		2,237.00	-	-	-	2,237.00	2,269.00
Church Activities	8	78,860.00	-	-	-	78,860.00	71,230.00
Major Repairs	9	-	-	8,095.00	-	8,095.00	16,188.00
Cargo Bike		-	884.00	-	-	884.00	226.00
Other Resources Used		-	-	-	-	-	-
		81,696.00	884.00	8,095.00	-	90,675.00	90,603.00
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES							
		- 12,677.00	- 884.00	- 8,095.00	-	- 21,656.00	- 16,730.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on CBF Investment a/c		3,758.00	-	-	-	3,758.00	14,202.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on Chancel Fund		-	-	3,729.00	1,907.00	5,636.00	12,137.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on RBS Shares		-	44.00	-	-	44.00	622.00
Other and Agency Funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer between funds	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
		3,758.00	44.00	3,729.00	1,907.00	9,350.00	25,717.00
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS							
		- 8,919.00	- 928.00	- 4,366.00	1,907.00	- 12,306.00	8,987.00
Balances b/f 1 January 2024		172,641.00	15,597.00	7,796.00	83,346.00		279,380.00
Balances c/f 31st December 2024		163,722.00	14,669.00	3,430.00	85,253.00	267,074.00	

St Michael's Church, New Malton
Balance Sheet
Year Ending 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
FIXED ASSETS							
Investments		154,646.00	16,613.00	2,546.00	85,252.00	259,057.00	269,295.00
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors		338.00	-	-	-	338.00	884.00
Prepayments		-	-	-	-	-	-
Investments		8,205.00	-	-	-	8,205.00	5,570.00
Cash at Bank		534.00	-	-	-	534.00	4,285.00
LIABILITIES							
Creditors		-	1,060.00	-	-	1,060.00	654.00
Accruals		-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS		163,723.00	15,553.00	2,546.00	85,252.00	267,074.00	279,380.00
PARISH FUNDS							
Unrestricted		163,723.00	-	-	-	163,723.00	172,641.00
Designated		-	15,553.00	-	-	15,553.00	15,597.00
Restricted		-	-	2,546.00	-	2,546.00	7,796.00
Endowment		-	-	-	85,252.00	85,252.00	83,346.00
		163,723.00	15,553.00	2,546.00	85,252.00	267,074.00	279,380.00

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

- 1 The Financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005.
- 2 Reserves Policy: It is the intention of the PCC to retain a balance of at least £35,000 being approximately six months committed expenditure within the unrestricted funds.
- 3 in accordance with the guidance by the Church Commissioners, any collections taken at special services - including weddings and funerals which go to charity are excluded from the 2024 accounts. Funds raised this way were as follows:

Childrens Society	10.00
Derwent Surgery	200.00
District Nurses	200.00
Marie Curie	208.50
Ryedale Dog Rescue	20.53
Yorkshire Air Ambulance	199.72
Total	838.75

In addition to these sums, the money raised from the coffee stop mornings held in Church on many Saturdays was sent to:

Camphill Village Trust	732.14
Crisis Christmas	246.10
Gaza Children's Appeal	866.00
Ryedale Food Bank	474.89
	2,319.13

- 4 The Expenses paid to the clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No payment was made to PCC members apart from the reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC.
- 5 Working expenses of the incumbent and Hendrik Klaver are shared equally with St Mary's PCC, Old Malton.

6 Movement of Funds

- a There were no restricted and designated funds held in bank accounts during the year. All restricted and designated funds are held as investments
- b Total restricted and designated funds as at 31st December 2024

Designated	15,553.00
Restricted	2,456.00
Total	18,009.00

7 Income Resources

a Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Gift Aided (Incl Parish Giving Scheme and CAF)	31,683.36	-	-	31,683.36	42,473.70
Other Regular Giving	-	-	-	-	-
Tax Recoverable	7,717.92	-	-	7,717.92	887.63
Collections (Loose Plate)	2,777.19	-	-	2,777.19	2,774.32
One off Gift Aid (Yellow Envelopes)	2,648.00	-	-	2,648.00	2,722.26
Sum Up Income	1,737.38	-	-	1,737.38	1,280.01
Non-recurring Giving/donations	3,210.91	-	-	3,210.91	2,910.08
Non-recurring grant	-	-	-	-	-
Legacy	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	49,774.76	-	-	49,774.76	53,048.00

b Activities for generating funds - receipts

Church Lettings	1,085.00	-	-	1,085.00	1,185.00
Fund raising - St Michaels	2,258.68	-	-	2,258.68	2,876.26
Fund raising - Charities	231.50	-	-	231.50	217.00
Fund Raising - Cargo Bike	-	-	-	-	1,379.74
Sub total	3,575.18	-	-	3,575.18	5,658.00

c Receipts from Church Activities

Fees	5,428.70	-	-	5,428.70	4,267.50
Coffees	3,862.45	-	-	3,862.45	4,679.94
Other (Receipts from St Marys)	1,951.17	-	-	1,951.17	1,408.08
Sub total	11,242.32	-	-	11,242.32	10,355.52

d Receipts from Investments

Dividends and Interest	4,427.00	-	-	4,427.00	4,811.00
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e Other receipts not counting as gross income

	-	-	-	-	-
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Overall total	69,019.26	-	-	69,019.26	73,872.52
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Resources Expended	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
				2024	2023
Cost of generating funds	598.97	-	-	598.97	690
Donations (grants) to Charities	2,237.00	-	-	2,237.00	2,269
8 Church Activities					
Fees -Diocesan Board of Finance	1,233.00	-	-	1,233.00	231
Visiting Clergy Costs	1,028.20	-	-	1,028.20	702
	<u>2,261.20</u>	-	-	<u>2,261.20</u>	<u>933</u>
Ministry					
Diocesan Freewill Offering	42,999.96	-	-	42,999.96	41,000
Working Expenses of Incumbent	632.87	-	-	632.87	1,399
Working Expenses of Assistant	1,019.67	-	-	1,019.67	98
Church Utility Costs	8,790.43	-	-	8,790.43	5,402
Church Running costs	11,177.00	884.00	-	12,061.00	11,015
Salaries, Wages and Honoraria	11,953.78	-	-	11,953.78	11,367
Mission and Evangelism	25.00	-	-	25.00	242
	<u>76,598.71</u>	<u>884.00</u>	-	<u>77,482.71</u>	<u>70,523</u>
Major Expenditure					
Major Repairs to Church Buildings	-	-	8,094.93	8,094.93	16,188
Major repair to other PCC Properties	-	-	-	-	-
New Building or major works	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>81,695.88</u>	<u>884.00</u>	<u>8,094.93</u>	<u>90,674.81</u>	<u>90,603</u>

9 St Michael's made a withdrawal of £17,000 from the CBF Investment Fund to fund capital and revenue expenditure

Accounts

St Michael's Church, New Malton



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Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the

Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December 2023

**together with Reports given to the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Sunday 30th April 2024**

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc

Yorkersgate

Malton

Independent Examiner:

Mr A W Richardson FCCA

White and Hoggard

St. Michael's Church, New Malton

Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Contents

	Page
Annual Report	3-6
Deanery Synod 2022	7
Safeguarding Report	7
The Vicar's Report	8
Choir Report	9
Working with Families	10
Report of 20s-40s Minister	11
Treasurer's Report	12
Independent Examiner's Report	12
St Michael's Financial Activities	13
St Michael's Balance Sheet	13
Treasurer's Explanatory Notes	14

St Michael's Church – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Administrative Information

St Michael's Church is situated in the Market Place, Malton (YO17 7LP). It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 17 The Mount, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7ND

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2023 until the date of this report was approved ,12th March 2024are:

<i>Vicar</i>	The Revd Glyn Diggins
<i>Wardens</i>	Mrs Heather Williams (Electoral Roll Officer) Mr Mike Rhodes (Lay chair)
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mr Barry Gillespie Mrs Tracey Young
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Tracey Young Mrs Sue Wright Mrs Samantha Free (Safeguarding Representative) Mr Robert Hall (Treasurer) Mr Barry Gillespie Mrs Janet Patten Elaine Ramsey (until APCM 2023) Mr Hendrik Klaver (ex officio) Susan Thackary (from APCM 2023) Rachel Watson (from APCM 2023) Andrew Watson (from APCM 2023)
<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Helen Shaw

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The P.C.C. operates under the Parish Church Council Powers Measure. The P.C.C. is registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Michael, New Malton"

The charity number is: **1130648**

The method of appointment of P.C.C. members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the P.C.C.

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the PCC is to work alongside the clergy in promoting the mission of the church in matters pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

St Michael's is a church which invites and welcomes others, to journey together, growing in our love of Christ and deepening our relationship with Him.

All the activities of the parish noted elsewhere in this report are in furtherance of this objective.

Achievements and Performance

Following the update of the Electoral Roll for the ACM there are 109 members on the Electoral Roll, comprising 80 living within the parish and 29 outside our parish boundaries. The total number of communicants on Easter Day was 78 and on Christmas Eve/Day was 65. The total number of people who attended church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was 314 (this includes the Crib Service)

Other aspects of performance are described in the following reports.

Church Wardens' Review of 2023

It has been an interesting and challenging year! With Rev Glyn's enforced absence for around 4 months whilst he was recovering from his cancer treatment, we are extremely grateful to the clergy who have officiated at our services and provided us with spiritual guidance. We would like to say a special thank you to Rev Canon Simon Wright who has gone above and beyond in leading a large number of our services.

It is also appropriate to state that your churches cannot run effectively without the large number of volunteers who are involved in all aspects of our church life. Many thanks to all those who have given up their valuable time and talents to maintain our worship, especially thinking of the lay-led services.

There has been a significant change in the All-Age service format this year which is now non-Eucharistic, lay-led and involves much more participation by the youngsters themselves.

Our thanks also go to our verger, Andrew, whose hard work with the printer makes our bespoke services (All-Age, Iona and new hymns etc) possible.

We said goodbye to Sue Smith and Lorraine Small who stepped down from their cleaning roles after many years of service. Our grateful thanks to them for all they have done in maintaining St Michael's as a warm and welcoming church. Our thanks also go to David White who had to stand down from his fortnightly Counting and Banking duties due to ill health.

During the year we waved goodbye to Mike Elvy, who was a pillar of support to St Michael's for decades. Hopefully he is now enjoying the Lancashire sunshine !!!

Our church has been open every day and we are truly blessed by the many positive comments said and those written in our visitors' book. The votive candle stand continues to be well used and supported by donations in the west door wall safe.

Our scheduled services are:-

- Morning prayer on Zoom
- All Age worship
- Parish Eucharist (Wednesdays)
- Parish Eucharist (Sundays except 1st Sunday of month)
- Rise and Shine
- Iona-style service

We have also had one-off events:-

- Advent Processional Service
- Pancake Party
- Processional Palm Sunday complete with donkey.
- Passiontide Service
- Good Friday family event
- Harvest Festival
- Service of Light
- St Clement's event (see below)
- Christmas Fayre
- Carols by Candlelight
- Crib Service and Christingle services

Our Saturday morning Coffee Stops provide an opportunity for non-church members as well as members of the congregation to enjoy a convivial natter in their Parish Church. As there is no fixed charge so everyone feels welcome. Tourists are especially appreciative of the hospitality and many say how lovely the church is and how grateful they are that it is open.

Coffee Stop donations have enabled us to donate over £2000 to Charity. This year we supported two local charities, Ryedale Special Families (£1167.66) and YMCA Ryedale (£577.27), and more wide-reaching charities, Farm Africa (£392.23), The Children's society and the homeless charity Crisis (£106.77). The Church also serves as a drop off point for the Ryedale Community Foodbank.

Tuesday Tea is a new venture to help combat loneliness and isolation and also brings in non-church members. It meets once a month on the 2nd Tuesday and is well attended.

In November 'Visit Malton' held a St Clement's Festival. Earlier in the year the Church was asked if we would like to participate. As churchwardens we both leapt at the opportunity to put St Michael's at the forefront of a Malton community event. From early morning until late afternoon the church was a hive of activity with nine choirs, singing groups and two local bands! The church was packed with standing room only and Coffee Stop ran all day (in aid of church funds). It is likely to become an annual event, keeping St Michael's in the spotlight.

Our grateful thanks go to everyone involved in the organising and running all these valuable events throughout the year. The Church Wardens and PCC are particularly grateful to Helen Shaw, our PCC secretary and Weekly Sheet editor, for her all her hard work and dedication.

Mike Rhodes, Heather Williams (Church Wardens)

Fabric Report 2022

The repairs/re-ordering project continued during 2023. It culminated in a presentation by our architect, Andrew Boyce, and our funding consultant, Dr Louise Hampson. They outlined in detail the cost of repairs and re-ordering with several different options including new heating system, new accessible entrance, new lighting and further improvements to the sound system. The costs range from £500K to £1.7M. There are a number of funding options available to us but it is inevitable that we as a church will have to fund-raise to contribute to the final cost. The PCC is currently considering all aspects of the project before making a final decision.

In October the Quinquennial Inspection was carried out by Andrew Boyce. We are still awaiting the report.

We are fortunate to have a warm, friendly and open church for anyone to visit and this is in no small part thanks to all who keep the church and garden looking so attractive and welcoming, from cleaning, arranging flowers, candles, hospitality and church linen. A very big thank you to you all.

Mike Rhodes, Heather Williams (Church Wardens)

Eco Church 2023

The adoption, by the Church of England, of a 'nett-zero' Carbon target by 2030 is a major challenge for St Michael's and all parishes. Throughout the year regular items have been included in the Parish Newsletter to help raise awareness of environmental issues and their relevance to our lives as Christians and the 5 marks of mission. Prayers for the environment and social justice are regularly included in our weekly intercessions throughout the year.

A fully costed report for making the church building carbon neutral has been received from our architect and is currently being studied by the PCC.

The Flower Team has made a big effort this year to avoid the use of (non-recyclable) oases in our church flower arrangements. The Malton Flower Club kindly held an open workshop in church to demonstrate the variety of different techniques available.

The social responsibility aspect of Eco church ethos continues to be tackled, especially by the Coffee Stop Team, raising money for charities nominated by the PCC. (See Church Warden's report). The church also supported the Ryedale Community Foodbank throughout the year and was able to send a large amount of food (46.2kg) from the Harvest Festival.

Heather Williams

Annual Report on the PCC in 2023

In January, the PCC re-constituted the Worship Committee to assist with planning and running lay-led services. Arrangements were made for John Patten and Dr Louise Hampson to address the congregation on 29th January about the re-ordering proposals. A consultation exercise thereafter produced overwhelmingly positive comment. A letter to our Patron resulted in an offer of financial help from one of his charities towards the repair element of the project.

The last vestiges of Covid rules were removed when we returned to administering Communion, with the chalice, at the altar steps. The Service of Light was brought back and was well-supported and appreciated. A service of Confirmation was held at the end of October when two adult members of the congregation were confirmed by Bishop John. Both of them had been attending the Alpha course prior to the event. The PCC was happy to endorse Janet Patten's organisation of monthly Iona-style services held in the afternoon and with a regular attendance.

The APCM was held within the Parish Communion service on Sunday 30th April, at which Heather Williams and Mike Rhodes agreed to continue as church wardens. One member of the PCC (Elaine Ramsey) completed her term of office and stepped down. The PCC was pleased that Elaine was willing to continue as the church bookings/hirings officer. Three new members came forward to join the PCC: Sue Thackary, Rachel Watson and Andrew Watson. Rob Hall continues in his role as Treasurer and Tracey Young and Barry Gillespie as our representatives on Deanery Synod.

By the meeting in May, the PCC had received the cost estimates for the Repair/Re-ordering project from the Quantity Surveyors. Subsequently, our church Architect and Dr Louise were asked to work together on breaking down the project into a series of smaller, more manageable proposals, with indications on which bodies would be most likely to offer funding for the different elements. Their work on this was presented to the PCC at a special meeting in early October. Andrew Boyce undertook his five-yearly (QI) inspection of the church in October and his report is awaited.

In Revd Glyn's absence on sick leave, Archdeacon Sam facilitated the November PCC meeting, when the mission statement of St Michael's was discussed in conjunction with the repair/re-ordering project. Employing a children's worker has also been debated at several PCC meetings, although the question of how to finance it has proved a difficult issue.

Hendrik Klaver has attended meetings during the year to update the PCC on his activities as our Associate Minister for the 20-40s age group. We have carried on with welcoming an observer from the Methodist church at our PCC meetings. As our Safeguarding Officer, Sam Free, reviews our Safeguarding policies annually and ensures that PCC members have completed the required online training in Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse Awareness. Allied to this, Sue Wright makes sure members are all up to date with DBS checks. Our Health & Safety policies were also reviewed and the PCC agreed that the employment of our Verger should be renewed in the light of his very significant contribution to the smooth running of St Michael's church.

The PCC welcomed the Director of the local YMCA to Parish Communion to talk about their work with young people in the town. The PCC approved Anne Bell's request to run the shoebox appeal once again, but this time through the Beverley-based Jacob's Well charity. Other charities supported by the PCC included Christian Aid, The Children's Society, YMCA, Farm Africa, Ryedale Special Families, Crisis and the Community Food Bank.

At the December meeting, the PCC discussed the matter of the collection plate and how confusing and awkward it must be for visitors to see it being passed around but hardly anyone putting money in it (because of the regular Parish Giving Scheme). It was decided that it would be better if the plate was simply left at the back of church for people to put their offering in as they enter or leave, with a note to the effect in the Weekly Sheet.

Helen Shaw (PCC Secretary)

Report on Parish News 2023 for APCM 2024

The newsletter continues to be published every 3 months, keeping the St Michael's family in touch with what is going on. It is especially helpful for those who don't or can't use Facebook or other online facilities. About 25 printed copies are distributed each quarter and a dozen are printed and left at the back of church for any visitors. The majority of people will read it online when it is sent out along with the pew-sheet. Thank you to the regular and occasional contributors and distributors. If you would like to contribute an item, contact me directly or a Church Warden.

Janet Patten

Southern Ryedale Deanery Report 2023

Southern Ryedale Deanery has seen significant changes in our ministerial team over the last year. Rev Chris Windfield retired from the Benefice of Harton and his role as Area Dean. In Harton, he has been replaced by Rev Nigel Benson as of March 2023 and the role of Area Dean is now filled by Rev Nicky Penn-Allison, who was elected by the clergy chapter and commissioned in June. Mrs. Sue Teal remains in post as our Lay Dean.

In Nov 2023, Rev. Andy Bowden retired from the Benefice of Weaverthorpe with Helperthorpe, Luttons Ambo & Kirby Grindalythe with Wharram, that work now being covered by both Rev Alison Hutchinson and Rev Nicky Penn-Allison.

Rev Douglas Robertson was made Rector for The Howardian Group Benefice in March 2023; Rev Cate Turner was made Rector in the West Buckrose Benefice in August 2023 and Rev Jenny Buckler was installed as Vicar at Norton-juxta-Malton on Dec 4th 2023, having been Priest in Charge since 2021.

All of these appointments are celebrated and represent good progress. However, at the time of writing we have four benefices in vacancy: The Street Parishes, Harton, Buckrose Carrs and The Wolds Valley. In common with the national picture, it has proved difficult to recruit for these locations in the pattern of 'House for Duty'. Filling these posts and supporting the benefices is a core challenge in the deanery, calling for prayer and creative thought.

The Deanery Plan developed in 2021/22 spoke of encouraging and supporting lay ministries and one of the Deanery Gatherings in 2023 was focussed on the development of ministry when Rev. Canon Nick Bird and Julia Roberts joined us to talk about both lay and ordained ministries.

There are now two Recognised Parish Assistants who have become Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs): Daphne Rose in Barton-le-Street and Irene Jervis in West Buckrose.

The Deanery Leadership team have identified the following priorities for 2024:

- Encourage lay ministry;
- Commence in-house training for lay ministry roles;
- Build up the rural work of the Multiply Team and share learning from their experience;
- Create and action a discipleship plan;
- Make the most of opportunities to gather to explore our deepening discipleship;
- Tackling church finances and looking for growth;
- Deanery Gathering consultation (active at the time of writing);
- Commencing deanery worship. We hope to be able to hold an Ascension Day service, for the Deanery, involving a local school, on Thursday 9th May at 10am. Other services in an evening or at a weekend to make events accessible to as many as possible;
- Area Deans to revisit each benefice (February to April);
- Address the need to think creatively to fill the long-term vacancies in the deanery;
- Address the 'Care of Creation' agenda.

Barry Gillespie

Safeguarding Report 2023

Introduction: Safeguarding involves ensuring that the church and all its activities are a safe space, especially for children and vulnerable adults. It means that the care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the church.

The PCC is ultimately responsible for upholding high standards of Safeguarding and receives regular updates as well as approving policies. Safeguarding is a standing item at PCC meetings and the PCC has complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding policy: The Parish Safeguarding Policy was completed overhauled over this year and is now in a much more accessible format. Please do take the time to read this – it is now on display on the new safeguarding board at the back of church.

DBS checks: Five new Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed this year, with certificates obtained, and one other is pending. These have been completed by our Parish Verifier, Sue Wright. For information, all members of the PCC must have a DBS at enhanced level, as well as all church members who are involved in children's work. Thank you Sue!

Training: All our church leaders are up to date with training, and all of the PCC have completed their basic safeguarding training. If any members of the church generally would like basic safeguarding training, please do let me know. We have also recently joined the parish safeguarding dashboard, which makes it easier to collate and update safeguarding information and training.

Safeguarding incidents: There have been no new safeguarding incidents this year.

Samantha Free (Parish Safeguarding Representative)

The Vicar's Report 2023

I think it's fair to say that 2023 was another bustling year in the life of St Michael's, even though I found myself absent for large chunks of it due to my cancer treatments. As with any church, there is a core of hardworking members who work tirelessly, not merely to keep things going but to enhance and facilitate ministry to the local community.

Jesus commanded us to go into all the world and make disciples. As a Parish Church, the 'world' for us is the people of this parish and town. The spiritual needs of a largely unchurched population are huge, and it is us the Lord calls to reach out to meet them. I think last year saw us continue to be a body where all are welcomed and where true friendships are formed. So my thanks, as always, go to those who have worked hard, from up front, leading, organising, and carrying out everyday tasks...The Lord sees it all.

I've been reminded recently that it's not at all about me, the Vicar, thanking people for helping me. We're in this together. A true church fellowship has moved through the 'bands' of understanding:

1. The building is the church
2. The Vicar is the church
3. We will help the Vicar to be the church
4. We are the church
5. We are part of the church

We should always work towards the last level of understanding...We are part of the church.

I have no intention of working through events and statistics as they will be comprehensively covered in other sections of this report, but suffice to say none of them would be possible without the work and commitment of our church family. The level of volunteering and giftings within our fellowship is, I believe, one of the key strengths within St. Michael's.

As you now know, Maureen and I will be leaving at the end of April. We believe we're being led to new things, although we're not quite sure what the LORD has in store for us just yet. A sabbatical over Spring/Summer will hopefully enable us to regroup and refocus on what Kingdom Work is in store for us next.

It's a new chapter for us, as it is a new one for St Michael's. It would be inappropriate for me to try to express a detailed vision for St Michael's for the coming days. I can tell you what my hopes are. My hopes are that things will progress with the re-ordering of the church building, that Alpha will still feature as a commitment, that outreach and mission will be number one in St Michael's priorities, that home groups will grow in depth and number because they're essential for growing disciples. I hope that people will grow in confidence in using the gifts of the Spirit, that healing will go alongside evangelism, that people 'outside' will continue to see St Michael's as an important community in an age when community hardly exists, and will want to join and discover the joy of knowing the Lord Jesus.

None of which is rocket science and I would hope that none of this fails to resonate with you, because it's everything I've stood for and preached/advocated/taught since coming to Malton 9 years ago.

What happens at St Michael's in terms of an ordained leader is not within my power to say. I have made my views known to Archdeacon Sam and Bishop John saying that they need to think hard about what happens next.

The fact is that clergy posts have been lost in the Diocese and hard decisions have to be made. You can do a couple of things, however. Firstly, obviously, pray hard about what is to happen. Secondly, be clear in your minds what kind of person you would hope will lead you into the future.

Finally, please know that I will be praying for you all. Please pray for us as we make preparations over the next couple of months. It feels like a mountain range to get over, but we are called to trust like anyone else.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Rev. Glyn

Choir Report 2023

The past year has been a busy but very successful one for the choirs.

April saw the Junior Choir leading the outdoor processional at the Palm Sunday service, complete with donkeys (for the first time in most people's memories). The church was full and there was even a report and photo in the Gazette.

The choir was joined on Easter Day by some of the augmented members, with four-part harmony, joyful descants and Widor's mighty "Toccat" celebrating the resurrection.

July saw both choirs, joined by the York Junior Youth Choir, perform a concert of mixed choral music: from Vivaldi and Wesley, to Sister Act, The Sound of Music and Abba. A goodly number were in the audience and mightily enjoyed singing along to the Abba finale. A retiring collection was split between the choirs to be used on new music.

Five months later heralded Advent and the Advent candle-lit Procession. The choir was on top form and the congregation was the largest for this service that has been seen.

A meagre two weeks later came our Nine Lessons and Carols. The augmented choir was further augmented by the Junior Choir, singing at this event for the first time in many years. Both choirs coped admirably with learning and performing a large range of music, including Nigel Hess's beautiful "If Bethlehem was here Today", to a packed congregation. Thanks and praise should go to all the soloists at both the Advent Processional and the Nine Lessons, but Sarah Barry should get a particular mention for her faultless renditions of "Once in Royal". Many thanks to all the readers, all the choir members, Simon Wright and Ian Little for making these services so successful.

The choir also led the carol singing during the Christmas service at the Christmas Turkey Auction in the Cattle Market. Always an interesting experience.

The new All Age Worship format has meant that the adult choir are not usually required to sing on the first Sunday of the month. This change has been beneficial for the choir as the added time now gives the choir more rehearsal hours in which to master new and harder music.

Alison Forster. (Director of Music)

All-Age Services and Working with young children and families within our community.

2023 has been a year of both change and constancy in the life of our mission to the families of our parish. The constancy of seasonal festivals and events continues to be a source of joy and opportunity for outreach and change has come in the shape of the regular weekly worship at our church, embracing a step away from the 'norm' and developing new styles of worship that nurture and encourage all, wherever they are on their faith journey.

'Children and Young Family' events have again taken on a pattern of seasonal constancy. These events are seen by all as an important mission to the community and are well supported by a 'broad sweep' of families from our local community. Our 'Easter Adventures' event on Good Friday morning was again a joyful celebration of the Easter season with crafts inside church and an interactive 'treasure trail' around the outside of church. Holy Week itself was kicked off in style by the addition of a real donkey at our Palm Sunday Procession, which caused quite a stir!

Our alternative Halloween event, the 'Light and Sparkle Party' took place in October. The luminous pasta, glow sticks games and 'light' challenges were hugely enjoyed by all, as was the torchlight procession around church and the Market Place, complete with sparklers.

Again, another very special event was the 'Sticky Christingle' afternoon we held in December, with lots of sticky fun for the children as they made candle holders, orange pomanders and their own Christingles. This was followed by a beautiful candlelit Christingle service when all the church family gathered together.

Our promise of 'nativity costumes for all' at the Christmas Eve Crib Service was severely challenged when over 80 children appeared to take part in this joyously chaotic service, alongside 150 adults! Church was heaving with angels, shepherds, kings and even one dinosaur as we retold the story of Christmas.

We have long seen the value of opportunities throughout the year to meet together as a Church Family, young, old and in-between, to encourage fellowship and nurture faith. The Pancake Party in February was a great example of this type of event, as all enjoyed being together over a delicious pancake or six! In the summer we held an 'Everyone Welcome' summer picnic at the Vicarage, complete with fun and games, a bouncy castle and ice cream on a gloriously hot day. Unfortunately, we couldn't repeat our Harvest Pie and Pea Supper event this year, but it is on the calendar for next year, as is a 'Big Birthday Bash' at Pentecost—more details to follow.

Alongside the constancy of the seasons and festivals, change has been woven through the year too in the increasing diversity of regular services, especially those that make our traditional liturgy more accessible to those new to faith.

Our child centred 'Rise and Shine' service at 9.30am on the 3rd Sunday of each month is now well embedded in our monthly cycle of services. The service has been well received and valued by a growing number of families. We continue our journey through the Bible, giving children and adults alike an understanding of how the stories link together. It is a privilege to be part of the adventure as our young families grow in faith together. Lego Church on the 4th Sunday of the month has been most valuable for the children who attend. The children's expressions of faith in Lego are always a lesson to us all.

Our monthly All Age service has, due to circumstances, been non-eucharistic and lay-led since June 2023. A team, led by Alison Forster, have worked well to establish a balance where this service is accessible to both young and old and those new in faith, but also spiritually nourishing to those familiar with traditional liturgy. The response to these services has already been a joy and we hold all involved in planning and the families they are reaching out to in our hearts and prayers.

2024 holds many new opportunities for outreach and mission. A new venture in church with our young people in mind began in late February, an answer to our prayers to seek a way to nurture and make disciples of those children we have nurtured to their senior school years. I commend 'Navigate' to your continued prayerful support. We are also hoping to establish new relationships with our local primary school after our absence there over Covid.

We continue as a church to be committed to seeking out the possibility for a paid role within our church for someone to co-ordinate and, more importantly, develop our mission to young families in Malton. This is now very much part of our plans for the near future as is our ambition to work more closely with local schools.

This year has seen many, many blessings and we will continue to seek out the ways God wishes to lead us next.

Tracey Young

Report 20s to 40s Minister

Free Pop up shop for families

We were grateful to receive the opportunity to do another Pop Up Shop in April. We were surprised to see a significant increase in the number of visitors compared to the first pop up shop. We welcomed just over a 1000 people in the shop in April. The Pop Up Shop in November saw further growth as this time different people from the community were involved in volunteering. We also saw an increased volume of items coming in and out of the shop. It is great to see how our Pop Up shop continues to help many families (a number of them are really struggling), how this helps people care for the planet and how it builds community. This year we decided to start every day in the pop up shop with a short time of prayer and reflection and this was much valued.

Family Bible Adventures

The Family Bible Adventures –started in close partnership with St Michael’s – continued to grow and the Easter edition in Malton school had a record attendance; the majority of the families attending had no or little Church connection. The Family Bible Adventures seemed our most significant activity where people the Church doesn’t normally reach, connect with faith. However we found ourselves struggling for volunteers as the initial commitment from St Michael’s to this activity seemed to dwindle. The team struggled with the organisation of the Family Bible Adventure meetups and, we had only just enough people to make sure the activities were running safely. By Easter we no longer had sufficient capacity to make sure the activities were really helping people connect with faith and we also struggled to focus on helping people experience that Christian community and welcome that we would like to offer.

After Easter, we organised Family Bible Adventure sessions in April, June and July at Malton Castle Gardens (including a Coronation themed one) which were a bit easier to organise and manage and we then took a break from the Family Bible Adventures in the Autumn. In December the team decided to have a fresh look at how we do the Family Bible Adventures with a view of seeking to restart it in some way in 2024.

Sunday@4

Sunday @ 4 continued to meet once a month at 4pm with teatime food, a bible story and interaction and activities around this. We usually meet at St Mary’s Priory Community Centre in Old Malton and it is a space where families and young adults meet to explore faith, where we explore what it means to follow Jesus and where we see a new Christian community develop.

In December we had a Thanksgiving at Sunday@4 as we gave thanks for the arrival of baby Karlos. It was a real privilege to be there with Karlos and his family as Karlos’ mum wanted to thank God for Karlos in this way.

Stay & Pray and other meetups

The Stay & Pray group has become an informal space for women to connect with each other, share life and pray for each other. They meet at least monthly and this has become a safe and sacred space for women of different walks of life. The men continue to meet (be it a bit less frequently). Sometimes around a firepit, sometimes in the pub or around a kitchen table to also find a space to share and where we are also able to open our hearts and minds to God.

Parents Chat, Chill and Play Space

Just after Easter, we started a new Parents Chat, Chill and Play Space for Parents with young children at the Rainbow Lane Community Centre. Yorkshire Housing offered us a grant that covers the rent for pretty much the first year and we received some money from the Diocese to get some equipment to start this new group. Most of the provision for early years is in Norton and there is some provision in the town centre of Malton but there was nothing in or near Peasey Hill. It has therefore been really positive for families on Peasey Hill and the new housing estates close to it, to have this new group. It has been amazing to see how this group is helping the wellbeing of parents and their children and how it has helped us to connect with more people in their 20’s and 30’s in the area. We now see how some of the people we connect with are now starting to explore faith in some of the other activities we offer.

Deanery

Hendrik has joined the Deanery Leadership Team and we find ourselves in a situation where we are more called upon to share our insights and understanding of engaging with people in their 20’s, 30’s and 40’s as well as children and families work in the deanery. It was always the idea that we would be tithing our time to the Deanery and contribute to the life of the benefice, and we are therefore rejoicing in these opportunities where we are able to explore and work together with others with a focus to grow younger as a deanery.

Cargobike

In the Summer a unique opportunity presented itself to purchase a cargo bike that we could use to transport the resources we use for different activities around as well as it could be used to start a mobile pop up café. It was fantastic to see how people engaged with this both in the Church communities in the benefice as well as beyond and we raised enough money to make sure we can get the bike up and running. We started using the bike for transportation and are looking forward to start using the bike as a mobile pop up café when the weather improves.

Christmas

Friends of OMG offered us the use of their large garden on Castle Howard Road for our Christmas celebration again. We had an alternative outdoor Christmas Celebration with a firepit and live music. Home-baked mince pies, cakes, hot chocolate and mulled wine were served for the occasion whilst we explored the significance of Christ coming into our world.

Mavis & Hendrik Klaver

Treasurer's Report

2023 was my first full year as your Treasurer having taken over from my predecessor, John Morris in May 2022. It has been a pretty uneventful year.

Income for the year was just under 6% less than 2022 at £73,873.00. Expenditure was a little over £90,600.00, but this did include over £16,000 of expenditure on preliminary works for the proposed development works and major repairs to the Clerestory window. If this expenditure is stripped out the overall net operating loss for the year is £542.00.

To fund, in part, the cost of the major repairs, we raised £10,000 from our holding in CBF Investment Funds.

The Parish Giving Scheme continues to be a success with over £42,000 coming in from this source (including the Gift Aid attributable), with the Dona Sum Up income delivering over £100 per month, (which far outstrips the £15 per month it costs us to use). Sales of coffee, candles and donations all continued to make positive contributions. We received no legacies this year. Expenditure was broadly in line with anticipation, with the largest single item being the freewill offering of £41,000.

As you may recall, our capital investments fared poorly in 2022, due, primarily to the war in Ukraine, however, they bounced back in 2023 with a net gain of over £25,000. When you consider that we withdrew £10,000 from these investments they have done extremely well with an 8.9% rise in net value. They are valued in the accounts at a little over £269,000. This capital sum needs to be carefully managed going forward.

Looking forward, there are two items I would like to draw your attention to:

- The costs of utilities in 2024/25. Due to the expiry of gas and electricity contracts which had been in place for some time, we have seen an increase in costs, and I fear the budget for utilities I drafted in November 2023 of £5,500.00 will be breached by the end of 2024.
- The Freewill Offering has been increased to £43,000 for 2024. This will again increase in the coming years as the Church of England have recently confirm that by 2026 they wish all parishes with an incumbent to be able to provide at least £51,000 (from the benefice, not just the parish), and this will increase with pensions and overhead costs subsequently added. We are in the fortunate position of being able to afford this at the current time, but it remains to be seen if we can afford the increases going forward.

Robert Hall (Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of St Michaels Church, Malton

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Michael's Church Malton for the Year Ended 31st December 2023 Responsibilities and basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirement of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act")

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report:

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Andrew W Richardson FCCA

White & Hoggard, Chartered Certified Accountants, 1 Wheelgate, Malton, YO17 7HT

St Michaels Church, Malton
Statement of Financial Activities
Year ending 31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Voluntary Income	7a	53,048.00			-	53,048.00	59,616.00
Activity for generating funds	7b	4,061.00	217.00	1,380.00	-	5,658.00	7,852.00
Church Activities	7c	10,356.00			-	10,356.00	3,602.00
Income from Investments	7d	4,811.00			-	4,811.00	6,988.00
Other	7e				-	-	-
		72,276.00	217.00	1,380.00	-	73,873.00	78,057.00
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Cost of generating funds		690.00			-	690.00	535.00
Charitable Activities		2,269.00			-	2,269.00	2,068.00
Church Activities	8	71,230.00		226.00	-	71,456.00	73,797.00
Major Repairs	9			16,188.00	-	16,188.00	3,000.00
Other Resources Used					-	-	-
		74,189.00	-	16,414.00	-	90,603.00	79,400.00
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES							
		- 1,913.00	217.00	- 15,034.00	- -	- 16,730.00	- 1,343.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on CBF Investment a/c		14,202.00				14,202.00	- 21,204.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on Chancel Fund				4,913.00	7,224.00	12,137.00	- 12,170.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on RBS Shares		-	622.00		-	622.00	576.00
Other and Agency Funds						-	-
Transfer between funds	10					-	-
		14,202.00	- 622.00	4,913.00	7,224.00	25,717.00	- 32,798.00
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS							
		12,289.00	- 405.00	- 10,121.00	7,224.00	8,987.00	- 34,141.00
Balances b/f 1 January 2023		160,352.00	16,002.00	17,917.00	76,122.00		270,393.00
Balances c/f 31st December 2023		172,641.00	15,597.00	7,796.00	83,346.00	279,380.00	

St Michael's Church, New Malton
Balance Sheet
Year Ending 31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
FIXED ASSETS							
Investments		162,313.00	15,704.00	7,932.00	83,346.00	269,295.00	255,956.00
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors		884.00				884.00	888.00
Prepayments							
Investments		5,570.00				5,570.00	3,164.00
Cash at Bank		4,285.00				4,285.00	12,420.00
LIABILITIES							
Creditors		- 411.00	- 107.00	- 136.00		- 654.00	- 2,036.00
Accruals						-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS		172,641.00	15,597.00	7,796.00	83,346.00	279,380.00	270,393.00
PARISH FUNDS							
Unrestricted		172,641.00				172,641.00	160,352.00
Designated			15,597.00			15,597.00	16,002.00
Restricted				7,796.00		7,796.00	17,917.00
Endowment					83,346.00	83,346.00	76,122.00
		172,641.00	15,597.00	7,796.00	83,346.00	279,380.00	270,393.00

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

- 1 The Financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005.
- 2 Reserves Policy: It is the intention of the PCC to retain a balance of at least £35,000 being approximately six months committed expenditure within the unrestricted funds.
- 3 in accordance with the guidance by the Church Commissioners, any collections taken at special services - including weddings and funerals which go to charity are excluded from the 2023 accounts. Funds raised this way were as follows:

Alzheimer Society	78.00
British Heart Foundation	54.12
Prostate Cancer UK	853.50
Help The Aged	155.75
League of Friends, Malton Hospital	108.03
Injured Jockeys Association	77.30
RNIB	54.14
Save The Children Fund	54.12
St Catherine's Hospice	241.00
Yorkshire Air Ambulance	288.07
Total	1,964.03

In addition to these sums, the money raised from the coffee stop mornings held in Church on many Saturdays was sent to:

Farm Africa	392.23
Ryedale Special Families	1,167.66
Ryedale YMCA	577.27
Total	2,137.16

- 4 The Expenses paid to the clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No payment was made to PCC members apart from the reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC.
- 5 Working expenses of the incumbent and Hendrik Klaver are shared equally with St Mary's PCC, Old Malton.
- 6 Movement of Funds
 - a There were no restricted and designated funds held in bank accounts during the year. All restricted and designated funds are held as investments.
 - b Total restricted and designated funds as at 31st December 2023:

Designated	15,597.00
Restricted	7,796.00
Total	23,393.00

7 Income Resources	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
a Voluntary Income					
Gift Aid (Incl Parish Giving Scheme and CAF)	42,473.70	-	-	42,473.70	38,656.25
Other Regular Giving	-	-	-	-	935.00
Tax Recoverable	887.63	-	-	887.63	5,065.20
Collections (Loose Plate)	2,774.32	-	-	2,774.32	3,654.47
One off Gift Aid (Yellow Envelopes)	2,722.26	-	-	2,722.26	1,194.41
Sum Up Income	1,280.01	-	-	1,280.01	1,117.24
Non-recurring Giving/donations	2,910.08	-	-	2,910.08	8,993.43
Non-recurring grant	-	-	-	-	-
Legacy	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	53,048.00	-	-	53,048.00	59,616.00
b Activities for generating funds - receipts					
Church Lettings	1,185.00	-	-	1,185.00	2,050.00
Fund raising - St Michaels	2,876.26	-	-	2,876.26	5,262.59
Fund raising - Charities	-	217.00	-	217.00	539.41
Fund Raising - Cargo Bike	-	-	1,379.74	1,379.74	-
Sub total	4,061.26	217.00	1,379.74	5,658.00	7,852.00
c Receipts from Church Activities					
Fees	4,267.50	-	-	4,267.50	2,207.83
Coffees	4,679.94	-	-	4,679.94	-
Other (Receipts from St Marys)	1,408.08	-	-	1,408.08	1,394.17
Sub total	10,355.52	-	-	10,355.52	3,602.00
d Receipts from Investments					
Dividends and Interest	4,811.00	-	-	4,811.00	6,988.00
e Other receipts not counting as gross income					
Overall total	72,275.78	217.00	1,379.74	73,872.52	78,058.00

Resources Expended	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
				2023	2022
Cost of generating funds	689.97			689.97	535
Donations (grants) to Charities	2,269.00	-		2,269.00	2,068
8 Church Activities					
Fees -Diocesan Board of Finance	231.00			231.00	1,675
Visiting Clergy Costs	702.40			702.40	214
	<u>933.40</u>	-	-	<u>933.40</u>	<u>1,889</u>
Ministry					
Diocesan Freewill Offering	41,000.00	-	-	41,000.00	40,625
Working Expenses of Incumbent	1,399.37	-	-	1,399.37	1,557
Working Expenses of Assistant	98.40	-	-	98.40	-
Church Utility Costs	5,401.97	-	-	5,401.97	5,964
Church Running costs	10,789.01	-	226.00	11,015.01	11,835
Salaries, Wages and Honoraria	11,367.13	-	-	11,367.13	11,702
Mission and Evangelism	240.75	-	-	240.75	225
	<u>70,296.63</u>	-	<u>226.00</u>	<u>70,522.63</u>	<u>71,908</u>
Major Expenditure					
Major Repairs to Church Buildings	-	-	16,188.00	16,188.00	3,000
Major repair to other PCC Properties	-	-	-	-	-
New Building or major works	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>74,189.00</u>	-	<u>16,414.00</u>	<u>90,603.00</u>	<u>79,400</u>

9 St Michael's made a withdrawal of £10,000 from the CBF Investment Fund to fund part of the capital expenditure. The balance was funded by regular Church giving.

10 This represents a transfer of the annual interest received by the Church Repair Fund (administered by the Diocese) to the General Fund.

Accounts

St Michael's Church, New Malton



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Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the

Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December 2022

**together with Reports given to the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Sunday 30 April 2023**

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc

Yorkersgate

Malton

Independent Examiner:

Mr A W Richardson FCCA

White and Hoggard

St. Michael's Church, New Malton

Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Contents

	Page
Annual Report	3-6
Deanery Synod 2022	6
The Vicar's Report	7
Choir Report	8
Safeguarding Report	8
All Age Worship	9
Working with Families	9
Report of 20s-40s Minister	10
Tech Team	11
Treasurer's Report and examiners report	11
Spreadsheets and Notes	12-14

St Michael's Church – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Administrative Information

St Michael's Church is situated in the Market Place, Malton (YO17 7LP). It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 17 The Mount, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7ND

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2022 until the date of this report was approved on 8 March 2023 are:

<i>Vicar</i>	The Revd Glyn Diggins
<i>Wardens</i>	Mrs Heather Williams (Electoral Roll Officer)
	Mr Mike Rhodes (Lay chair)
	Mrs Constance Clark (retired at APCM 2022)
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mr Barry Gillespie
	Mrs Tracey Young
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Tracey Young
	Mrs Sue Wright
	Mrs Samantha Free (Safeguarding Representative)
	Mr Robert Hall (Treasurer)
	Mrs Elaine Ramsey
	Mr Barry Gillespie
	Mrs Janet Patten
	Mr Hendrik Klaver
	Mr John Morris (retired at APCM 2022)
	Mrs Anne Screeeton (retired at APCM 2022)
	Mr Alan Young (retired at APCM 2022)
<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Helen Shaw

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The P.C.C. operates under the Parish Church Council Powers Measure. The P.C.C. is registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Michael, New Malton"

The charity number is: **1130648**

The method of appointment of P.C.C. members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the P.C.C.

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the PCC is to work alongside the clergy in promoting the mission of the church in matters pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

St Michael's is a church which invites and welcomes others, to journey together, growing in our love of Christ and deepening our relationship with Him.

All the activities of the parish noted elsewhere in this report are in furtherance of this objective.

Achievements and Performance

There were 103 members on the Electoral Roll at 31st December 2022, comprising 77 living within the parish and 26 outside our parish boundaries. The total number of communicants over Christmas was 74 with others attending on Zoom.

Church Wardens' Review of 2022

This year has been more like a "normal" year with services back to a regular programme. Congregations have once again become used to attending church in person although there are still some parishioners watching the services on Zoom. The children's corner continues to be popular and is frequently used by family groups who pop in during the week. The votive candle stand is also well used and supported with donations which are now placed in the West door wall safes.

Connie Clark "retired" from being the sole church warden at the APCM in May 2022 and our thanks and appreciation go to her for giving us "newbies" expert guidance.

At the beginning of the year the PCC decided that a Verger would be a useful addition to our team. Andrew Nicholson has taken on this role and made it his own. He has proved an invaluable help with the tasks that he has undertaken. For our church to run effectively it takes a considerable number of volunteers involved in all aspects of our church life. Many thanks to all those who have given up their time and talents to maintain our worship.

Our church has been open every day to visitors and it is truly heart-warming to read the many positive comments written in our visitors' book.

Our church family has been well catered for with our All-Age service on the first Sunday of each month and in

October we introduced a new "Rise and Shine" service specifically aimed at our younger members and their families.

In addition to our regular services we hold:-

- Morning Prayer on Zoom
- All-Age Eucharist
- Parish Eucharist (Wednesdays and Sundays)
- Rise and Shine
- Iona-style services

We have also had one-off events, such as:-

- Thy Kingdom Come – 72 hours of continuous prayer
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee events
- Queen's death – book of condolence and provision of a quiet space
- Advent Processional Service
- Carols by Candlelight
- Crib Service

The Church became a much-needed place of comfort following the invasion of Ukraine. We gave people the opportunity to write a prayer on strips of blue and yellow paper (the colours of the Ukraine flag) and the resulting streamer wound around the main altar and down into the chancel. Its length was a testament to the strength of feeling in the community.

Attendance at our Saturday Coffee Stops gradually improved as people became more used to socialising after Covid, enabling us to donate over £1,700 to the following (mainly local) charities:- The Simpson Trust, Camphill Village Trust, Ryedale Community Food Bank and the Children's Society. The collection from the Christmas services also went to The Children's Society and the Harvest celebration raised £200 for Farm Africa.

The Christmas Fayre in the Milton Rooms in mid-November was organised by Sue Wright and proved successful and enjoyable. Sue also mounted an Exhibition of Arts & Crafts in church in September. To mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Helen Shaw mounted an exhibition of photos and memories of members of the congregation meeting with the Queen

Our grateful thanks go to everyone involved in the organising and running all these valuable events.

The adoption, by the Church of England, of a 'net-zero' Carbon target by 2030 is a major challenge. At St Michael's we have begun to address this by including eco-friendly changes in our repair and improvement plan and by registering as an 'Eco Church'. Eco Church is an interdenominational project which provides guidance about how we can address the environmental issues that we face within the context of our Christian Faith.

In October we were approached by the Next Steps Charity who act as an organising hub for a number of local charities and Council organisations throughout Ryedale assisting

people in need. They wanted to start a "One Stop Shop" in Malton and felt that St Michael's was the ideal venue. The first session took place on 20 December 2022 and sessions will continue on the third Tuesday of every month throughout 2023, bringing the wider community into our church.

Mike Rhodes, Heather Williams (Church Wardens)

Annual Report on the PCC in 2022

As Covid-19 loosened its grip, all of 2022's PCC meetings were held in person in church and thankfully the church building has been kept open for all visitors and services. Parish Communion and other occasional services continue to be broadcast on Zoom for those unable to get to church. At the January meeting, the PCC discussed the possibility of employing a Verger to take over some of the jobs being done by churchwardens and make that role less arduous. A Job Description was devised and the role was offered to Andrew Nicholson and thankfully he accepted. He started work on 1st March and was very well trained-up by Connie Clark.

A special PCC meeting was held near the end of January, at which our church Architect, Andrew Boyce, presented the findings of the 3D scanning of the church and his proposals for repairing the clerestory wall. Connie and helpers updated the Terrier (list of all movable property), Sue completed an inventory of all the church linen and Alan reviewed Safeguarding and Health & Safety policies. At the March meeting, the PCC approved a proposal from the Treasurer to install a mobile, online giving terminal and the device was duly purchased. So far, it has been a very good investment.

The pattern of services changed in 2022, with the introduction of 'Rise & Shine' now held every third Sunday at 9.30am and Parish Communion following at 10.45, with coffee served in between. The PCC endorsed Sue Thackray's proposal for a dedicated children's service once a month at the July meeting. A small sum of money was approved to fund resources for this service. The reintroduction of the Chalice was discussed at the March meeting and the consensus was that it would be brought back with the Duty Leader acting as server. The congregation would be given the option of whether or not to take the chalice and it would be done from the chancel steps. A change to the Ascension Day service was also instituted and, instead of a dawn service with breakfast afterwards, the service was held at 10.30 am with coffee to follow and this seemed to be a success. In December the decision was taken to re-establish a Worship Committee within the PCC so that forward planning of ecumenical services is improved.

The APCM was held within the Parish Communion service on Sunday 8th May, at which Connie Clark stood down as the sole church warden. Heather Williams and Mike Rhodes were elected as new church wardens. Two members of the PCC completed their terms of office and

stepped down: Alan Young and Anne Screeton. No new members came forward to join the PCC. John Morris stepped down as Treasurer and Rob Hall took over this role.

The PCC welcomed two Diocesan Giving Advisers to the May meeting and they gave an informative and enthusiastic talk about how to grow giving. Also at this meeting, the PCC gave permission to Alan Young and John Patten to set up a Working Party to explore options for updating the church and to see whether this could be rolled into the clerestory repair job in order to improve the chances of obtaining grant aid. The Working Party presented their proposals to the PCC at the September meeting, and they were wholeheartedly approved.

First Aid training was determined to be necessary following an incident at a service and Revd Glyn set about sourcing a Training provider. The scale of ancillary charges for funerals and weddings was reviewed in the light of increased heating costs and the charges were increased slightly.

Hendrik Klaver has attended meetings during the year to update the PCC on his activities as our Associate Minister for the 20-40s age group. We have carried on with welcoming an observer from the Methodist church at our PCC meetings.

In summary, a busy year in which everyone did their best to return church life to normal after the pandemic and embark on a project to make the church fit for the future.

Helen Shaw (PCC Secretary)

Fabric Report 2022

The ongoing assessment of the state of the clerestory windows has proceeded albeit slowly. We are working closely with our architect, Andrew Boyce, and are finally at a stage where repair costings are being obtained.

In 2020 the PCC agreed on the objective of "improving the flexibility of the building in order for us to better capitalise on our 'Church in the Market Place' position". During the last 12 months a working party has been formed to pursue this objective and also to explore the potential of this major undertaking to reduce the church's carbon footprint at the same time. Considering the major disruption involved in the repair, the PCC agreed that the repairs and reordering might be linked. The working party and architect have been involved together with a number of specialist advisers, including the Diocesan Property Adviser and the Archdeacon, with a view to presenting consultation proposals to the congregation. The working party also visited Northallerton church to see what had been accomplished there.

As the project will involve a significant cost, major fund raising will be involved and the PCC intends to seek

professional advice about what grants are specifically available for the type of work envisaged.

Routine maintenance work has been carried out during the year, included the cleaning out of the high-level gutters and the replacement of a leaking radiator in the Lady Chapel.

The next Quinquennial Inspection is due in 2023 and it is hoped that any problems discovered can be tackled at the same time as the renovations.

Once again, thanks to all who keep the church and garden looking so attractive and welcoming, from cleaning, arranging flowers, candles, hospitality and church linen – all done to the glory of God.

Mike Rhodes, Heather Williams (Church Wardens)

Deanery Synod 2022

During 2022 every deanery across the Diocese was engaged in reviewing needs and planning for future ministry, following the 'Living Christ's Story' processes launched the preceding year. For our Southern Ryedale Deanery, this was a particularly demanding exercise, given the geographical and characteristic spread of our seven benefices and forty-six churches.

All parishes submitted consultation details to the Diocese. Listening exercises were led in each parish by Rev Nicky Penn-Alison and Sue Teal (as Co-Dean). A planning team with representatives from every benefice undertook regular meetings, planning and dialogue, including presentations and discussions at two full Deanery Gatherings.

By late summer, proposals were ready for scrutiny, adjustment and approval by the Deanery Leadership Team and then the Diocese. As requested by the Diocese, these were detailed submissions under five headings with key action plans in each: *Deanery Priorities and Principles; Becoming more like Christ; Reimagining Mission and Ministry; Transforming Structures and Finances; Implementation Timetable.*

Southern Ryedale Deanery's plan was commended by the Diocese and approved for taking forward. From a plethora of detail, it is worth selecting some core elements.

Key Principles for the Deanery were identified as:

- 1) Shared ministry and responsibility towards benefice organisation, oversight and the Marks of Mission.
- 2) That the deanery will draw closer together in developing a supportive structure towards neighbouring benefices and across the deanery.
- 3) Cultivate a sense of moving forward together. We wish to ensure a sharing of good ideas, resources, burdens and celebrations across wider geographic areas.

- 4) We wish to grow a culture of generosity towards finances, cross benefice working, hospitality, and understanding that our faith calls us in to action beyond our Sunday attendance.
- 5) Our churches serve a swathe of people, in our communities and visitors, that are served by the peace, the 'thinness' and the prayer of our buildings. Many of which will only be able to express a sense of 'other' without a move towards 'religion'. We value them too.
- 6) We look to be creative and innovative in our reimagining of church and working together.

A small selection of key issues for us as a Benefice:

- Continued commitment to funding a full-time incumbent for St Michael's and St Mary's.
- Exploration of developing St Mary's as a place of pilgrimage/retreat/modern monasticism.
- Recognition of musical excellence and intention to promote and share it.

A snapshot of some of the relevant Deanery-wide intentions includes (in no particular order):

- Promote and share our 'Community of Enquiry' approach to Bible study and preaching.
- Develop a schools ministry team.
- Family based worship opportunities – e.g., roving Messy Church team. Share good practice from across deanery – encourage, support, reignite.
- Encourage a range of worship styles & traditions across benefices; highlight & promote the unique.
- Encourage churches to engage with on-line & social media presence; social media prayer trees; etc.
- Explore what we can learn from the Multiply Ministry and the possibility of its continuation.
- Explore the possibility of providing deanery wide administrative support.
- Explore biodiversity, green and zero carbon actions that churches can take.
- Stewardship training and campaigns across the deanery, inclusive to all parishes.
- Increasing engagement with our communities – offering hospitality, chaplaincies and service, making this gently but intentionally known as church in its 'wider' sense.

Barry Gillespie (Deanery Synod)

The Vicar's Report

I want to start by quoting a section from John McGinley's book entitled *The Church of Tomorrow*:

The Five Marks of Mission are an important statement on Christian mission produced at the Anglican Consultative Council in 1984. They express the Anglican Communion's common commitment to the full gospel of the kingdom rather than a narrow one:

1. *To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom*
2. *To teach, baptize and nurture new believers*
3. *To respond to human need by loving service*
4. *To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation*
5. *To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.*

There is a priority and an order in this mission and, first of all, the Church is called to proclaim the gospel of the kingdom. This then will result in new disciples being made and these new disciples will then love and serve others and work for justice and care for creation. **This is the mission of the Church.** The mission of God is so much more than Jesus rescuing souls from a lost and broken world, but this is always at its heart. The loving service that the Church offers in communities up and down the country is beautiful and profound and reveals the love of Christ. But the danger that flows from our lack of confidence in the gospel is that the Church will reduce its expression of mission to the last three marks of mission; of loving service, justice and creation care. This is very tempting because these are all things that the world around us affirms and aspires to and none of them require a belief in Jesus. And so this will increasingly become the expression of mission of churches and Christians who choose the future of a compromised mythology. We are already seeing a Church that appears to be more confident in speaking about issues of justice, climate change, politics and economics than it does about Jesus. I am pretty sure that the first apostles had opinions about the oppressive regime of the Roman Empire but there is nothing recorded about this. They simply took opportunities to share Jesus and kept on doing it even when the authorities tried to silence them. Their proclamation was about Jesus, and this went alongside loving and caring for the poor. It was 'both and' and this is the fullness of the Church's mission that we are called to. If we spend time looking through this annual report, which gives an informative and encouraging picture of our life at St. Michael's, I hope we can see just how much we have achieved. It can be all too easy to focus on the negative, or things we ourselves might not like, yet as we continue to develop our mission identity, it is clear that we have to be able to offer variety, to be relevant, exciting and interesting to a wide variety of people within our community and beyond, to whom we reach out in God's name. An annual report gives me an opportunity to thank all those people who have played their own important part in our church life during the course of the past year. It's important for everyone to realise how much they are appreciated, in whatever they do. Our various congregations (Sunday, Wednesday and O.M.G.) are fine examples of love, kindness, prayer and committed action. So many are practically engaged in serving God and others with their time, talents, energy, experience and money, in such a way that should give us great confidence and boldness for the future. Having said that, we should never become complacent. We need to reflect on our individual and joint stewardship of time, talents and resources,

otherwise a small number becomes overworked and we can't take forward good new ideas we may have, let alone deal with the day to day running of a Listed building with people dedicated to making God known in the present day.

The pages of this report provide a mere taster of what went on last year, but I hope you can see that it was a year of building relationships (both existing and new), trying new things, being imaginative, trying to respond to the needs of our church and wider community, and in its widest sense, working together especially as we tried to emerge from the shadow of COVID and uncertainty, issues which still haven't completely gone away.

While acknowledging that it's all too easy to "look busy - Jesus is coming!" which can leave everyone drained and lacking in enthusiasm, I think we have been sensible in doing things that either we know we can do, or that we are willing to try out, confident in God's strength and support. This is a particularly important thing to remember when we look ahead. There's no point in trying to do a dozen or more new things at once, when we really need to select two or three and manage to do them well, before looking to other activities and initiatives. No "activity" should be at the expense of us praying together and individually, studying Scripture and meeting together, regularly, for worship and encouragement. This is in accordance with God's command that we should spend time together, in fellowship, for rest and refreshment through prayer and worship, whatever our preferred style of service or venue. As we look at those who visit for whatever reason and perhaps even as we look at our regular congregations, we need to ask the all-important mission question; are we attracting seekers AND helping them to become disciples? Mission isn't so much about "getting people to come to church" as it is BEING God's people and sharing Christ's love, both within our walls and beyond the church building, in the hope that people will respond and want to be part of what we have and share.

As we stand at the crossroads of a new church year, trying to listen to what God has for us, I believe we can be thankful for how God has blessed us, however, crossroads by their nature offer multiple choices of direction. We are called, not to stand still and look around us in hopeless bewilderment, or stop and go no further, but to choose a road ahead of us, guided by God's Holy Spirit, on which we start to walk confidently, with faith, courage and obedience.

God is calling all of us to light a flame of faith, like that first fire empowered by the Holy Spirit and recorded in the 2nd Chapter of Acts...a flame that will energise and enlighten us and those around us.

As I pick up the torch for yet another year, I invite you to journey with me on the path ahead, bringing light, freedom and hope to a hurting world.

Who is with me?

Rev. Glyn

Choir Report

The past year saw the first year without any Covid restrictions since Alison became Director of Music. The Choir was finally able to robe and process on Easter Day: a joyous and symbolic time.

In March, the Junior Choir was officially started. Eight highly enthusiastic youngsters now rehearse every Thursday during term time between 6.15-7pm. They sang their first service with the adult Choir at the Harvest Festival, coping extremely well with Rutter's anthem "Look at the World". In addition, to singing at several other All Ages' services, they also lead the Crib Service on Christmas Eve. The children have now been fitted for cassocks (amid tremendous excitement!) and they will be Read-In, (i.e. made full choristers) next term.

Meanwhile, the adult Choir have had their usual busy schedule of services. Pentecost 2022 coincided with the platinum jubilee celebrations of the late Queen. Alison took full advantage of this by bringing two trumpeters to the 9.30am service for Vaughan Williams' majestic arrangement of "All People that on Earth do Dwell". A solo trumpeter was also heard during the carol service.

The Advent Processional service by candlelight is now a firm date in the diary, joining the Carol Service. Both occasions were not restricted by Covid rules, which made singing (and conducting) considerably easier. The lifting of said rules also made for larger congregations. The choir was praised by many within the congregation for the high quality of their singing at both services.

As is her custom, Alison has presented both choirs with a considerable quantity of new repertoire, most of which has been enthusiastically rehearsed and performed. Such pieces have included, "Blessed be God the Father" by Wesley; Byrd's setting of "Ave Verum Corpus"; "Litany to the Holy Spirit" by Hurford; Malcolm Archer's emotional "They Shall Grow not Old"; and a large variety of Advent and Christmas music, including the beautiful setting of "Bethlehem Down" by Peter Warlock. Many of these have become favourites with the choir.

While this report is focused on last year, I would draw your attention to a joint concert coming up in July, performed by both church choirs and the York Junior and Youth Choir, the latter of which Alison also directs.

Alison would like to offer her profound and grateful thanks to both choirs, plus families, as well as members of the congregation, for their ceaseless hard work, enthusiasm and support.

Alison Forster. (Director of Music)

Safeguarding Report

Introduction

Safeguarding involves ensuring that the church, and all its activities, are a safe space, especially for children and vulnerable adults. It means that the care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the church. The PCC is ultimately responsible for upholding high standards of Safeguarding and receives regular updates as well as approving policies. Safeguarding is a standing item at PCC meetings and the PCC has complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding policy

The Parish Safeguarding Policy is currently under review and will be completed later in the year.

DBS checks

Three new Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed this year, with certificates obtained, and four others have been renewed as necessary by our Parish Verifier, Sue Wright. For information, all members of the PCC must have a DBS at enhanced level, as well as all church members who are involved in children's work. Previously DBS certificates were valid for a period of five years. However, from 4 January 2022 the Church of England national policy changed, and renewals are now due every three years. In line with national church guidance, this change is still being phased in, and Church Bodies have until 3 January 2024 to carry out the rechecks needed. Sue has had her work cut out getting all DBS checks up to date by next January; however, she has finished all of the extra work and we are now compliant, many months before the deadline. Thank you Sue!

Training

All our church leaders are up to date with training, and all of the PCC have completed their basic safeguarding training. If any members of the church generally would like basic safeguarding training, please do let me know. We have also recently joined the parish safeguarding dashboard, which makes it easier to collate and update safeguarding information and training.

Safeguarding incidents

There have been no safeguarding incidents this year.

Samantha Free (Parish Safeguarding Representative)

All Age Worship (AAW) Report

The All-Age services have continued throughout the year on the first Sunday of every month.

The format for the service is now well established. The children are encouraged to sit at the front for the Gospel reading and the following talk, and they also help with

various tasks during the service. Dramatized readings have been used where appropriate, and children are often involved in the prayers. Here are some comments received after some of the All-Age services:

- Relaxed service
- Lovely atmosphere
- Good to see the children bonding and becoming a friendly group
- Older children help the younger ones
- The sermon engaged the children
- Great to have the Junior Choir involved

As a team we are very encouraged by the positive feedback we have had for these services. We try very hard to make it inclusive for all ages. Our planning meetings continue to be held on zoom which enables everyone to be present.

The AAW planning team members work hard to make it happen each month, both with their time and talents preparing readings, intercessions, music and activities.

Janet Patten

Working with young children and families within our community.

In the spring of 2022, those involved with our mission to children and young families met together to discuss our hopes and vision for the future here at St Michael's after the difficult years of Covid restrictions. Our remit was to look at what we offer to families on a seasonal, monthly and weekly basis to see how we can nurture faith within the children and families of our community.

Our first focus was 'seasonal' events that fall mainly around festivals and high days. It was immediately felt that we must encourage opportunities to plan 'All-Age' events for all the church family that enable young and old to share their faith journey together. The Pancake Party in February was a great example of this type of event, as all enjoyed being together after such a long break. We repeated this format with a Harvest Pie and Pea supper and a Beetle Drive in October, again creating an opportunity for all to have fun and grow our 'family'. There will be more opportunities in 2023 as young families particularly have said how much they value them.

'Children and Young Family' events have also taken on a seasonal pattern again after the pandemic. Once again, these events are seen by all as an important mission to the community. The Easter Adventures event on Good Friday morning was a joyful celebration of the Easter season complete with amazing crafts, mini-Easter gardens and hot cross buns. Our alternative Halloween event, the 'Light and Sparkle Party', took place in October. The luminous pasta, glow-sticks games and fluorescent paint splats were hugely enjoyed by all, as was the torchlight procession up to the Vicarage for hot dogs and sparklers.

Another very special event was the 'Sticky Christingle' afternoon we held in December to raise funds for The

Children's Society, with lots of sticky fun for the children as they made candle holders, orange pomanders and their own Christingles. This was followed by a beautiful candlelit Christingle service when all the church family gathered together.

A mention here too for the Crib service held on Christmas Eve. After two years of restrictions the Crib service was the most attended service of the year. It was a joy to see our church heaving with babes in arms, young children, parents, grandparents and all our church family, as we retold the story of Christmas.

The second focus of our discussions in the Spring was a review of the 'monthly' events we wished to develop. We talked about the increasing popularity of our All-Age service on the first Sunday of the month and about the newly established 'Lego Church' activity which is already a valuable part of our fourth Sunday of the month. Volunteers also continue to support the valuable work of OMG within Malton.

For some time, we have felt a need to offer a new form of monthly Sunday morning service to reach out to the local families we know and particularly to those who approach us for Baptism. After much discussion and approval from the PCC, our 'Rise and Shine' children's service began in September, in its permanent home of 9.30am on the third Sunday of the month. This informal service includes story, song and craft, meeting families wherever they may be on their faith journey. The response to this service has already been a joy and we hold all involved in planning and the families they are reaching out to, in our hearts and prayers. This being said, we currently agree that there are large 'gaps' in what we are able to do to nurture and make disciples of our children, particularly those aged 9 and above on a weekly basis. Discussions over the previous months have led us to seek out possibilities for a part time paid role within our church for someone to co-ordinate and develop our mission to children and young families, including youth work, and support those with very young children.

It is thought that 15-20 hours per week would be ideal and that it needs to be a reasonable salary to attract a good calibre of person. The PCC accepted this motion in full and plans to employ a part-time Children's Worker are ongoing at present. Please do hold this initiative in your prayers as we seek the right person to fill this hugely important role at this time.

2022 has been a year of reassessing the way forward for our church in how we minister to families and how we both nurture and reach out to our local community after two years of upheaval. We have already risen to exciting new challenges and will keep seeking out the ways in which God wishes to lead us next.

Tracey Young

Report 20s to 40s Minister

Beyond Fine

At the beginning of the year, Hendrik ran a small group for 4 weeks to help participants take small daily steps to develop their mental health and well-being. Beyond Fine is a resource offering a 4-week plan looking at our mental health from different angles including (Christian) spirituality. We learnt a lot from this experience. One thing we realised is that mental health and well-being offer real opportunities to connect with people in the community.

Family Bible Adventures

Some of the families that we connected with through the Bible Adventure Bags continued to join us for Family Bible Adventures which we do once a month (usually) at Malton school. We explore a Bible story and then we have different crafts and activities that help us to reflect on that particular Bible story. We conclude our time together by sharing a snack together and praying together. In the Summer we returned to Castle gardens for outdoor activities often involving the firepit. The children and their parents love to reflect on scripture through learning from nature. What better way to learn about being custodians of the world that God has made than to be outdoors and explore and have a good time in nature together?

Team development

The Summer was a significant time as OMG made the shift from being largely led by Hendrik as the 20s to 40s minister with different people helping out with different tasks to a situation where there is a leadership team made up of 6 people including Hendrik and Mavis. We are so grateful to have a group of men and women who offer their time and gifts to walk alongside to shape and develop our OMG community. They are a real blessing and we continue to be inspired by them as we seek to serve God in Malton. We have a team meeting once every 3 to 4 weeks. Mavis was licensed at the end of September (and Hendrik relicensed to become part-time) to allow us to share the 20's to 40's minister role between us.

Introduction courses to the Christian Faith

Hendrik was involved in the Start course at St Michael's before the Summer as well as the Alpha course that ran in the Autumn at the Salvation Army. This was a significant time for OMG as two team members of OMG participated in the course as well as one person from the wider OMG network who was exploring the Christian faith

Stay & Pray and Firepit meetups

It is important to have informal spaces to connect with each other, share life and be able to pray for each other. After the Summer we started a new group that meets around a kitchen table whilst we continue to do firepit nights attracting a different group of people. It continues to amaze us how significant those times are when we meet without an agenda, just creating the space to share and where we are also able to open our hearts and minds to God.

Linden Homes Copperfield Estate

As a family, we are pleased the Diocese helped us move to the Linden Homes Copperfield Estate in the Summer of

2021. A family on our estate who is also part of the OMG network took the initiative to organise a jubilee party in our neighbourhood for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We supported this and joined in and it was a special event as it was the first time something was done together in the neighbourhood since the pandemic. It was a good opportunity to meet new people and share information about our work.

Screening funeral of Queen Elizabeth II

We felt it was important to offer people in the community an opportunity to watch the funeral of Her Majesty the Queen together. We are grateful to the Methodist church for offering us the Wesley centre to screen Her Majesty's funeral and serving refreshments for the occasion.

Free Pop-up shop for families

The Pop-up shop in November was warmly received by many people in and around Malton. We managed to attract a diverse clientele at the shop. For some people including many new parents, it was a "lifesaver" whereas others found it really helpful, wishing to lead a more eco-friendly lifestyle and being able to see their items get a second life as well as finding things they could use themselves. It was also a great way to connect with new people in the area. We hope to run a Pop-up shop again in the future (possibly one in the Spring and one in the Autumn).

Christmas reimaged

Friends of OMG offered the use of their large garden on Castle Howard Road for our Christmas celebration. We had an alternative outdoor Christmas Celebration with a firepit and live music. Home-baked mince pies, cakes, hot chocolate and mulled wine were served for the occasion whilst we explored the significance of Christ coming into our world.

Mavis & Hendrik Klaver

Tech. Team Report

A good place to start in writing a report such as this is to refer first to the one written for the previous year. Several issues and problems were highlighted in last year's report which we are pleased to say have been resolved:-

- Following the purchase and installation of a more powerful computer, we now rarely if ever suffer failures or glitches in the Zoom relay.
- Provision of a better device has improved our ability to remotely operate the Zoom relay. You will recall that this allows us to run the Zoom output from the body of the church and for the operator to participate in the service (e.g.: Alan or Heather in the choir). All four cameras can now be used and we can better monitor the output which allows us to check for any problems.
- A number of deficiencies in using Zoom have been resolved during the year through a combination of updates to the software and our new computer. These include better sound and picture reproduction and the ability to lock out viewers from unmuting and disrupting the output from church. This last improvement has downsides in that viewers have to wait at the end of the service for the

operator in church to return to the tower and to “unlock” their ability to unmute themselves allowing them to have a virtual chat between themselves. However, we do now allow them to continue as long as they like by handing over the hosting of the event to one of them after the relay from church has ended. These improvements in using Zoom have removed the need for us to consider using a different medium to stream the service, something we briefly thought about towards the end of 2021.

With very few exceptions, the Sunday morning service continues to be relayed on Zoom every week. In addition, most of the special services over Christmas were covered. Numbers viewing remain fairly constant from five to sometimes over ten each week. There are few changes proposed for 2023 beyond a project to tidy up the equipment and mess of wires in the operating area in the tower. Anyone seeing it for the first time would wonder how anything is produced!!

However, the most exciting “Tech” event in 2022 was the arrival of the two big screens. These were funded from a bequest to church funds specifically directed towards such provision. They were delivered in July and immediately put to use on a daily basis to display a “roundabout” of slides displaying information for visitors. Lately this has been added to with a display about the proposed reordering project. The two screens are equipped with the facility to “cast” wirelessly from a laptop, computer, mobile phone or tablet. Using this facility, the screens are used at the monthly “Rise and Shine” service. They have also been used occasionally at other services and events.

Into 2023 we will continue to explore how to make more use of the screens. One drawback is that any sound accompanying pictures on the screen cannot easily be played over the church sound system (it can only realistically be achieved from the equipment in the tower). We need to find a way to facilitate this readily while casting something from a mobile device in the body of church. Finally, the Tech. team will be providing input to the renovation project and particularly the sound system.

Alan Young, John Patten, Heather Williams (Tech Team)

Treasurer’s Report

I took over as treasurer in May 2022 after the APCM. The first thing which I had to do was to transfer all the bookkeeping to QuickBooks, a more modern programme for managing our accounts. This was completed by the end of June.

The overall income for the year was marginally less than expenditure with a net operating loss of just over £1000.00.

This did include the purchase of:

- The two large TV screens costing approx. £5200.00 and;
- An uplift in the freewill offering that the PCC agreed after the start of the financial year.

Income was a little over £78,000 with expenditure a little over £79,000. Bearing in mind we had a legacy last year

which inflated our income figure, this year has been really very positive. The Parish Giving Scheme has been a real success netting a total of over £23,000 (including Gift Aid). The net increase in like-for-like income was 26%, which is remarkable in these difficult times. Sales of coffee, candles and donations all made contributions to this increase.

Expenditure was in line with expectations, although utility costs were up by over 60%. Not as much as they might have been, and I am hoping they will begin to fall during 2023. Net expenditure was higher than 2021 by £15,000 on a like for like basis (excluding investments in the large TV screens and the small amount of preliminary work on the clerestory windows (£3000)). Sadly, our investments did not perform as well. They fell 12%, which reflects markets around the world following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. They were valued at the end of December 2022 at a little over £270,000, a fall of over £34,000.

I’d like to thank John Morris, my predecessor, for his help in ensuring the smooth and speedy transfer of the reins.

Robert Hall (Treasurer)

Extract from Independent examiner’s report to the P.C.C. of St Michael, New Malton

Independent Examiner Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

Mr A W Richardson FCCA

White and Hoggard
Wheelgate
Malton

**St Michael's Church, New Malton
Balance Sheet
Year Ending 31st December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
FIXED ASSETS							
Investments		143,957.00	17,960.00	17,917.00	76,122.00	255,956.00	288,846.00
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors		888.00				888.00	3,173.00
Prepayments							
Investments		3,164.00				3,164.00	
Cash at Bank		12,420.00				12,420.00	13,802.00
LIABILITIES							
Creditors						-	1,289.00
Accruals		77.00	1,958.00			2,035.00	
TOTAL NET ASSETS		160,352.00	16,002.00	17,917.00	76,122.00	270,393.00	304,532.00
PARISH FUNDS							
Unrestricted						160,352.00	180,338.00
Designated						16,002.00	15,165.00
Restricted						17,917.00	22,686.00
Endowment						76,122.00	86,343.00
						270,393.00	304,532.00

**St Michaels Church, Malton
Statement of Financial Activities
Year ending 31st December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Voluntary Income	7a	59,437.00	-	180.00	-	59,617.00	78,152.00
Activity for generating funds	7b	5,523.00	2,329.00	-	-	7,852.00	3,352.00
Church Activities	7c	3,602.00	-	-	-	3,602.00	2,629.00
Income from Investments	7d	4,796.00	2,192.00	-	-	6,988.00	6,368.00
Other	7e	-	-	-	-	-	-
		73,358.00	4,521.00	180.00	-	78,059.00	90,501.00
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Cost of generating funds		535.00	-	-	-	535.00	361.00
Charitable Activities	8	-	2,068.00	-	-	2,068.00	113.00
Church Activities		73,797.00	-	-	-	73,797.00	62,628.00
Major Repairs		-	-	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	1,618.00
Governance Costs		-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Resources Used		-	-	-	-	-	-
		74,332.00	2,068.00	3,000.00	-	79,400.00	64,720.00
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		- 974.00	2,453.00	- 2,820.00	-	- 1,341.00	25,781.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on CBF Investment a/c		21,204.00	-	-	-	21,204.00	14,063.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on Chancel Fund		-	-	1,949.00	10,221.00	12,170.00	21,343.00
Unrealised gains (losses) on RBS Shares Other and Agency Funds		-	576.00	-	-	576.00	122.00
Transfer between funds	9	2,192.00	- 2,192.00	-	-	-	-
		- 19,012.00	- 1,616.00	- 1,949.00	- 10,221.00	- 32,798.00	61,309.00
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		- 19,986.00	837.00	- 4,769.00	- 10,221.00	- 34,139.00	
Balances b/f 1 January 2022		180,338.00	15,165.00	22,686.00	86,343.00		304,532.00
Balances c/f 31st December 2022		160,352.00	16,002.00	17,917.00	76,122.00	270,393.00	

Notes:

- 1 The Financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005.
- 2 Reserves Policy: It is the intention of the PCC to retain a balance of at least £35,000 being approximately six months committed expenditure within the unrestricted funds.
- 3 in accordance with the guidance by the Church commissioners, any collections taken at special services - including weddings and funerals which go to charity are excluded from the 2022 accounts. Funds raised this way were as follows:

British Heart Foundation	66.68	
Campion Village Trust	323.95	Coffee Stop donations
Cancer Research UK	391.75	
Childrens Society	701.07	(part Coffee Stop donations)
Diabetes UK	326.73	
Injured Jockeys Association	36.10	
RNLI	301.25	
Ryedale Food Bank	405.58	Coffee Stop donations
SASH	599.75	
Self Help Africa	200.00	
SENSE	462.90	
Simpson Trust	786.65	Coffee Stop donations
Yorkshire Air Ambulance	62.30	
Yorkshire Cancer Research	284.50	
Total	4,949.21	

- 4 The Expenses paid to the clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No payment was made to PCC members apart from the reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC.
- 5 Working expenses of the incumbent and Hendrik Klaver are shared equally with St Mary's PCC, Old Malton.
- 6 The Movement in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

Restricted and Designated Funds in Bank Accounts

	Balance b/f	Receipts	Payments	Transfer Out	Balance c/f
General Funds					
St Michael's 2000 (closed 6May22)	181.00	180.49		361.49	-
Church Repair Fund (Deposit Account)	2,192.00				2,192.00
Church IT/TV Fund	14,236.00		5,214.00		9,022.00
Clerestory Window Fund	807.00				807.00

7 Income Resources	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
a Voluntary Income					
Gift Aid (Incl Parish Giving Scheme and CAF)	38,656.25	-	-	38,656.25	32,774.00
Other Regular Giving	755.00	-	180.00	935.00	3,079.00
Tax Recoverable	5,065.20	-	-	5,065.20	10,219.00
Collections (Loose Plate)	3,654.47	-	-	3,654.47	3,856.00
One off Gift Aid	1,194.41	-	-	1,194.41	1,679.00
Sum Up Income	1,117.24	-	-	1,117.24	-
Gift Days/Recurring Giving	-	-	-	-	422.00
Non-recurring Giving/donations	8,994.43	-	-	8,994.43	1,015.00
Special Appeals and Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Non-recurring grant	-	-	-	-	270.00
Legacy	-	-	-	-	24,838.00
Sub total	59,437.00	-	180.00	59,617.00	78,152.00
b Activities for generating funds - receipts					
Church Lettings	2,050.00	-	-	2,050.00	250.00
Fund raising - St Michaels	3,473.00	1,789.59	-	5,262.59	3,102.00
Fund raising - Charities	-	539.41	-	539.41	-
Non-charitable trading	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	5,523.00	2,329.00	-	7,852.00	3,352.00
c Receipts from Church Activities					
Fees	2,207.83	-	-	2,207.83	2,629.00
Other (Receipts from St Marys)	1,394.17	-	-	1,394.17	-
Sub total	3,602.00	-	-	3,602.00	2,629.00
d Receipts from Investments					
Dividends and Interest	4,796.00	2,192.00	-	6,988.00	6,368.00
e Other receipts not counting as gross income					
				-	-
Overall total	73,358.00	4,521.00	180.00	78,059.00	90,501.00
Resources Expended					
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
Cost of generating funds	535	-	-	535	361
Donations (grants) to Charities	2,068	-	-	2,068	113
8 Church Activities					
Overseas Mission	-	-	-	-	-
Christian Relief	-	-	-	-	-
Home Mission	-	-	-	-	-
Secular Charities	-	-	-	-	-
Fees -Diocesan Board of Finance	1,675	-	-	1,675	-
Visiting Clergy Costs	214	-	-	214	-
	1,889	-	-	1,889	-
Ministry					
Diocesan Freewill Offering	40,625	-	-	40,625	42,424
Working Expenses of Incumbent	1,557	-	-	1,557	887
Working Expenses of Assistant	-	-	-	-	94
Church Utility Costs	5,964	-	-	5,964	3,658
Church Running costs	11,835	-	-	11,835	8,541
Salaries, Wages and Honorarium	11,702	-	-	11,702	6,291
Mission and Evangelism	225	-	-	225	733
	71,908	-	-	71,908	62,628
Major Expenditure					
Major Repairs to Church Buildings	-	-	3,000	3,000	1,618
Major repair to other PCC Properties	-	-	-	-	-
New Building or major works	-	-	-	-	-
	76,400	-	3,000	79,400	64,720

9 This represents a transfer of the annual interest received by the Church Repair Fund (administered by the Diocese) to the General Fund.

Accounts

St Michael's Church – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Administrative Information

St Michael's Church is situated in the Market Place, Malton. It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 17 The Mount, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7ND

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2021 until the date of this report was approved on 8 March 2022 are:

<i>Vicar</i>	The Revd Glyn Diggins	
<i>Wardens</i>	Mr Alan Young	until 25 April 2021
	Mrs Constance Clark (Lay chair)	
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mrs Susannah Clarke	
	Mrs Tracey Young	
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Heather Williams	
	Mrs Sue Wright	
	Mr John Morris (Treasurer)	
	Mrs Anne Screeeton	
	Mrs Samantha Free	
	Mr Robert Hall	
	Mrs Elaine Ramsey	
	Mr Barry Gillespie	
	Mrs Janet Patten	
	Mr Hendrik Klaver	co - opted November 2019
<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Helen Shaw	

Structure, governance, and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The P.C.C. operates under the Parish Church Council Powers Measure. The P.C.C. is registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Michael New Malton"

The charity number is: **1130648**

The method of appointment of P.C.C. members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the P.C.C.

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the PCC is to work alongside the clergy in promoting the mission of the church in matters pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The Sunday and Wednesday communion Services were held weekly in church. The Sunday service was live via Zoom for those unable to attend. As COVID restrictions were eased the congregation was able to sing during the services, albeit masked, from the end of July. Extra seating in the aisles helped people to sit where they felt comfortable.

Christmas services proved challenging as COVID was widespread in Malton. A new sung Advent Service and Carols by Candlelight were held in church with reduced numbers attending. The planned Christingle/Crib Service had to be changed at the last minute. Secure space and candlelight were provided with the retelling of the Nativity story via the large screen, whilst the Nativity figures were placed at the altar. The service was much appreciated by parents and children alike. Thanks go to the Duty Team.

Following on from last year's Report, the All Age Communion Service on the first Sunday of the month has grown in scope and numbers with the efforts of our gifted All Age Planning Team.

The new location for the Children's Corner at the front of the North Aisle has helped accessibility and a better opportunity for children to feel part of our Sunday worship. This area is also being used by visitors to our church building during the week.

Zoom Morning Prayer has continued for the faithful few at 9am on weekdays and a Lent Course was also held on Zoom.

Taking Communion to housebound in their homes and Care Homes has still not resumed because of COVID. The vicar has however taken Communion to those members of our church who had specifically requested it.

Achievements and Performance

There were 102 members on the Electoral Roll on 31 December 2021 comprising 79 living within the parish and 23 outside our parish boundaries.

The total number of communicants over Christmas was 49. Many attended on Zoom.

Review of the Year ended 31st December 2021

This has been another challenging year for our church and churches nationally. Again there were legislative changes to accommodate, which impacted on our public worship. These changes have been comprehensively covered in other reports. It is apparent that many people contributed to maintaining our church life and I take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work and generosity and the unfailing support they have given me as the sole churchwarden for the greater part of the year. Together, I hope, we have shown the wider community our faith and commitment to serving them in the Name of Christ.

Whilst concentrating on the maintenance of our public corporate life and upkeep of the church building we have tried to care for the frail and elderly members of our congregation and to encourage our young families in the faith. We have offered hospitality, when allowed, with a few Coffee Stops and started serving refreshments again after the All Age Services, including our Harvest Service.

As part of the Diocese we have been invited to consider the theme 'Living Christ's Story'; a refreshed vision for the Diocese of York. Our PCC met on the 27th July to answer the questions set by the Bishop's Consultation Team. They will share findings which will form the guidance for the creation of deanery plans. All parishes will be consulted on next steps in the coming year as the Diocese seeks a way forward for us all.

Connie Clark

Annual Report on PCC 2021

2020 was reported to have been the most difficult in living memory on account of Covid-19 and 2021 has been similarly afflicted. Thankfully, we have been able to keep the church open to a greater extent, despite Lockdown 3 in January. PCC meetings in January, March and May were held on Zoom. Meetings in July, September and November were held in church but December was back on Zoom and so the usual social get-together after the December meeting was missed again. Public worship resumed on Mothering Sunday in March, which was exactly one year since the first Sunday lost to Lockdown 1 in March 2020. Singing was not allowed, however, and masks remained obligatory beyond the end of the year. Services continued to be broadcast on Zoom for those unable to get to church, thanks to the efforts of John, Alan and Heather. The Tech Team stream-lined their operation in May, such that the

equipment could be switched on at the start of the service and left unattended for the duration. It was no longer possible to record readings and readers had to be prepared to come to the service and read in person.

The alarm was raised early in the year, when it was noted that the crack around the head of one of the clerestorey window arches on the south side had widened significantly. A very rapid approval for investigative work was obtained from the Archdeacon and a scaffold went up. R&R came to carefully remove the plaster on the inside of the arch and the findings were somewhat alarming. This wall, which was largely re-built in 1966, was found to be leaning out and also bowing and buttresses that were meant to be supporting the wall are now detached from it. The fear was that the worst affected window and associated masonry could fall out and so the window was boarded up for public safety. The PCC instructed our church Architect to have 3D laser scanning carried out so that detailed drawings could be produced for use in subsequent repairs. Other routine maintenance work carried out during the year included the cleaning out of all the high level gutters and this needed doing twice, first in January and again in November.

The pattern of services remains much the same, with Morning Prayer began to be held on Zoom every morning, apart from Sunday and Wednesday morning Holy Communion at 10.30 am. The All Age Parish Communion service continues to be held on the first Sunday of the month. Our annual Crib service was able to be held in church, with participants taking their Make-Your-Own Christingle kit bags home. It was pleasing that our Carols by Candlelight service could also be held in church, after a Zoom version last year. After a Virtual Christmas Fayre in 2020, the PCC took the slightly risky decision to hold the event in person in the Milton Rooms. The event, which was masterminded by Sue Wright, went well and the sum generated for church funds was only marginally less than usual. People were most appreciative that normal service of bacon butties was resumed.

Three members of the PCC completed their terms of office and were re-appointed at the APCM in April: Sue Wright, Heather Williams and Tracey Young. Connie Clark and Susannah Clarke were elected as church wardens, although Susannah stepped down in July. Alan took a place on the PCC after stepping down as churchwarden. Hendrik Klaver has attended meetings during the year to update the PCC on his activities as our Associate Minister for the 20-40s age group. We have carried on with welcoming an observer from the Methodist church at our PCC meetings. As our Safeguarding Officer, Sam Free, updates our policies annually and meets with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer. She gave a talk at the May meeting on what to do if members witness or hear of something concerning and she ensures that members have completed the required online training in Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse Awareness. Allied to this, Sue Wright makes sure members are all up to date with DBS checks.

Several charities benefitted from our once-again limited opportunities for fundraising over the year, including Christian Aid, The Children's Society, Ryedale Free Fridge, USPG, Samaritan's Purse and SASH. An ambassador for SASH came to a Parish Communion service in the autumn to talk about the vital work the charity does for young homeless people. PCC member, Janet Patten resurrected the Parish Newsletter, which is produced quarterly, and she invites parishioners to contribute short articles of interest to the congregation. PCC Secretary, Helen Shaw, mounted an Exhibition of Childhood Toys in church over the first weekend in December and timed to coincide with the Christmas Food Markets held in the Market Place. It was a ploy that paid off, with large numbers of people coming in to see the exhibits. It proved to be a fascinating trip down memory lane for parishioners and visitors and, once again, members of the congregation willingly lent their precious antiquities. Our MP and the Mayor of Malton attended the preview evening on the Friday. Money raised by the Exhibition will go towards the Clerestorey repair project.

In summary, another testing year in which everyone did their best to hold the congregation together.

Helen Shaw

Fabric Report 2021

The year has been dominated by the exploration and assessment of the state of one of the Clerestory windows on the South side of the church. This has meant scaffolding inside the building and the hire of a cherry picker in May to enable a thorough assessment by the church architect and various surveyors to the outside of the church. Following on from this, Andrew Boyce our architect, has asked the PCC to commission a 3D survey of the whole of the church building to ascertain the general state of the rest of the building. This was scheduled for January 2022. The PCC has invited Andrew Boyce to report on all his findings and to submit plans for the work to be done. All of this has involved cost to the church and we know we will need to apply for grants and put major fundraising plans to the forefront of any building schedule.

As for the rest of the fabric of the church I am happy to report that all is in good order and that the Inventory and Terrier will be presented to the PCC before the next APCM to be signed off.

One new addition to the church furniture has been a votive Candle Stand situated near The Lady Chapel, which has now been designated a quiet space for Prayer. Many people have appreciated the candle stand, congregation and visitors alike. The church is open from 8.30am daily enabling people to pop in before heading off to work/school to say a prayer and light a candle.

Thank you to all who keep the church and garden looking clean and inviting, to those who arrange flowers and look after the church linen – all done to the Glory of God.

Connie Clark

Deanery Synod 2021

Due to the pandemic, little has happened on a Deanery basis other than the ongoing Consultation Process.

Treasurer's Report

We eventually received the final instalment of Francis Howitt's legacy amounting to £24,838 and our day to day income and expenditure [both for unrestricted and designated funds] showed a surplus of £24,817: in other words without the legacy there would have been a very small deficit of £21.

In comparison to 2020 like for like income [ie excluding the legacy] was up by £5,142 at £63,081 including increases from collections of £1,650, from fundraising of £975, from statutory fees of £740, and from our investments of £1,152.

Expenditure was £3,541 higher than last year at £63,102: the diocesan freewill offering was up by £1,184, payroll costs were up by £1,750 and utility costs by £635. It is worth noting the FWO constituted 67% of our expenditure.

Only the preliminary survey work was completed on the Clerestory window repairs but the church architect has warned us that total costs are likely to exceed £100k – although this should qualify for some grants.

The CBF Investment Fund – with CCLA – continues to be the best performing Charity Fund and there was an unrealised gain of £21,343 on our holding.

I expect 2022 to be a much more normal year in terms of our services and our fundraising activities, but both 2022 and 2023 will be financially challenging.

John Morris

APPENDIX 1 Accounts

Independent examiner's report to the P.C.C. of St Michael, New Malton

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2021 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (The Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act)

Independent examiner's statement

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

- ❖ Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or
- ❖ To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts be reached.

Mr A W Richardson
White and Hoggard,
Wheelgate Malton
8 March 2022

The Vicar's Report

The Vicar's report often starts by mentioning all the events that have happened during the year, but of course, this year (as last year) has been quite different from what we would describe as "normal". I still do want to thank you all for being part of the Church Community here in our parishes, for your support, help, encouragement, attendance, hospitality, (when we were able), your ministry – whether you are a Warden, PCC Secretary, Music Director, Children's Worker, make tea, clean the church, arrange flowers, or kept in touch with people throughout the year – thank you, you have done a great job!

Although events have been significantly curtailed, Christmas 2021 was a particularly busy period and there were a number of events of particular note. They all took an amazing amount of talent and time to organise and I would like to thank the principal people involved (ably supported by wonderful teams):

Light Party - Tracey Young
Antique Toy Fair - Helen Shaw
Christmas Fair - Sue Wright

Coping with so many changes in the way we live, the covid restrictions, not being able to see people we love and miss, dealing with anxiety or fear, watching your children or grandchildren coping with home schooling, working from home and being a parent, and not being able to help, has all taken a toll on our emotional and mental health. However, God has been, and continues to be, right in the midst of it all, walking alongside us, weeping and rejoicing with us, and sending his love and grace just when we think we have nothing left to give.

Church services with social distancing and masks have been challenging; so too has conducting services online, but it is amazing what we can get used to, given the time.

I think many of us have learned a lot about doing things differently this year, whether that is online, on the telephone or chatting on the doorstep. It has not all been bad.

There are a couple of things that stand out to me from this time:

1. That life and faith are all about relationships, our relationship with God and others. It should be no surprise because that is what God calls us into – relationship. But often, we're too busy rushing from one thing to another and we can so easily forget what's important.
2. When many churches have chosen to lock their doors and only have their acts of worship online, both of our churches have been open for private prayer

throughout and acts of worship have taken place inside the church buildings. This has taken considerable commitment and logistical creativity (from especially our Church Wardens) and I would like to thank all involved for displaying such incredible flexibility and a passion for "being there" in relation to our local communities.

Talking of Church Wardens, Connie Clark has done an incredible job of serving the church as Warden throughout this year, pretty much single-handedly. She is stepping down from the role and being replaced by two new Wardens as of the APCM. I would personally like to thank Connie for her commitment, diligence, wisdom and counsel. Connie has served during a particularly difficult time and we as a Church Family owe her a great debt of gratitude. After a period of well earned rest, reflection and consolidation, I know that Connie will be back "firing on all cylinders" and contributing significantly to the life and mission of St. Michael's.

We also say "goodbye" to John Morris who has been our Treasurer for many years. Knowing how time consuming this essential role is, I would like to thank John for his highly professional and conscientious approach. Having served as Bursar in two Cathedrals, we are very fortunate to have benefited from his extensive experience and knowledge of church finances.

It's no secret that the numbers of Ordained Clergy are reducing on a national basis, which has resulted in many parishes finding themselves in periods of extended vacancy. Through the grace of God, neither of our churches find themselves in this position, however, like churches in vacancy, we are extremely blessed by the retired clergy who reside in our Deanery and are still happy to serve local churches where they can. I would particularly like to thank Revd. Simon Wright for his substantial support, not just to the Malton Benefice, but also to the wider Deanery. We have also benefited from the ministries of Revd. Veronica James and Revd. Judy Duke and I look forward to welcoming them back to our churches throughout the upcoming year.

Some people are saying that things will never go back to what they were before the pandemic. I don't know if they are right, but I know one thing; I don't want us to lose the richness that we have gained. Instead, I pray that we can build on the good and continue to look outwards to the communities we live in.

Revd. Glyn

Prayer

The past year from March 2021 has seen some 'normality' returning to our lives and the church has remained continually open for services and private prayer.

There has been some rearrangement in the church with the Children's Corner taking the place of the Prayer Table and display in the north corner of the building and the prayer space is now in the Lady Chapel. This has proved to be a far better space for people who want to just sit quietly and be less likely to be disturbed.

We also provide a selection of 'free to take' booklets on varying aspects of prayer, help and support from 'Lifewords' in a small stand on the table at the back of the church. The provision of these is very popular, particularly in the summer months when there are more visitors to the church.

A new, much bigger, candle stand was purchased during 2021, which is situated by the Lady Chapel door and this has proved to have been very well used and much appreciated by congregation and visitors alike.

Morning prayer is still being held on Zoom every morning at 9.00am (except Sunday) where the short service from the Northumbria morning Prayer Service is used. Rev Glyn is spending time in church to pray on Tuesday and Thursday mornings' usually between 9.45/10.45 and welcomes others to join him to pray alongside or just have a chat.

The Benefice Prayer diary was updated in early February 2022 and copies of it are available at the back of church. The Diocesan Monthly Prayer Diary is available on the York Diocese web page and can be downloaded and printed. Both are useful aids for daily prayer. Our Lent Prayer Partners exercise which takes place every year is a good way of praying in more depth for one particular person during Lent.

Prayer is said to be the 'Engine Room' of the church and our own lives. It need not be a lengthy and arduous task but just a simple conversation with God.

Trish Atkinson

Parish News

A Parish Newsletter is now produced quarterly, the first one was in May 2021. The feedback has been very positive. A few copies are printed and distributed to those without email or who are unable to print at home, and it is sent out by email to all on the list for the weekly sheet. A few copies are also left at the back of church for any visitors who come in.

Janet Patten

Choir Report

The Choir was finally allowed to sing live, in-person at church services in April 2021 (though not quite in time for Easter). Since that time, they, and I, have been getting used to the novelty (and privilege) of in-person rehearsals at church once more.

For all the negative impact which Covid has had, and is still having, it has highlighted the important aspects of life. Pre-Covid, I would never have thought that singing in church could and should be viewed as privilege that needs to be joyfully celebrated, be it in the choir or in congregation. My favourite quote, attributed to St Augustine, encapsulates this thought: "the one who sings prays twice". ... He that sings praise, not only sings, but also loves him of whom he sings. In praise, there is the speaking forth of one confessing; in singing, the affection of one loving."

In July, my predecessor, Janet Patten, had her farewell service. With a packed, though socially distanced, church and a choir of six, it was both a joyous celebration and a profound thank-you for all that Janet and John have given to the church for over forty years. I must offer my public thanks to Janet for ensuring that I had as smooth a transition as possible into the worship and life of St Michael's.

August heralded the very welcome news that church congregations were once more allowed to sing. We celebrated this in September with a very enjoyable "Songs of Praise" for the Feast of St Michael and All Angels.

Sunday services for Harvest Thanksgiving, All Saints', the service of Light and Remembrance Sunday all passed successfully, with plenty of new music being sung.

The theme of introducing new repertoire continued into Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. I have pushed the choir, sometimes out of their comfort zones, but they have risen to each challenge. We commemorated the start of Advent with an atmospheric ecumenical Advent Processional Service by candlelight. Next year, I hope to invite choir members from our neighbours in the Methodist and Catholic churches to join us for this event. The Carol Service was equally successful: a full church and extended choir of fifteen.

While the long-awaited children's choir has yet to materialise, I hope to be able to start it within this academic year. I shall also be visiting local primary schools in order to provide some musical support and choral outreach.

Alison Forster

Director of Music

Safeguarding Report - 2021

Safeguarding policy

A review of the Parish Safeguarding Policy was completed earlier in the year and our policy was found to be up to date.

A policy statement on the recruitment of ex-offenders has been included in the policies, as per guidance from the Diocese of York. This policy will be distributed with future DBS applications and renewals.

DBS checks

Two new Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed, and certificates obtained, and others have been renewed as necessary by our Parish Verifier, Sue Wright. For information, all members of the PCC must have a DBS at enhanced level, as well as all church members who are involved in children's work.

Training

In April 2021 the Church of England's National Safeguarding Steering Group, on behalf of the House of Bishops, approved a new Learning and Development Framework. This sets out the details of the Church of England's learning pathway and expectations of Church officers in respect of those pathways. The Church has an ambition to make a paradigm shift in its relationship with safeguarding. This requires recognition that safeguarding needs to move away from something that is in some respects external and imposed upon the Church, to something that flows from within the soul of the Church. Safeguarding should be at the centre of our faith, in our practice, in our worship, in our praying and in our believing. In other words, safeguarding needs to become integral to the very DNA of the Church, with good safeguarding behaviours flowing naturally and intuitively. A significant difference is a change to who should access which of the pathways. These decisions are now informed by anyone who 'plays a lead role in shaping the culture of the Church body concerned.'

Members of the PCC are currently working their way through the additional required online training modules that have arisen as a result of these changes. Any additional persons required to undergo training will be informed as and when required. However, if anyone else would like to complete these, please let me know and I will provide further information. As the Parish Safeguarding Representative, I have completed all required training modules and Sue Wright has attended all required courses in safeguarding and safer recruitment.

Safeguarding incidents

In conjunction with the Diocese, our Safeguarding Team has dealt with one new safeguarding incident this year.

Samantha Free

(Parish Safeguarding Representative)

All Age Worship Report for 2021

The All Age services continued throughout the year on the first Sunday of every month.

The first All Age service of 2021 was with everyone in church but only the choir could sing the hymns. The following two AAW services were online with just the vicar and organist in church. Some of the hymns were recorded by the choir which made it easier for people at home to join in. Families were sent an activity to do at home during the service. For Candlemas the challenge was to build a temple from Lego!

By Easter Day, the congregation was back in church but not allowed to sing, so Tracey's activity bags were back for families to do in the pews. There was a final hymn for all to sing outside after the service. The children's crafts were displayed on a board for everyone to see afterwards.

For the May service it was a real treat to listen to the choir singing the hymns, as the restriction on singing was lifted to allow a few singers to sing socially distanced.

From 19th July everyone was allowed to sing again so from the August service we were nearly back to normal.

The Harvest Festival in October was well supported and the children were invited into the sanctuary to help them understand what goes on in the Eucharistic prayer. This was also the first opportunity to serve refreshments after the service and enable people to chat over coffee and cake.

The November service had a guest speaker to talk about SASH (our chosen charity to support at Christmas) and he involved the children during the talk. In December we were amazed how many came as the food festival was taking place. We even ran out of service sheets!

Some of the craft activities continue to be displayed while the children can take home what they have made or done.

As a team we are very encouraged by the positive feedback we have had for these services. Several families attend quite regularly and some take part. Our planning meetings are held on zoom which enables everyone to be present who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend. We always

review the previous all age service before talking about the next one.

The AAW planning team work hard to make it happen each month, both with their time and talents preparing readings, intercessions, music and activity bags.

Janet Patten

Working with young children and families within our community.

2021 again proved to be a year marred by everchanging rules, restrictions, masks and hand gel, set against the unnatural sadness of isolation from each other. The feelings of physical separation from our church family continued to be felt at the height of the 'third wave' of the pandemic as our 'mission' to families in our community became, quite literally, the inspiring contents of the Bible Adventure Bags delivered door to door throughout Malton.

Fortunately, by April 2021 we were able to warmly invite families to a 'covid secure' Easter Garden event in church. It was such a joy to actually be able to meet together, albeit cautiously, to celebrate Easter complete with glue, paint and compost! No singing or hot cross buns allowed, but what fun we had creating our large and small Easter Gardens and performing an Easter themed sea shanty.

The summer saw an easing of restrictions and the delivery of Bible Adventure Bags was replaced by 'live' Family Bible Adventure meet ups in the Castle Gardens in Malton under the auspices of the OMG team.

The summer also enabled us, as a church, to reflect on what elements of our outreach had worked well in 'pre-covid' times, but also reflect on the mission that the pandemic forced us to explore. We felt that the best of each would take us forward into new ways of touching young families within our community with God's love. A balance of nurturing our children in their faith through active celebrations of festivals in Church, developing All Age worship, establishing a pattern of Lego Church (or similar) and the formation of a children's choir, would sit alongside growing families of faith through supporting OMG in its mission.

A monthly opportunity for families to explore faith together through meaningful, playful activities was begun at Malton Secondary School, an initiative born of a close relationship between the OMG team and St Michael's, directed by OMG. This gathering has continued monthly since October and has been well received and supported.

October also saw the opportunity for fun and food at our 'Sparkle Party' for families in church. Fairy lights and tea lights decorated the church and set the scene for an evening of fun. Glow stick games, torch activities and a host of light themed crafts were much enjoyed as were the hot dogs around the fire pit at the Vicarage that followed.

In December, we again joined together with OMG to plan and deliver a new mission, 'Angels of Hope for Malton'. The event included a range of initiatives to embrace the message of the Christmas Angels—hope, peace, love and good news for all, expressed in a variety of ways within the community. There was an afternoon of impressive craft activities in church for children and families, where wooden one metre high angels were decorated to express the messages of the angels. These angels were then placed around the Market Place in Malton as an outward sign of hope and love and the joy of the Christmas message for our community. Malton Community Primary School and Housemartins Day Nursery also decorated and laminated over 250 small card angels to hang on the tree outside church during the festive season. Each angel carried the children's hopes for themselves, their families, our town or our world and made an amazing display alongside the large Nativity Figures created by our children.

Hopes and plans to celebrate Christmas itself in church, together with families, rose and fell according to the rates of the developing Omicron variant. We had to abandon our usual Christingle Service and then our traditional Nativity play, but managed to come together for a short candle lit Crib Service, which was very well attended and beautifully moving.

2022 will be a year of reassessing the way forward for our church in how we minister to families that we both nurture and reach out to our local community after two years of upheaval. There will be new challenges, exciting times and no shortage of ways God wishes to lead us. We must be sure to listen to where He wishes to take us. Do hold this important work in your prayers.

Tracey Young

Report 20s to 40s minister

We started the year 2021 with a number of contacts through the Bible Adventure Bags and we continued with the Bible Adventure Bags as we entered a third national lockdown.

The most significant contact with families was brief contact on the doorstep (as we dropped off the bags). We continued doing some meetups with a group of 3 to 6 men around a firepit where we shared life and faith in a relaxed and non-threatening environment.

During Lent I led a group (on Zoom) using the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book of 2021. This book: "Living His Story: Revealing the Extraordinary Love of God in Ordinary Ways" by Hannah Steele was really helpful and enabling in discovering together how we can share the gospel story afresh in our own lives. The participants then decided to make it practical by organising a Start course (which unfortunately didn't go ahead as there were no participants which was also a learning experience) and then decided to do some other things that did help people in their wellbeing (such as organising a wellbeing meetup for women and getting involved in the men's firepit meetups).

At Easter we seized the opportunity to meet with families (as parent and children groups of max 15 persons over the age of 5) for an Easter egg hunt and exploring the Easter story together. We met in 5 different locations in Malton and Norton and each time there were 5 families present reaching 25 families in total. It was really exciting to meet for the first time with some of the families receiving Bible Adventure Bags!

As restrictions lifted further, we started meeting with the families at Malton Castle Gardens for "Live Bible Adventures". In the Autumn we joined forces with St Michael's and moved the Family Bible Adventures meetups to Malton School. Every month we saw families returning but also new families joining. In December we met at St Michael's and did a special project in the marketplace. The angels we made were adopted by different shopkeepers in the marketplace to bless people as they were out in town and invite them to reflect on the questions on key Christmas themes.

As we emerged from the pandemic we noticed the importance of mental health and wellbeing for many people in the 20's to 40's age group which led us to do a ladies wellbeing meetup and a continued focus on this area.

During the lockdowns and as we emerged from the lockdowns we developed a good relationship with Morrisons. They offered their support at various point by contributing to some of the Bible Adventure Bags and to

some of the meetups. Before the Summer I was contacted by the Community Champion of Morrisons to see if I would be happy to offer monthly drop in sessions for their staff to support them in their wellbeing and I started these sessions in September. It was a real privilege to be able to offer support to some of our local key workers in this way, many of them in the 20's to 40's age bracket.

In November we started a new meetup: the Sunday Brunch. This monthly gathering at St Mary's Priory Community Centre in Old Malton is for young adults and families around a meal and a Bible Story which we explore together. It is a place that is really accessible and informal and it is also a place of discipleship as we share life and explore following Jesus in our everyday lives.

St Peter's in Norton was for most of 2021 without stipendiary clergy. During this time I preached there every other month (in addition to the monthly preach at St Michael's and St Mary's). This really helped build the relationship with the congregation at St Peter's.

Hendrik Klaver

Tech. Team Report 2021

We began the year with the immediate aim of consolidating progress made in 2020 with the two main objectives of making the operation as discrete as possible to those attending the event being streamed and of making everything more sustainable.

A great deal was learnt in very short order during 2020; necessity certainly is the mother of invention! While, by the end of 2020, we had reached a relatively good product, it did require a lot of setting up each time and needed a plethora of cables trailing all over the place and some, often rather unwelcome, interventions by us during services to keep things on Zoom running. This was probably acceptable while the majority were taking part on Zoom; it was certainly not something we wanted in the longer term as more and more returned to church in person and the streaming became the minority option.

So, we began the year moving operations to the tower balcony. Permanent computers were installed and cabling run from there to the broadband hub in the office and the PA cupboard by the organ (from which the sound on Zoom is garnered). Two remote cameras were purchased. These small cameras require no cabling and can be discretely placed and send their images over the wi-fi system in church. Wi-fi extenders were installed in the main church building which has the added benefit of extending reliable

wi-fi for all to use in this area (previously it could only really be relied upon in the office).

After a few teething problems, notably one service when we almost deafened those present in the building with massive feedback to the church PA speakers, things quickly settled down. As the year has progressed and Covid restrictions waned the operation has changed. The first thing to go was the playing out of pre-recorded contributions by church members as it was decided to rely on people in person to perform readings and intercessions.

In September we moved to remote operation for most Sunday services. This means that we use just one or two cameras and run things from a tablet computer. This allows the operator (usually Alan or Heather) to participate in the service and not be “locked in the tower”! However, this does mean that the pictures are not as varied (we have four cameras at our disposal when operations are run from the tower) and that what is being broadcast is not being monitored all the time. This occasionally can lead to a less than ideal product (e.g.: participants unmuting themselves during the service and breaking into what is being streamed). We do try to find ways to overcome such problems as they arise; do bear with us!

Also, since we are interfacing five different digital processes, all of which seem to have the uncanny knack of demanding to be updated on a Sunday morning, we occasionally face problems when switching things on, with little time to resolve them before going “on air”. This has sometimes led to glitches in the broadcast. Again, we are rapidly learning how to better overcome these things.

During the year we have undertaken some special operations, including the streaming of John Dunstan’s funeral which, at the time, could not take place in church, with coverage of the progress of cortege through town and of the service from the graveside. We also streamed Dolly Thackray’s funeral from church. At Easter we went outside to cover the first opportunity the whole congregation had to sing since the start of the Covid restrictions. At Christmas 2021 we made sure all services were covered, in particular the Carol Service and Crib Service.

While, on a normal Sunday, the number viewing has obviously reduced from anything up in the 40s and 50s at the beginning of the year, we still regularly have at least five or six “tuning in”. In 2022 we may possibly look at other platforms over which to stream. Zoom was ideal when most of us were stuck at home as it is primarily designed as a means for people to meet and for all to contribute. We are now in a position where it is used to allow people to look in, much as they would to a church service on television. Whatever happens we are committed to continue with the operation as long as it is needed and will keep all informed of any changes, they may need to make

to access it. Nothing will be done to complicate things for viewers!

Heather Williams, John Patten, Alan Young

St. Michael's Church Malton
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2021

Note	Unrestrict ed Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowmen t Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	7a	77,762		390	78,152	54,329
Activities for generating funds	7b	2,388	964		3,352	2,127
Church activities	7c	2,629			2,629	1,889
Income from Investments	7d	4,176		2,192	6,368	5,166
Other	7e					
		86,955	964	2,582	90,501	63,511
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Cost of generating Funds		204	157		361	39
Charitable Activities		113			113	478
Church activities	8	62,628			62,628	59,044
Major Repairs				1,618	1,618	19,863
Governance costs						
Other Resources Used						
		62,945	157	1,618	64,720	79,424
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS & LOSSES						
		24,010	807	964	25,781	(15,913)
Unrealised gains /(losses) on Chancel Fund				3,257	10,806	6,587
Unr'd gains/(losses) on CBF Investment A/C		21,343			21,343	12,077
Unrealised gains/(losses) on RBS shares			122		122	(156)
Other & agency funds						
Transfer between funds	9	2,145		(2,145)		
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		47,498	929	2,076	10,806	2,595
Balances b/f 1st January 2020		132,840	14,236	20,610	75,537	243,223
Balances c/f 31st December 2020		180,338	15,165	22,686	86,343	304,532

**St Michael's Church Malton
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
FIXED ASSETS							
Investments		166,362	14,236	21,905	86,343	288,846	228,320
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors		3,173				3,173	
Prepayments							
Investments							
Cash at bank		12,092	929	781		13,802	14,903
LIABILITIES							
Creditors		-1,289				-1,289	
TOTAL NET ASSETS							
		180,338	15,165	22,686	86,343	304,532	243,223
PARISH FUNDS							
Unrestricted						180,338	132,840
Designated						15,165	14,236
Restricted						22,686	20,610
Endowment						86,343	75,537
						304,532	243,223

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005.

2 Reserves policy: it is the intention of the PCC to retain a balance of at least £35,000 being approximately six months committed expenditure within unrestricted funds

3 In accordance with the guidance provided by the Church Commissioners any collections taken at special services - including Weddings and funerals - which go directly to charity are excluded from the 2020 accounts. This also applies to the Lent Appeal.
Funds raised in this way were as follows: Cancer Research £74, Children's Society £245, Friends of Slingsby School £116, Marie Curie £77, Mind £54, Royal British Legion £80, SASH £600, St Catherine's Hospice £256, USPG £145, Yorkshire Cancer Research £40.

4 The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No payments were made to PCC members apart from the reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC

5 Working expenses of the incumbent and Hendrik Klaver are
Shared equally with St Mary's PCC

6 The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

Restricted & Designated Funds in Bank Accounts:

General Funds

St Michael's 2000

Church Repair Fund (Deposit Account)

Church IT / TV Fund

Clerestory Window Fund

	Balance b/f	Receipts	Payments	Transfer s out	Balance c/f
	61	120			181
	2,145	2,192	2,145		2,192
	14,236				14,236
		964	157		807

7 Incoming Resources

a Voluntary income

Planned Giving

Gift Aid donations inc CAF

Other regular giving

Tax recoverable

Collections (loose plate)

One off gift aid

Gift Days / Recurring Giving

Non recurring giving / donations

Special Appeals and Donations

Non recurring grants

Legacy

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Designate d Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	32,654		120	32,774	32,317
	3,079			3,079	2,862
	10,219			10,219	9,604
	3,856			3,856	2,206
	1,679			1,679	2,042
	422			422	299
	1015			1,015	1,302
			270	270	3,697
	24,838			24,838	
	77,762		390	78,152	54,329
	250			250	
	2,138	964		3,102	2,127
	2,388	964		3,352	2,127
	2,629			2,629	1,889
	2,629			2,629	1,889
	4,176		2,192	6,368	5,166

b Activities for generating funds - receipts

Church lettings

Fund raising

Non charitable trading

c Receipts from church activities

Fees

Other

d Receipts from investments

Dividends and interest

e Other receipts not counting as gross income

86,955	964	2,582	90,501	63,511

Resources Expended

Cost of generating funds

Donations (grants) to charities

8 Church Activities

Overseas missions

Christian relief

Home missions

Secular charities

Ministry

Diocesan Freewill Offering

Working expenses of incumbent

Working expenses of assistant

Church utility costs

Church running costs

Salaries, wages & honorarium

Mission and evangelism

Major expenditure

Major repairs to church buildings Heating pipe repairs

Major repairs to other PCC properties

New building or major works

Unrestrict ed Funds	Designate d Funds	Restrict ed Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
204	157		361	39
113			113	478
				478
42,424			42,424	41,240
887			887	884
94			94	1,149
3,658			3,658	3,023
8,541			8,541	7,856
6,291			6,291	4,541
733			733	351
62,628			62,628	59,044
		1,618	1,618	19,863
62,945	157	1,618	64,720	79,424

This represents a transfer of the annual interest received by the Church Repair Fund [administered by the Diocese] to the General Fund as a partial repayment of the costs of repairing the Church central heating in 2020.

9

St Michael's Church – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Administrative Information

St Michael's Church is situated in the Market Place, Malton. It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 17 The Mount, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7ND

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2021 until the date of this report was approved on 8 March 2022 are:

<i>Vicar</i>	The Revd Glyn Diggins	
<i>Wardens</i>	Mr Alan Young	until 25 April 2021
	Mrs Constance Clark (Lay chair)	
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mrs Susannah Clarke	
	Mrs Tracey Young	
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Heather Williams	
	Mrs Sue Wright	
	Mr John Morris (Treasurer)	
	Mrs Anne Screeeton	
	Mrs Samantha Free	
	Mr Robert Hall	
	Mrs Elaine Ramsey	
	Mr Barry Gillespie	
	Mrs Janet Patten	
	Mr Hendrik Klaver	co - opted November 2019
<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Helen Shaw	

Structure, governance, and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The P.C.C. operates under the Parish Church Council Powers Measure. The P.C.C. is registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Michael New Malton"

The charity number is: **1130648**

The method of appointment of P.C.C. members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the P.C.C.

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the PCC is to work alongside the clergy in promoting the mission of the church in matters pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The Sunday and Wednesday communion Services were held weekly in church. The Sunday service was live via Zoom for those unable to attend. As COVID restrictions were eased the congregation was able to sing during the services, albeit masked, from the end of July. Extra seating in the aisles helped people to sit where they felt comfortable.

Christmas services proved challenging as COVID was widespread in Malton. A new sung Advent Service and Carols by Candlelight were held in church with reduced numbers attending. The planned Christingle/Crib Service had to be changed at the last minute. Secure space and candlelight were provided with the retelling of the Nativity story via the large screen, whilst the Nativity figures were placed at the altar. The service was much appreciated by parents and children alike. Thanks go to the Duty Team.

Following on from last year's Report, the All Age Communion Service on the first Sunday of the month has grown in scope and numbers with the efforts of our gifted All Age Planning Team.

The new location for the Children's Corner at the front of the North Aisle has helped accessibility and a better opportunity for children to feel part of our Sunday worship. This area is also being used by visitors to our church building during the week.

Zoom Morning Prayer has continued for the faithful few at 9am on weekdays and a Lent Course was also held on Zoom.

Taking Communion to housebound in their homes and Care Homes has still not resumed because of COVID. The vicar has however taken Communion to those members of our church who had specifically requested it.

Achievements and Performance

There were 102 members on the Electoral Roll on 31 December 2021 comprising 79 living within the parish and 23 outside our parish boundaries.

The total number of communicants over Christmas was 49. Many attended on Zoom.

Review of the Year ended 31st December 2021

This has been another challenging year for our church and churches nationally. Again there were legislative changes to accommodate, which impacted on our public worship. These changes have been comprehensively covered in other reports. It is apparent that many people contributed to maintaining our church life and I take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work and generosity and the unfailing support they have given me as the sole churchwarden for the greater part of the year. Together, I hope, we have shown the wider community our faith and commitment to serving them in the Name of Christ.

Whilst concentrating on the maintenance of our public corporate life and upkeep of the church building we have tried to care for the frail and elderly members of our congregation and to encourage our young families in the faith. We have offered hospitality, when allowed, with a few Coffee Stops and started serving refreshments again after the All Age Services, including our Harvest Service.

As part of the Diocese we have been invited to consider the theme 'Living Christ's Story'; a refreshed vision for the Diocese of York. Our PCC met on the 27th July to answer the questions set by the Bishop's Consultation Team. They will share findings which will form the guidance for the creation of deanery plans. All parishes will be consulted on next steps in the coming year as the Diocese seeks a way forward for us all.

Connie Clark

Annual Report on PCC 2021

2020 was reported to have been the most difficult in living memory on account of Covid-19 and 2021 has been similarly afflicted. Thankfully, we have been able to keep the church open to a greater extent, despite Lockdown 3 in January. PCC meetings in January, March and May were held on Zoom. Meetings in July, September and November were held in church but December was back on Zoom and so the usual social get-together after the December meeting was missed again. Public worship resumed on Mothering Sunday in March, which was exactly one year since the first Sunday lost to Lockdown 1 in March 2020. Singing was not allowed, however, and masks remained obligatory beyond the end of the year. Services continued to be broadcast on Zoom for those unable to get to church, thanks to the efforts of John, Alan and Heather. The Tech Team stream-lined their operation in May, such that the

equipment could be switched on at the start of the service and left unattended for the duration. It was no longer possible to record readings and readers had to be prepared to come to the service and read in person.

The alarm was raised early in the year, when it was noted that the crack around the head of one of the clerestorey window arches on the south side had widened significantly. A very rapid approval for investigative work was obtained from the Archdeacon and a scaffold went up. R&R came to carefully remove the plaster on the inside of the arch and the findings were somewhat alarming. This wall, which was largely re-built in 1966, was found to be leaning out and also bowing and buttresses that were meant to be supporting the wall are now detached from it. The fear was that the worst affected window and associated masonry could fall out and so the window was boarded up for public safety. The PCC instructed our church Architect to have 3D laser scanning carried out so that detailed drawings could be produced for use in subsequent repairs. Other routine maintenance work carried out during the year included the cleaning out of all the high level gutters and this needed doing twice, first in January and again in November.

The pattern of services remains much the same, with Morning Prayer began to be held on Zoom every morning, apart from Sunday and Wednesday morning Holy Communion at 10.30 am. The All Age Parish Communion service continues to be held on the first Sunday of the month. Our annual Crib service was able to be held in church, with participants taking their Make-Your-Own Christingle kit bags home. It was pleasing that our Carols by Candlelight service could also be held in church, after a Zoom version last year. After a Virtual Christmas Fayre in 2020, the PCC took the slightly risky decision to hold the event in person in the Milton Rooms. The event, which was masterminded by Sue Wright, went well and the sum generated for church funds was only marginally less than usual. People were most appreciative that normal service of bacon butties was resumed.

Three members of the PCC completed their terms of office and were re-appointed at the APCM in April: Sue Wright, Heather Williams and Tracey Young. Connie Clark and Susannah Clarke were elected as church wardens, although Susannah stepped down in July. Alan took a place on the PCC after stepping down as churchwarden. Hendrik Klaver has attended meetings during the year to update the PCC on his activities as our Associate Minister for the 20-40s age group. We have carried on with welcoming an observer from the Methodist church at our PCC meetings. As our Safeguarding Officer, Sam Free, updates our policies annually and meets with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer. She gave a talk at the May meeting on what to do if members witness or hear of something concerning and she ensures that members have completed the required online training in Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse Awareness. Allied to this, Sue Wright makes sure members are all up to date with DBS checks.

Several charities benefitted from our once-again limited opportunities for fundraising over the year, including Christian Aid, The Children's Society, Ryedale Free Fridge, USPG, Samaritan's Purse and SASH. An ambassador for SASH came to a Parish Communion service in the autumn to talk about the vital work the charity does for young homeless people. PCC member, Janet Patten resurrected the Parish Newsletter, which is produced quarterly, and she invites parishioners to contribute short articles of interest to the congregation. PCC Secretary, Helen Shaw, mounted an Exhibition of Childhood Toys in church over the first weekend in December and timed to coincide with the Christmas Food Markets held in the Market Place. It was a ploy that paid off, with large numbers of people coming in to see the exhibits. It proved to be a fascinating trip down memory lane for parishioners and visitors and, once again, members of the congregation willingly lent their precious antiquities. Our MP and the Mayor of Malton attended the preview evening on the Friday. Money raised by the Exhibition will go towards the Clerestorey repair project.

In summary, another testing year in which everyone did their best to hold the congregation together.

Helen Shaw

Fabric Report 2021

The year has been dominated by the exploration and assessment of the state of one of the Clerestory windows on the South side of the church. This has meant scaffolding inside the building and the hire of a cherry picker in May to enable a thorough assessment by the church architect and various surveyors to the outside of the church. Following on from this, Andrew Boyce our architect, has asked the PCC to commission a 3D survey of the whole of the church building to ascertain the general state of the rest of the building. This was scheduled for January 2022. The PCC has invited Andrew Boyce to report on all his findings and to submit plans for the work to be done. All of this has involved cost to the church and we know we will need to apply for grants and put major fundraising plans to the forefront of any building schedule.

As for the rest of the fabric of the church I am happy to report that all is in good order and that the Inventory and Terrier will be presented to the PCC before the next APCM to be signed off.

One new addition to the church furniture has been a votive Candle Stand situated near The Lady Chapel, which has now been designated a quiet space for Prayer. Many people have appreciated the candle stand, congregation and visitors alike. The church is open from 8.30am daily enabling people to pop in before heading off to work/school to say a prayer and light a candle.

Thank you to all who keep the church and garden looking clean and inviting, to those who arrange flowers and look after the church linen – all done to the Glory of God.

Connie Clark

Deanery Synod 2021

Due to the pandemic, little has happened on a Deanery basis other than the ongoing Consultation Process.

Treasurer's Report

We eventually received the final instalment of Francis Howitt's legacy amounting to £24,838 and our day to day income and expenditure [both for unrestricted and designated funds] showed a surplus of £24,817: in other words without the legacy there would have been a very small deficit of £21.

In comparison to 2020 like for like income [ie excluding the legacy] was up by £5,142 at £63,081 including increases from collections of £1,650, from fundraising of £975, from statutory fees of £740, and from our investments of £1,152.

Expenditure was £3,541 higher than last year at £63,102: the diocesan freewill offering was up by £1,184, payroll costs were up by £1,750 and utility costs by £635. It is worth noting the FWO constituted 67% of our expenditure.

Only the preliminary survey work was completed on the Clerestory window repairs but the church architect has warned us that total costs are likely to exceed £100k – although this should qualify for some grants.

The CBF Investment Fund – with CCLA – continues to be the best performing Charity Fund and there was an unrealised gain of £21,343 on our holding.

I expect 2022 to be a much more normal year in terms of our services and our fundraising activities, but both 2022 and 2023 will be financially challenging.

John Morris

APPENDIX 1 Accounts

Independent examiner's report to the P.C.C. of St Michael, New Malton

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2021 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (The Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act)

Independent examiner's statement

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

- ❖ Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or
- ❖ To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts be reached.

Mr A W Richardson
White and Hoggard,
Wheelgate Malton
8 March 2022

The Vicar's Report

The Vicar's report often starts by mentioning all the events that have happened during the year, but of course, this year (as last year) has been quite different from what we would describe as "normal". I still do want to thank you all for being part of the Church Community here in our parishes, for your support, help, encouragement, attendance, hospitality, (when we were able), your ministry – whether you are a Warden, PCC Secretary, Music Director, Children's Worker, make tea, clean the church, arrange flowers, or kept in touch with people throughout the year – thank you, you have done a great job!

Although events have been significantly curtailed, Christmas 2021 was a particularly busy period and there were a number of events of particular note. They all took an amazing amount of talent and time to organise and I would like to thank the principal people involved (ably supported by wonderful teams):

Light Party - Tracey Young
Antique Toy Fair - Helen Shaw
Christmas Fair - Sue Wright

Coping with so many changes in the way we live, the covid restrictions, not being able to see people we love and miss, dealing with anxiety or fear, watching your children or grandchildren coping with home schooling, working from home and being a parent, and not being able to help, has all taken a toll on our emotional and mental health. However, God has been, and continues to be, right in the midst of it all, walking alongside us, weeping and rejoicing with us, and sending his love and grace just when we think we have nothing left to give.

Church services with social distancing and masks have been challenging; so too has conducting services online, but it is amazing what we can get used to, given the time.

I think many of us have learned a lot about doing things differently this year, whether that is online, on the telephone or chatting on the doorstep. It has not all been bad.

There are a couple of things that stand out to me from this time:

1. That life and faith are all about relationships, our relationship with God and others. It should be no surprise because that is what God calls us into – relationship. But often, we're too busy rushing from one thing to another and we can so easily forget what's important.
2. When many churches have chosen to lock their doors and only have their acts of worship online, both of our churches have been open for private prayer

throughout and acts of worship have taken place inside the church buildings. This has taken considerable commitment and logistical creativity (from especially our Church Wardens) and I would like to thank all involved for displaying such incredible flexibility and a passion for "being there" in relation to our local communities.

Talking of Church Wardens, Connie Clark has done an incredible job of serving the church as Warden throughout this year, pretty much single-handedly. She is stepping down from the role and being replaced by two new Wardens as of the APCM. I would personally like to thank Connie for her commitment, diligence, wisdom and counsel. Connie has served during a particularly difficult time and we as a Church Family owe her a great debt of gratitude. After a period of well earned rest, reflection and consolidation, I know that Connie will be back "firing on all cylinders" and contributing significantly to the life and mission of St. Michael's.

We also say "goodbye" to John Morris who has been our Treasurer for many years. Knowing how time consuming this essential role is, I would like to thank John for his highly professional and conscientious approach. Having served as Bursar in two Cathedrals, we are very fortunate to have benefited from his extensive experience and knowledge of church finances.

It's no secret that the numbers of Ordained Clergy are reducing on a national basis, which has resulted in many parishes finding themselves in periods of extended vacancy. Through the grace of God, neither of our churches find themselves in this position, however, like churches in vacancy, we are extremely blessed by the retired clergy who reside in our Deanery and are still happy to serve local churches where they can. I would particularly like to thank Revd. Simon Wright for his substantial support, not just to the Malton Benefice, but also to the wider Deanery. We have also benefited from the ministries of Revd. Veronica James and Revd. Judy Duke and I look forward to welcoming them back to our churches throughout the upcoming year.

Some people are saying that things will never go back to what they were before the pandemic. I don't know if they are right, but I know one thing; I don't want us to lose the richness that we have gained. Instead, I pray that we can build on the good and continue to look outwards to the communities we live in.

Revd. Glyn

Prayer

The past year from March 2021 has seen some 'normality' returning to our lives and the church has remained continually open for services and private prayer.

There has been some rearrangement in the church with the Children's Corner taking the place of the Prayer Table and display in the north corner of the building and the prayer space is now in the Lady Chapel. This has proved to be a far better space for people who want to just sit quietly and be less likely to be disturbed.

We also provide a selection of 'free to take' booklets on varying aspects of prayer, help and support from 'Lifewords' in a small stand on the table at the back of the church. The provision of these is very popular, particularly in the summer months when there are more visitors to the church.

A new, much bigger, candle stand was purchased during 2021, which is situated by the Lady Chapel door and this has proved to have been very well used and much appreciated by congregation and visitors alike.

Morning prayer is still being held on Zoom every morning at 9.00am (except Sunday) where the short service from the Northumbria morning Prayer Service is used. Rev Glyn is spending time in church to pray on Tuesday and Thursday mornings' usually between 9.45/10.45 and welcomes others to join him to pray alongside or just have a chat.

The Benefice Prayer diary was updated in early February 2022 and copies of it are available at the back of church. The Diocesan Monthly Prayer Diary is available on the York Diocese web page and can be downloaded and printed. Both are useful aids for daily prayer. Our Lent Prayer Partners exercise which takes place every year is a good way of praying in more depth for one particular person during Lent.

Prayer is said to be the 'Engine Room' of the church and our own lives. It need not be a lengthy and arduous task but just a simple conversation with God.

Trish Atkinson

Parish News

A Parish Newsletter is now produced quarterly, the first one was in May 2021. The feedback has been very positive. A few copies are printed and distributed to those without email or who are unable to print at home, and it is sent out by email to all on the list for the weekly sheet. A few copies are also left at the back of church for any visitors who come in.

Janet Patten

Choir Report

The Choir was finally allowed to sing live, in-person at church services in April 2021 (though not quite in time for Easter). Since that time, they, and I, have been getting used to the novelty (and privilege) of in-person rehearsals at church once more.

For all the negative impact which Covid has had, and is still having, it has highlighted the important aspects of life. Pre-Covid, I would never have thought that singing in church could and should be viewed as privilege that needs to be joyfully celebrated, be it in the choir or in congregation. My favourite quote, attributed to St Augustine, encapsulates this thought: "the one who sings prays twice". ... He that sings praise, not only sings, but also loves him of whom he sings. In praise, there is the speaking forth of one confessing; in singing, the affection of one loving."

In July, my predecessor, Janet Patten, had her farewell service. With a packed, though socially distanced, church and a choir of six, it was both a joyous celebration and a profound thank-you for all that Janet and John have given to the church for over forty years. I must offer my public thanks to Janet for ensuring that I had as smooth a transition as possible into the worship and life of St Michael's.

August heralded the very welcome news that church congregations were once more allowed to sing. We celebrated this in September with a very enjoyable "Songs of Praise" for the Feast of St Michael and All Angels.

Sunday services for Harvest Thanksgiving, All Saints', the service of Light and Remembrance Sunday all passed successfully, with plenty of new music being sung.

The theme of introducing new repertoire continued into Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. I have pushed the choir, sometimes out of their comfort zones, but they have risen to each challenge. We commemorated the start of Advent with an atmospheric ecumenical Advent Processional Service by candlelight. Next year, I hope to invite choir members from our neighbours in the Methodist and Catholic churches to join us for this event. The Carol Service was equally successful: a full church and extended choir of fifteen.

While the long-awaited children's choir has yet to materialise, I hope to be able to start it within this academic year. I shall also be visiting local primary schools in order to provide some musical support and choral outreach.

Alison Forster

Director of Music

Safeguarding Report - 2021

Safeguarding policy

A review of the Parish Safeguarding Policy was completed earlier in the year and our policy was found to be up to date.

A policy statement on the recruitment of ex-offenders has been included in the policies, as per guidance from the Diocese of York. This policy will be distributed with future DBS applications and renewals.

DBS checks

Two new Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed, and certificates obtained, and others have been renewed as necessary by our Parish Verifier, Sue Wright. For information, all members of the PCC must have a DBS at enhanced level, as well as all church members who are involved in children's work.

Training

In April 2021 the Church of England's National Safeguarding Steering Group, on behalf of the House of Bishops, approved a new Learning and Development Framework. This sets out the details of the Church of England's learning pathway and expectations of Church officers in respect of those pathways. The Church has an ambition to make a paradigm shift in its relationship with safeguarding. This requires recognition that safeguarding needs to move away from something that is in some respects external and imposed upon the Church, to something that flows from within the soul of the Church. Safeguarding should be at the centre of our faith, in our practice, in our worship, in our praying and in our believing. In other words, safeguarding needs to become integral to the very DNA of the Church, with good safeguarding behaviours flowing naturally and intuitively. A significant difference is a change to who should access which of the pathways. These decisions are now informed by anyone who 'plays a lead role in shaping the culture of the Church body concerned.'

Members of the PCC are currently working their way through the additional required online training modules that have arisen as a result of these changes. Any additional persons required to undergo training will be informed as and when required. However, if anyone else would like to complete these, please let me know and I will provide further information. As the Parish Safeguarding Representative, I have completed all required training modules and Sue Wright has attended all required courses in safeguarding and safer recruitment.

Safeguarding incidents

In conjunction with the Diocese, our Safeguarding Team has dealt with one new safeguarding incident this year.

Samantha Free

(Parish Safeguarding Representative)

All Age Worship Report for 2021

The All Age services continued throughout the year on the first Sunday of every month.

The first All Age service of 2021 was with everyone in church but only the choir could sing the hymns. The following two AAW services were online with just the vicar and organist in church. Some of the hymns were recorded by the choir which made it easier for people at home to join in. Families were sent an activity to do at home during the service. For Candlemas the challenge was to build a temple from Lego!

By Easter Day, the congregation was back in church but not allowed to sing, so Tracey's activity bags were back for families to do in the pews. There was a final hymn for all to sing outside after the service. The children's crafts were displayed on a board for everyone to see afterwards.

For the May service it was a real treat to listen to the choir singing the hymns, as the restriction on singing was lifted to allow a few singers to sing socially distanced.

From 19th July everyone was allowed to sing again so from the August service we were nearly back to normal.

The Harvest Festival in October was well supported and the children were invited into the sanctuary to help them understand what goes on in the Eucharistic prayer. This was also the first opportunity to serve refreshments after the service and enable people to chat over coffee and cake.

The November service had a guest speaker to talk about SASH (our chosen charity to support at Christmas) and he involved the children during the talk. In December we were amazed how many came as the food festival was taking place. We even ran out of service sheets!

Some of the craft activities continue to be displayed while the children can take home what they have made or done.

As a team we are very encouraged by the positive feedback we have had for these services. Several families attend quite regularly and some take part. Our planning meetings are held on zoom which enables everyone to be present who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend. We always

review the previous all age service before talking about the next one.

The AAW planning team work hard to make it happen each month, both with their time and talents preparing readings, intercessions, music and activity bags.

Janet Patten

Working with young children and families within our community.

2021 again proved to be a year marred by everchanging rules, restrictions, masks and hand gel, set against the unnatural sadness of isolation from each other. The feelings of physical separation from our church family continued to be felt at the height of the 'third wave' of the pandemic as our 'mission' to families in our community became, quite literally, the inspiring contents of the Bible Adventure Bags delivered door to door throughout Malton.

Fortunately, by April 2021 we were able to warmly invite families to a 'covid secure' Easter Garden event in church. It was such a joy to actually be able to meet together, albeit cautiously, to celebrate Easter complete with glue, paint and compost! No singing or hot cross buns allowed, but what fun we had creating our large and small Easter Gardens and performing an Easter themed sea shanty.

The summer saw an easing of restrictions and the delivery of Bible Adventure Bags was replaced by 'live' Family Bible Adventure meet ups in the Castle Gardens in Malton under the auspices of the OMG team.

The summer also enabled us, as a church, to reflect on what elements of our outreach had worked well in 'pre-covid' times, but also reflect on the mission that the pandemic forced us to explore. We felt that the best of each would take us forward into new ways of touching young families within our community with God's love. A balance of nurturing our children in their faith through active celebrations of festivals in Church, developing All Age worship, establishing a pattern of Lego Church (or similar) and the formation of a children's choir, would sit alongside growing families of faith through supporting OMG in its mission.

A monthly opportunity for families to explore faith together through meaningful, playful activities was begun at Malton Secondary School, an initiative born of a close relationship between the OMG team and St Michael's, directed by OMG. This gathering has continued monthly since October and has been well received and supported.

October also saw the opportunity for fun and food at our 'Sparkle Party' for families in church. Fairy lights and tea lights decorated the church and set the scene for an evening of fun. Glow stick games, torch activities and a host of light themed crafts were much enjoyed as were the hot dogs around the fire pit at the Vicarage that followed.

In December, we again joined together with OMG to plan and deliver a new mission, 'Angels of Hope for Malton'. The event included a range of initiatives to embrace the message of the Christmas Angels—hope, peace, love and good news for all, expressed in a variety of ways within the community. There was an afternoon of impressive craft activities in church for children and families, where wooden one metre high angels were decorated to express the messages of the angels. These angels were then placed around the Market Place in Malton as an outward sign of hope and love and the joy of the Christmas message for our community. Malton Community Primary School and Housemartins Day Nursery also decorated and laminated over 250 small card angels to hang on the tree outside church during the festive season. Each angel carried the children's hopes for themselves, their families, our town or our world and made an amazing display alongside the large Nativity Figures created by our children.

Hopes and plans to celebrate Christmas itself in church, together with families, rose and fell according to the rates of the developing Omicron variant. We had to abandon our usual Christingle Service and then our traditional Nativity play, but managed to come together for a short candle lit Crib Service, which was very well attended and beautifully moving.

2022 will be a year of reassessing the way forward for our church in how we minister to families that we both nurture and reach out to our local community after two years of upheaval. There will be new challenges, exciting times and no shortage of ways God wishes to lead us. We must be sure to listen to where He wishes to take us. Do hold this important work in your prayers.

Tracey Young

Report 20s to 40s minister

We started the year 2021 with a number of contacts through the Bible Adventure Bags and we continued with the Bible Adventure Bags as we entered a third national lockdown.

The most significant contact with families was brief contact on the doorstep (as we dropped off the bags). We continued doing some meetups with a group of 3 to 6 men around a firepit where we shared life and faith in a relaxed and non-threatening environment.

During Lent I led a group (on Zoom) using the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book of 2021. This book: "Living His Story: Revealing the Extraordinary Love of God in Ordinary Ways" by Hannah Steele was really helpful and enabling in discovering together how we can share the gospel story afresh in our own lives. The participants then decided to make it practical by organising a Start course (which unfortunately didn't go ahead as there were no participants which was also a learning experience) and then decided to do some other things that did help people in their wellbeing (such as organising a wellbeing meetup for women and getting involved in the men's firepit meetups).

At Easter we seized the opportunity to meet with families (as parent and children groups of max 15 persons over the age of 5) for an Easter egg hunt and exploring the Easter story together. We met in 5 different locations in Malton and Norton and each time there were 5 families present reaching 25 families in total. It was really exciting to meet for the first time with some of the families receiving Bible Adventure Bags!

As restrictions lifted further, we started meeting with the families at Malton Castle Gardens for "Live Bible Adventures". In the Autumn we joined forces with St Michael's and moved the Family Bible Adventures meetups to Malton School. Every month we saw families returning but also new families joining. In December we met at St Michael's and did a special project in the marketplace. The angels we made were adopted by different shopkeepers in the marketplace to bless people as they were out in town and invite them to reflect on the questions on key Christmas themes.

As we emerged from the pandemic we noticed the importance of mental health and wellbeing for many people in the 20's to 40's age group which led us to do a ladies wellbeing meetup and a continued focus on this area.

During the lockdowns and as we emerged from the lockdowns we developed a good relationship with Morrisons. They offered their support at various point by contributing to some of the Bible Adventure Bags and to

some of the meetups. Before the Summer I was contacted by the Community Champion of Morrisons to see if I would be happy to offer monthly drop in sessions for their staff to support them in their wellbeing and I started these sessions in September. It was a real privilege to be able to offer support to some of our local key workers in this way, many of them in the 20's to 40's age bracket.

In November we started a new meetup: the Sunday Brunch. This monthly gathering at St Mary's Priory Community Centre in Old Malton is for young adults and families around a meal and a Bible Story which we explore together. It is a place that is really accessible and informal and it is also a place of discipleship as we share life and explore following Jesus in our everyday lives.

St Peter's in Norton was for most of 2021 without stipendiary clergy. During this time I preached there every other month (in addition to the monthly preach at St Michael's and St Mary's). This really helped build the relationship with the congregation at St Peter's.

Hendrik Klaver

Tech. Team Report 2021

We began the year with the immediate aim of consolidating progress made in 2020 with the two main objectives of making the operation as discrete as possible to those attending the event being streamed and of making everything more sustainable.

A great deal was learnt in very short order during 2020; necessity certainly is the mother of invention! While, by the end of 2020, we had reached a relatively good product, it did require a lot of setting up each time and needed a plethora of cables trailing all over the place and some, often rather unwelcome, interventions by us during services to keep things on Zoom running. This was probably acceptable while the majority were taking part on Zoom; it was certainly not something we wanted in the longer term as more and more returned to church in person and the streaming became the minority option.

So, we began the year moving operations to the tower balcony. Permanent computers were installed and cabling run from there to the broadband hub in the office and the PA cupboard by the organ (from which the sound on Zoom is garnered). Two remote cameras were purchased. These small cameras require no cabling and can be discretely placed and send their images over the wi-fi system in church. Wi-fi extenders were installed in the main church building which has the added benefit of extending reliable

wi-fi for all to use in this area (previously it could only really be relied upon in the office).

After a few teething problems, notably one service when we almost deafened those present in the building with massive feedback to the church PA speakers, things quickly settled down. As the year has progressed and Covid restrictions waned the operation has changed. The first thing to go was the playing out of pre-recorded contributions by church members as it was decided to rely on people in person to perform readings and intercessions.

In September we moved to remote operation for most Sunday services. This means that we use just one or two cameras and run things from a tablet computer. This allows the operator (usually Alan or Heather) to participate in the service and not be “locked in the tower”! However, this does mean that the pictures are not as varied (we have four cameras at our disposal when operations are run from the tower) and that what is being broadcast is not being monitored all the time. This occasionally can lead to a less than ideal product (e.g.: participants unmuting themselves during the service and breaking into what is being streamed). We do try to find ways to overcome such problems as they arise; do bear with us!

Also, since we are interfacing five different digital processes, all of which seem to have the uncanny knack of demanding to be updated on a Sunday morning, we occasionally face problems when switching things on, with little time to resolve them before going “on air”. This has sometimes led to glitches in the broadcast. Again, we are rapidly learning how to better overcome these things.

During the year we have undertaken some special operations, including the streaming of John Dunstan’s funeral which, at the time, could not take place in church, with coverage of the progress of cortege through town and of the service from the graveside. We also streamed Dolly Thackray’s funeral from church. At Easter we went outside to cover the first opportunity the whole congregation had to sing since the start of the Covid restrictions. At Christmas 2021 we made sure all services were covered, in particular the Carol Service and Crib Service.

While, on a normal Sunday, the number viewing has obviously reduced from anything up in the 40s and 50s at the beginning of the year, we still regularly have at least five or six “tuning in”. In 2022 we may possibly look at other platforms over which to stream. Zoom was ideal when most of us were stuck at home as it is primarily designed as a means for people to meet and for all to contribute. We are now in a position where it is used to allow people to look in, much as they would to a church service on television. Whatever happens we are committed to continue with the operation as long as it is needed and will keep all informed of any changes, they may need to make

to access it. Nothing will be done to complicate things for viewers!

Heather Williams, John Patten, Alan Young

Accounts

St Michael's Church, New Malton



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Annual

Report

and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2020

**together with Reports given to the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Sunday 25 April 2021**

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc
Yorkersgate
Malton

Independent Examiner:

Mr A W Richardson

St. Michael's Church, New Malton

Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Contents

	Page
Annual Report	1- 6
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Clergy and other reports	7-12
	APPENDIX
Statement of Financial Activities	1
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2020	2
Notes to the Accounts	3-4

St Michael's Church – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Administrative Information

St Michael's Church is situated in the Market Place, Malton. It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 17 The Mount, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7ND

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2020 until the date of this report was approved on 10 March 2021 are:

<i>Vicar</i>	The Revd Glyn Diggins	
<i>Wardens</i>	Mr Alan Young	
	Mrs Constance Clark (Lay chair)	
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mr David White	until 15 November
	Mrs Patricia Atkinson	until 15 November
	Mrs Margaret Clark	until 15 November
	Mrs Susannah Clark	from 15 November
	Mrs Tracey Young	from 15 November
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Tracey Young	until 15 November
	Mrs Heather Williams	
	Mrs Sue Wright	
	Mr John Morris (Treasurer)	
	Mrs Anne Screeton	
	Mrs Samantha Free	
	Mr Robert Hall	from 15 November
	Mrs Elaine Ramsey	from 15 November
	Mr Barry Gillespie	from 15 November
	Mrs Janet Patten	from 15 November
	Mr Hendrik Klaver	co-opted November 2019
<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Helen Shaw	

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Michael New Malton".

The charity number is: **1130648**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the PCC is to work alongside the clergy in promoting the mission of the church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. All the activities of the parish noted elsewhere in this report are in furtherance of that primary objective.

The underlying pattern of services remains broadly the same as that in 2019, albeit that for extended periods these have had to be suspended due to Covid-19 restrictions. Throughout, however, we have maintained the main Sunday Service of Parish Communion, whether a congregation has been present or not. During the times the place has been closed to worshippers we initially provided access online to recordings by the choir and of readings and the sermon for the Sunday service. However very shortly afterwards the service was streamed live, with the celebrant (Glyn or Simon) hosting from their homes with church members recording the readings and intercessions and the music for the hymns to be played in at the appropriate time. This was accessible by those with computers or tablets. After a while it was possible for those without these devices to listen in by phone. As soon as we could, we streamed the service from church.

When permitted, the Wednesday Holy Communion service has taken place in church. All other opportunities to worship have moved online and will remain so for the foreseeable future. At time of writing, this comprises Morning Prayer every morning at 09.00 and Evening Prayer on Tuesdays at 19.15.

In the last report it was mentioned that there had been increasing pressure to review services as the demographic of the congregation changes as we welcome an increasing number of young families to our flock. Some changes were about to be trialled at the Sunday Holy Communion service when the pandemic intervened. It is important that these are taken forward as soon as normal service resumes.

Achievements and Performance

The Church Electoral Roll was fully updated during 2019. There were 105 members on the Roll at the end of 2020 comprising 82 people living within the parish and 23 outside our parish boundaries.

The total number of communicants over Christmas was 41 and the total attendance at all services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was in person 49, on Zoom 85.

Review of the Year ended 31st December 2020

It goes without saying that the year has been dominated by the implications of the Coronavirus pandemic. It is difficult to recall what things were like before we were required to close the church building completely on 26 March at the start of the first lockdown. In fact, the last Sunday service the congregation could attend was an Area Deanery event at St. Peter's in Norton on 15 March to mark the end of the "Come and See" weekend.

Lockdown One:

The instructions received for the first lockdown were severe, to the extent that no one was permitted to enter the building other than in exceptional circumstances.

Of course, the church is not merely a building. It is the people. However, given we could no longer meet in person in church or even in our homes, it was seen as important to find other ways to keep in touch with one another. We quickly reviewed our list of church members. We added to it any others known to us and associated with the church. We ensured it was up to date with email addresses etc. Special note was made of the more vulnerable on the list and contact made with them. All received details of who to contact during the lockdown if help was needed. It was immediately decided to retain the Weekly Sheet and distribute this principally by email (the Church of England advised against posting items, although we did breach this guidance to ensure we kept in contact with most people).

Streaming of Services:

One of the most remarkable outcomes of the Covid-19 restrictions has been the use made of electronic means to remain in contact. This has been no different for the Church and for us at St. Michael's. As stated earlier we soon moved our main Sunday service online, initially by emailing out readings, music and other parts of the service, but quickly moving to streaming the whole service "live" from the celebrant's home. Morning Prayer was moved online as well. Of course, not everyone is able to join us in this way. It is possible to listen on the phone, and several make use of this facility. However we have tried to maintain some form of meaningful

contact with all members of the congregation (and beyond) even if they are not with us online.

Bible Adventure Bags:

Several members of the congregation have been working with our 20-40 Minister in the filling and distribution of Bible Activity Bags every month as the year has progressed. These are aimed at keeping in contact with families with young children, providing them with Bible related activities to fill their time (a sort of virtual Messy Church – but we're not cleaning up the mess afterwards). These seem to be growing in popularity as each month passes and may well continue after the Covid restrictions are lifted.

Summer Reopening:

In the summer, restrictions were lifted on 15 June to the extent that it was permitted to reopen the building for private prayer and for services from 4 July. However, we were unable to do this as contractors were in the place repairing the heating system (see Fabric Report below). We eventually reopened for visitors on 22 July and the first service with a congregation was held the following Sunday, 26 July. We had, however, been able to access the church prior to that to enable us to stream the Sunday service from the building for a couple of weeks. While services had been resumed in church, the decision was taken to continue streaming the Sunday service for those who preferred to remain at home and we will continue to do this for the foreseeable future. Morning Prayer has remained entirely online as well.

Reopening followed the removal from the nave of all but essential items to reduce the risk of virus transmission, in line with guidance received, and a thorough clean of the building by Joanne our cleaner and an army of volunteers to whom thanks are due. Precautions and protocols were introduced following the completion of the appropriate risk assessment provided by the Church of England and shared with the PCC.

One strange consequence of our delay beyond 4 July in reintroducing Sunday services at St. Michael's was that we could have technically been in breach of Canon Law! The Diocese advised us that the legislation passed in Westminster that introduced the lockdown in March included the disapplication of the Canon Law requirement for us to hold a service every Sunday. This lapsed on 4 July with the lifting of the Government restrictions on holding services of worship. Anyway, we had to pass a PCC minute to get over this problem, which we duly did.

Virtually all social and fund raising events have been cancelled during the year including Coffee Stops, Table Top Sales, Benefice lunches

(although one was held in August) and Christmas Lunch. Let us hope that later in 2021 we can again start meeting in this way.

We have tried to maintain the momentum of the monthly All Age Service. Thanks go to Janet Patten and her team for this. Those that have taken place in church see an increasing number of families with young children, a trend that hopefully will continue as and when things return to normal.

New Director of Music:

A number of other things have either been cancelled or postponed as a result of the Coronavirus epidemic. Foremost among these is the appointment of a new Director of Music. This had been planned to take place shortly after Easter to allow Janet Patten to retire at the end of July after 37 years sterling service. In the meantime Janet agreed to continue. While she has not seen out her last few months in the job in a way she could ever have imagined, our immense gratitude goes to her in the way that she has adapted and found ways to allow us to be able to continue to enjoy music with our worship throughout the lockdown and beyond. Hopefully later in 2021 we can join together in a celebration of Janet's contribution to St. Michael's, another event we have had to postpone from 2020.

Eventually we were able to hold interviews for the post in October. Alison Forster was appointed to the job and started with us on 1 November and immediately was confronted, as we all were, with the implications of a further national lockdown. It was not until later in December that she was able to meet and hear the choir in person for the first time!

Lockdown Two and reopening for Christmas:

The second lockdown saw the suspension of services in church, although we were able to remain open for visitors, which we did. We were able to hold services again four weeks' later, in time for us to consider what to do for Christmas. We had already cancelled our annual main fund raising event (the Christmas Fayre). This was replaced by a "virtual" event where people were encouraged to donate what they might have spent at the Fayre (or contributing things for it). Amazingly, this resulted in an outcome which was only a few hundred pounds less than that achieved at the actual thing the previous year (and with a lot less effort!). That said, I think we all missed the fellowship of queuing for the tombola and guessing the weight of Eileen's cake (among other things).

It was decided to maintain the usual pattern of services over Christmas. However, the two services that see numbers in excess of the

capacity of the building in usual times, let alone that required for social distancing, were moved entirely online. These were the Carol Service and Christmas Eve Crib/Christingle service. In the case of the Carol Service, there was the added complication of the space taken by the augmented choir. The risk assessment for singers during Covid requires enhanced distancing. Hence the choir could only be accommodated in the body of the church, rendering virtually no space for any congregation. It was felt that children and families would better enjoy and participate at home for the Christingle. Both events proved immensely popular with those at home. A great deal of work went into both services, but particular thanks must go to Alison, our new Director of Music, for the Carol Service. This was among her first tasks in joining us, and was achieved with just four or five rehearsals, two of which were online and with people she had yet to meet in person!

Lockdown Three:

As the year closed, the Government announced a further lockdown of activities. On this occasion, however, there is no requirement for places of worship to close or for services to be suspended. However, it was quite clear that the situation with the virus was considerably worse than even in the first lockdown. So the decision was taken at the start of the year to suspend services, but that the building remain open for visitors and private prayer. The Sunday service continues to be streamed from church with the minimum number of people present (four or five).

Looking Ahead:

Of course, it is important that the efforts taken to stay on top of things in respect of the virus does not detract from our wider mission. To this end, the PCC was able to meet in person a couple of times in the autumn, including for a special meeting in October. Here we discussed our objectives for the next few years and alighted on the following three:-

- Improving the flexibility of the building in order for us to better capitalise on our "Church in the Market Place" position
- Pastoral Care
- Prayer and Bible Study.

Let us hope and pray that as life returns to more like normal, we can actively turn to these and move forward in 2021.

Connie Clark
Alan Young

Annual Report on PCC 2020

The year has been the most difficult in living memory on account of Covid-19 and for long periods of time worshipping in church has been impossible, not to say banned. The PCC met in church in January and March but the May and July meetings could not be held. By September, the PCC was able to meet in church again but, following another lock-down in November, the November and December meetings were held successfully on Zoom. The December meeting is usually a short business meeting followed by a bring and share social gathering, but there was none of that this year. Every social and fund raising event that was planned for 2020, as well as bookings by third parties for concerts, had to be cancelled, including, very reluctantly, the annual Christmas Fayre in the Milton Rooms. The APCM, due to be held in April, was postponed and held on Zoom in November.

An extraordinary meeting was held in church in early February to discuss essential heating system repairs, following the discovery of leaking Victorian cast iron pipes running under the floor across the eastern end of the nave. Against the odds, contractors were eventually able to come in and lift paving slabs, renew the leaking pipes and make good. Thanks are due to R&R and Pickups for a smooth running project and also to Jason Othick who removed asbestos from the boiler house to ensure a safe working environment for our contractors. Other works carried out during the year included the cleaning out of all the gutters and parapets around church, repairs to entrance doors and fencing and the refurbishment of some of our silverware.

Following a deep clean and the necessary risk assessments, St Michael's was ready to reopen for public worship on Sunday 26th July. The PCC determined that, even though we could welcome the congregation back into church, the Parish Communion service would still be broadcast on Zoom. Attendees were very co-operative of the new regime of face coverings, hand sanitiser and leaving contact details, with every other pew roped off to maintain social distancing, and only the wafer for Communion.

The PCC held a supplementary meeting in church in October to discuss the way forward and a number of new initiatives were discussed. The second wave of Covid has meant that none of these ideas have yet been implemented. Changes have been made to the pattern of services and Morning Prayer began to be held on Zoom every morning. Later on, Evening Prayer was also broadcast on Zoom on Tuesday

evenings. The All Age Parish Communion service continues to be held on the first Sunday of the month. Our annual Crib & Christingle service was held online only and parishioners helped to deliver the Make-Your-Own Christingle kit bags. Our new Director of Music was faced with holding her first Carols by Candlelight service online. A socially distanced choir occupied the pews and the congregation watched from home. It was a resounding success. Another resounding success was churchwarden Alan's idea of a Virtual Christmas Fayre. The idea being that people were invited to donate what they would have spent at the Christmas Fayre, if it could have been held. There was a very healthy response and the sum generated for church funds was only marginally less than usual.

We have carried on with exchanging observers with the Methodist church at our PCC meetings. Three members of the PCC completed their terms of office and stepped down at the APCM in November: Trish Atkinson, David White and Margaret Clark. Five new members joined and were welcomed: Susannah Clark, Robert Hall, Janet Patten, Barry Gillespie and Elaine Ramsey. Hendrik Klaver has attended meetings throughout the year to update the PCC on his activities as our Associate Minister for the 20-40s age group.

Several charities benefitted from our severely limited opportunities for fundraising over the year, including Christian Aid, The Children's Society, Ryedale Food Bank, Samaritan's Purse and Ryedale Special Families. At the start of the year, a donation was made to a fund set up and administered by the Diocese of Melbourne, to assist victims of the Australian bush fires that raged in late 2019.

In summary, a very testing year in which everyone did their best to hold the congregation together.

Helen Shaw

Fabric Report 2020

This has been a very different year, in that the country has been in lockdown for the greater part of it. What follows is a brief report on what we have been able to achieve by way of maintenance of building, grounds and fabric.

- **Church Heating**

After a postponement in March, major works were undertaken to replace a corroded water pipe across the nave

carrying water to/from the radiators and the boiler in the church office. Once the work was started it became obvious that a boiler house re-pipe was needed to complete the installation. This further work meant that the project was not completed until middle of July. Our thanks to Pickups and R&R for their excellent work. The heating is now very effective in church.

Further, Once the flags had been lifted, the opportunity was taken for a conduit to be laid across the chancel step in order to facilitate future use of electronic equipment.

- **Church Notice Board**

The Church Noticeboard was out of date in the fact that it mentioned Morning Prayer which is no longer applicable.

- **Church Lighting**

We continued to experiment with stronger lights in church. Through trial and error we have now reached a compromise using the brighter bulbs where they do not cause discomfort. John Waind, the electrician, has been asked to quote for two spotlights to illuminate music/singers on the chancel step. Lockdowns have delayed this request.

- **Outside Fencing**

Our thanks go to Simon Wright and Maurice Walker for replacing rotten fence posts and making good the chain links on the north side. A great job was done which enhances the care of our church property.

- **Guttering**

We have now established a biannual cleaning of both high and low level guttering.

- **Silver Ware**

As church services and numbers attending were restricted, the opportunity was taken to have a damaged chalice and paten repaired.

- **Clerestory Windows**

Architect Andrew Boyce on a site visit had made us aware of damage to the plasterwork surrounding the clerestory windows. Repair work has now been commissioned a special thank you to Helen Shaw for facilitating this.

- **Church Office**

A new printer and a new telephone system have been installed.

- **Vicar's Vestry**

A cause for the smell of damp in the cupboards has not been found.

- **Church Linen**

An ongoing inspection and sorting through of linen is continuing, with substandard items being discarded. Thanks to Sue Wright for her help in this and for also ensuring altar cloths are fit for purpose.

- **Terrier**

It has not been possible to carry out an annual inventory of movable objects in church, as a lot of it not accessible. A note to this effect will be lodged in the register.

Local townspeople and occasional visitors have appreciated the church remaining open for private prayer whenever the regulations have allowed this.

Thank you to all those who help to keep the church looking clean and tidy and adhering to the extra hygiene protocols now in place.

Thanks too to all those who care so beautifully for all the linen and the flower arrangers for the ongoing flower displays.

Connie Clark

Alan Young

Treasurer's Report

In an exceptional year you will not be surprised to read that there was a deficit in 2020 on our day to day activity (Unrestricted Funds) of £1,622. The surprise was that the deficit was not larger given that the PCC also maintained its Free Will Offering (FWO) to the Diocese of £41,240. The Virtual Christmas Fayre at the end of the year provided a welcome boost.

Inevitably many comparisons with 2019, in numerical terms at least, were rendered somewhat meaningless but you can see the impact that the reduction in services in church and in the number of events held, had on our income from collections, tax recovered and fund raising. This in turn reduced the

amounts that would normally have been given to charity.

Having said that historically speaking 2020 was an exceptional year, 2021 promises to be at least as challenging and the PCC will keep under review its FWO and other commitments.

Thank you to those who support the church through the planned giving scheme: it is particularly important when other sources of income are absent and represented 74% of our income in 2020 (including any tax recovered on Gift Aid where appropriate).

The only major repair (from Restricted Funds) of 2020 was the fixing of the leaks in the central heating system which was completed at a net cost of £16,553 [ie once the VAT had been recovered].

John Morris, 22nd January 2021

APPENDIX 1 Accounts

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Michael, New Malton

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2020 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('The Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('The Act')

Independent examiner's statement

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

- ❖ which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or
- ❖ To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts be reached.

Mr A W Richardson,
White & Hoggard,
Wheelgate Malton
7th April 2021

The Vicar's Report

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43:19)

And we know [with great confidence] that God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose. (Romans 8:28)

I think we'd all agree that 2020 was an incredibly testing year. At the time of writing this report over 4 million people have been tested positive for COVID resulting in excess of 122,000 deaths. Our economy is struggling (to say the least) with approximately 1.75 million people being registered unemployed. Families have been separated for over 12 months, the lonely have felt even more isolated, the NHS has been stretched to breaking point and our education system has been bolstered by parents having to juggle home working with home schooling.

Looked at in isolation, the above would be enough to drive anybody "to take a quick walk off a tall cliff" and that is definitely the picture the media likes to paint, however, as people of God, we have a more eternal perspective and we know that our hope is grounded in our Lord Jesus Christ. God will work all situations to our good and He is the master of New Beginnings.

I am reminded of *The Valley of Dry Bones*, as described in Ezekiel 37. As the prophet was surrounded by death and lifelessness, God commanded him to prophesy over the scene and as he did so; *there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them, but there was no breath in them.* Ezekiel was commanded to prophesy once more (to breathe God's Holy Spirit over them) and as he did; *they came to life and stood up on their feet - a vast army.*

I believe with all my heart that God is going to do a "new thing" in this nation and as a result, we will witness new life from the devastation which will produce a "vast army" of God's people.

Talking of a "vast army", I was listening to a fascinating interview with Brigadier John Clark (Connie's son) who is now Head of Strategy for the British Army. In the interview he explained the

changes that the Army will need to undergo, in order to be "fit" to meet the defence needs of the 21st Century. During the discussion he explained that one of the biggest risks the Army faces is trying to address 21st Century needs through a lens and structure of a 20th Century Army.

I think there are real parallels between what John was outlining and the changes necessary in the Church of England.

2021 has seen the start of a full Strategic Review of Ministry Needs and Resources throughout the Church of England, with a year long Consultation Process within the York Diocese. Bishops and Archdeacons have already started conversations with Deanery Leadership Teams, which will permeate to Benefices and individual parishes as time goes by. It is envisioned that within the next 5 years, updated structures, methods and procedures will have been put in place, which will enable a Christian Presence In Every Community, while taking into account changing needs, resources and methods.

York Diocese is adamant that the review will result in changes that have been discussed, identified and resolved on a Deanery (Benefice and Parish) level, which take into account local complexities and nuances.

I think it's fair to say that the model of a dedicated Parish Priest in every location is no longer sustainable and we, as the people of God, will need to decide how best we can resource the Mission of God in our local communities.

As you all know, I'm a huge advocate of Every Member Ministry, as opposed to Everything Is Down to The Vicar. It is my view (and that of the Early Church) that the Victorian Model of Parish Ministry has in fact hindered God's people from identifying their own gifting and stepping into the Calling that God has place on their lives.

I'm pleased (actually delighted) to observe that the above approach is not one that I witness at St. Michael's. In fact, the breadth and number of people (more are always welcome) who are involved in church life, taking initiative and "cracking on" with things is heartening.

This past year has placed a spotlight on people who have "stepped up to the plate" and shown real "grit" and I would like to commend and thank them for their service to The Kingdom. Please note that my

list is by no means exhaustive and I'm sure there are more people to thank, but I only have so much space for my report (the order I have placed them is by no means indicative of their level of importance):

Streaming of Services

Under John Patten's leadership, the Technical Team (inc. Alan Young and Andrew Slack) have researched, experimented and implemented a state-of-the-art video streaming capability that will serve us well into the future. Not only have they enabled us to stay together as a Worshipping community from the very beginning of the COVID crisis, but we now have a permanent system that will enable us to stream further services, weddings and funerals. None of this was planned before the crisis hit. A great example of a "good" thing out of a "bad" situation.

Repair of Leaking Pipes

You may or may not be aware that we have had a leaking pipe at the front of church for some time, resulting in slow but gradual structural damage. The first Lockdown gave us a gift of a "window" to shut church and allow the necessary work to take place. The repairs have now been completed resulting in a heating system that is now much more effective and can be "zoned" into three distinct areas, as opposed to heating the entire building whenever one area needed warming up.

Pew Sheet

I would like to thank Helen Shaw and Alison Hardwick for their diligent work in keeping the Pew Sheet "hot off the press" every week. It has been an enormous task for Helen to produce the sheet, edit the content and send the resulting documents out to each of the Zoomers on a Sunday. Many thanks to you both.

Wardens

Connie Clark and Alan Young have both done a sterling job throughout the year. Their joint contribution is so extensive that I would struggle to list everything they have done and continue to do. Their initiative, ability and commitment is nothing short of breathtaking. Thank you both so much and no...you can't retire yet. Helen Shaw has also been instrumental in a number of "structural" initiatives and we are blessed to have her expertise in relation to our building.

All Age Worship

The All Age Worship Team has continued to deliver engaging services on the first Sunday of every month

and I would like to thank Janet Patten for her leadership of this team.

Musical Director

We said goodbye to Janet Patten as Musical Director. She has faithfully served St. Michael's in this role for close to 40 years. Lockdown prevented us from celebrating Janet's ministry in a correct way, but, this will be resolved as soon as possible after restrictions are lifted. Subsequently we were fortunate to secure Alison Forster as our new Musical Director. What you may not realise is that we had started the recruitment process prior to COVID, but the process was "stalled" once the first Lockdown hit. During this time, it was announced that The Minster School would close, where Alison was Head of Music. This meant that once we restarted recruitment, Alison was now in a position to apply. Without COVID, it is unlikely that we would have secured Alison's services. "Good" out of "bad".

As I finish this report, there truly is "light at the end of the tunnel" and before too long I hope that things will start getting back to "normal".

The past 12 months have achieved some other positives worth mentioning:

- We've been forced to slow down and reflect on what's really important to us.
- We have learnt a new found respect for our relationships; with God, others and ourselves. At the end of the day, it's really only relationships that matter.
- We've discovered new and innovative ways of "being church", which will ensure we are well placed for what the future brings. Perhaps you really can "teach old dogs new tricks".

Yes the last 12 months have been tough but as a church I believe we have weathered the storm well and I for one feel really positive for the future. Yes I admit it will be different from what we're used to, but a bright future none the less.

After all; "If God is for us, who can be against us".

Every Blessing in Christ

Rev. Glyn

Prayer

2020 has been a very strange year! Early in January we were informed that a corona virus was threatening us all and we were to be vigilant by keeping our hands sanitised every time we went out. Life went on much the same as normal and church remained open until our last service on 8 March when we were told we should no longer meet together. From 24 March we were in Lockdown and the church was closed completely! This continued until mid June when the church was able to be open again but only for private prayer until our first service on 26 July. We were able to continue meeting in church, wearing face masks, sitting socially distanced and not being able to sing until another complete Lockdown that began again on 6 January 2021.

Morning Prayer was held on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. in the Lady Chapel but as the lockdown took over it was started on Zoom seven days a week and continues up to the time of writing this (January 2021). It is attended by members of St Michaels congregation and people from a distance, currently there are usually ten to twelve people who join in. Evening prayer takes place on Zoom each Tuesday evening. The 9.30 Sunday service has been on Zoom since mid May and is continuing for the foreseeable future.

We are no longer permitted to have books on the prayer table because of the risk of passing on infection but the prayer posters are able to be displayed on the two screens on the prayer table and in front of the Lady Chapel which are kept up to date reflecting the changing seasons in the churches calendar.

It has been a hard time for us all especially those in the congregation who have had to stay at home because of underlying health problems, but we have continued to be a prayerful church upholding all these people in our prayers either virtually or when we have been able to meet together.

Trish Atkinson

St Michael's Church Choir - Report for January to October 2020

This really is my final report as Director of Music. I retired from the post at the end of October 2020. I played my last service as DOM on 1st November.

The year began normally with the choir singing at the Parish Communion services. We had just got into the Lent music, and planning for Passiontide and Easter was underway when Covid struck, or rather the lockdown started. Mothering Sunday was the first service with no one in church. Fortunately we were able to get one choir practice in before total lockdown. We recorded the choir singing all the music for Mothering Sunday and Passion Sunday. The recorded music and pew sheets were then made available to all members of the congregation who had access to the internet. For the next four weeks John and I went to church every Sunday morning to record a couple of hymns on the organ so that air continued to be blown through the pipes regularly. The other hymns for each Sunday were recorded at home on the piano. All the recorded hymns and the words were made available on-line.

The 26th April was a big turning point when the Parish Communion service was zoomed live from home by the vicar, but still using recorded hymns and readings.

July 26th was the next big event when the congregation came back into church. For the next 3 months I played the hymns in church and the service continued to be zoomed for those who preferred to stay at home where they could join in with the singing!

Choir members have met every Thursday evening, first on skype and then on zoom, to sing through favourite hymns and anthems. For the first few weeks they also met on Sunday mornings to sing what they would have sung had we been in church. From June onwards, a few choir members became a 'virtual' choir by recording themselves at home to piano recordings of hymns and anthems. These recordings were used during the services, mostly for the communion hymns but also a few others. On the last Thursdays of August, September and October members of the congregation were invited to join us for a Hymn Singalong.

We were still able to hold our annual Choral Evensong with the West Buckrose choir which was broadcast on zoom on 26th July. All the music was recorded at home by singers from both choirs accompanied by either myself or Moira Gray. The service was led by their vicar.

A few choir members were able to sing in church for the first time for a wedding on 24th October. We had to work out the best arrangement for the singers and found we could have a maximum of 8 in the chancel suitably spaced out.

I felt it was very important during this time to keep the choir going by meeting regularly and singing favourite hymns and anthems and also learning some new music. The virtual choir benefitted from the challenge of recording themselves to be mixed together by John P. The results were quite impressive and I was told that for the 'cong at home' it was much easier to sing along if they could hear others singing. Thank you choir for all your hard work, meeting these new challenges.

Reflections on the past 37 years as DOM at St Michael's.

There are not many folk who will remember a time when I wasn't in charge of the music at St Michael's! I started in November 1983 and learnt 'on the job'! Thank you to everyone who has supported me over the years. We have had some memorable services including performances of the Fauré Requiem every other year, Carol Services when the church had standing room only, joint services with West Buckrose choir and St Mary's choir. We've been to RSCM singing days and learnt new repertoire. Choir members have worked for their RSCM medals and we've attended the services in various cathedrals when they have been presented.

I have worked with 6 vicars. The first was Ron Treasure to whom I am very grateful for having faith and trusting that I could do the work in spite of not being a 'proper' organist. Roger Pope was another help in guiding me in the ways of the choir. The RSCM helped with courses for Reluctant Organists and Choir Directors, which built on the training I had at music college.

In the early years I had two young assistants, first Anthony Wilson and then later, Bernard West. They have both gone on to become organists and choir directors elsewhere.

The number of singers has developed and changed over the years. We have had children and young people up to fairly recently and an instrumental group ran for about 10 years playing for family services. The choir has always been like a family who care about and support each other. I have always been very grateful to our 'augmented' choir members who come along when they can and especially for the Carol Services.

Over the years I have had the help of many other organists who played when I was away, their help has been very much appreciated.

I am going to miss playing for the regular 'bread and butter' part of the job which is the weekly Parish Communion service, and the camaraderie of choir

practice!

I wish Alison all the best as she takes over from me and I am sure she will enjoy the kind of support and friendship that I have had for the past 37 years!
Janet Patten,

Director of Music (1st Nov 1983-1st Nov 2020)

Report for St. Michael's Church Choir November 2020 – January 2021

Due to Lockdowns Two and Three, the Choir of St. Michael's Church have had an unusual November, December and January; as have all church choirs. Having been appointed Director of Music for St. Michael's Church in the Autumn, the Choir only met me in person in the middle of December!

Most rehearsals have taken place over Zoom and much service music has had to be pre-recorded by Ceri, Heather, John P and Alan. My heartfelt thanks to them for ensuring that there was choral music at each Sunday service, regardless of Covid restrictions. Special thanks should go to John P for his advice, and his ability to mix and produce the individual voices and accompaniment.

We were all delighted to sing together live from Advent II through to Christmas II though, with Boris Ord's *Adam Lay Ybounden* and Rutter's *Nativity Carol* sung in Advent.

Although the traditional Carol Service had no live congregation, the occasion still had a magical awe to it. The choir were all very keen to make the occasion as successful as possible: a feat that was even more impressive considering we had only had two live rehearsals prior to the service! Ian Little was unable to play for the service, due to needing to self-isolate. Fortunately, William Dove, organist at Ampleforth School, was able to step into the breach at short notice. My thanks to him. A former chorister of York Minster, Jamie Vicary, also joined the choir for the service, singing the 1st verse of *Once in Royal* with utter musicality and accuracy. Since then, I am delighted to announce that young Jamie has just been awarded a Music Scholarship to Bootham School in York.

Throughout the Christmas season, the Choir has sung a range of music, some known, some unfamiliar. Darke's *In the Bleak mid-winter* and *Torches* by Joubert, were coupled with Gardner's rhythmically exciting *Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day* and Chilcott's dance-like arrangement of *In Dulci*

Jubilo. New anthems were also introduced for the season of Epiphany. My thanks to Ceri, Sarah and Alan for their solo work during the season.

As I write, the choir has now started the repertoire for Lent. Hopefully, we shall be allowed to sing live again by Easter. Whatever lies ahead though, I would refer the choir and congregation to the last lines of the hymn *Ye Holy Angels Bright*:

“Let all thy days ‘til life shall end, what’er He send,
be filled with praise.”

Alison Forster

Director of Music 31/1/2021.

Safeguarding update

A review of the Parish Safeguarding Policy was completed earlier in the year and our policy was found to be up to date.

Four new Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed, and certificates obtained, and others have been renewed as necessary by our Parish Verifier, Sue Wright. For information, all members of the PCC must have a DBS at enhanced level, as well as all church members who are involved in children’s work.

Due to the COVID-19 situation over this past year, most of the Diocesan training was put on hold, though a small amount has recently moved online. These changes have meant that fewer training modules have been completed this year than usual. As the Parish Safeguarding Representative, I have one further training module to complete, and am hoping to attend this later in the year. Sue Wright has previously attended courses in safeguarding and safer recruitment.

The members of the PCC are working their way through the online training modules offered by the Church of England, to enable as many people as possible to be fully aware of the needs and safety of children and vulnerable adults. If anyone else would like to complete these, please let me know and I will provide further information.

Samantha Free

All Age Worship

The new pattern of All Age Worship began in July 2019 following discussions during the Lent Course that year. They are held on the first Sunday of each month.

In 2020 we had three services before lockdown, for Epiphany, Candlemas and Lent. Sadly, Mothering Sunday was the first Sunday that the church did not have a service. The booklets had been printed and the bunches of daffodils were ready, so both were left at the back of church for people to take home.

The hymns had been recorded by the choir and made available via the internet, so that the service could be read and the hymns sung at home for all who wanted to do so. There was a gap in All Age services until we decided to start again in September, followed by October (Harvest Festival), November (All Saints), and December (Advent 2).

The service is a shortened form of Parish Communion. The team who plan it, meet to decide on the content, who will do the readings and intercessions, and to have ideas for activities related to the theme, for the children to do during the service. At first, activities were provided for the children to do sitting at a table in front of the pulpit. This was not possible for the final four services of the year, so children attending the service were given activity bags to do in their family group. For the talk, the children were encouraged to sit on kneelers at the front of the nave. From time to time, the young people take part in the reading and intercessions.

Each service has a separate booklet so that we can have variations in the liturgy for the different seasons, and readings and hymns can be included where appropriate. Details of forthcoming events for families and children can be listed when they are happening.

As a team we have been very encouraged by the positive responses we have had for this service, and by the number of young families who now attend and take part.

Thank you to the AAW planning team who have worked hard to make it happen each month, especially during the latter part of the year.

Janet Patten

Children's work – Growing Faithful Families

“New ideas are beginning to grow wings and with our prayers and support who knows what we will be reporting on next year—well...God does of course!”

These were the words that ended my report, written in March last year, on our work with children and young families, and yes, who knew what the last year was about to bring!

Due to the Government restriction that have continued throughout the last year, there was no point at which we were able to meet for our usual activities such as Messy Church, Tot's Church and activities we would normally arrange around festivals or social occasions. As the initial impact of restrictions began to sink in, we quickly realised that to maintain contact with families at a 'social distance' was a priority requiring lots of creative thinking.

As Mothering Sunday and then Easter passed, a small team began to explore supporting, encouraging and getting alongside families by providing a variety of active and prayerful activities in a bag to be taken out to family homes monthly. And thus the Bible Adventure Bags were born and have proved to be an invaluable way to maintain and develop relationships and contact with a growing number of families in our parish and beyond.

As levels of restriction came and went, we were happy to welcome families back to our All Age services in the autumn and kept up communication with them to ensure they were comfortable and safe within a new way of meeting together.

Hopes and plans to celebrate Christmas together with families rose and fell according to the rates of the r-number. When gathering together en masse, other than virtually, became impossible, we were able to embrace 'zoom' for our Christingle service. A small group of helpers ensured that all at church, young and old, were offered the opportunity to receive a 'Christingle in a Bag', complete with an orange, candle, sweets, activities and zoom joining instructions. It was a joyous service, attended by several nativity characters and those that had already eaten their sweets and was much

appreciated by all.

As we have entered 2021, the Bible Adventure bags have continued and families have been involved actively in our virtual All Age worship.

As we emerge slowly from 'lockdown' we must now give careful and timely thought to how we take forward our mission and nurture the roots and shoots that have grown during the past very strange year. We can reflect on what worked well in 'pre-covid' times, but also reflect on the mission that the pandemic forced us to explore. The best of each will take us forward into new ways of touching young families within our community with God's love.

Tracey Young

Report 20s to 40s minister

During the first few months of 2019 I was still in the listening stage of the Multiply project where I was not expected to "do" much but was there to focus on listening and asking many questions in order to hear and see what God is doing and how we can start to grow something new. To this end I was drinking lots of coffee with lots of different people to ask questions to gain a better understanding of the area, a better understanding the 20's to 40's in the area and to start to gain a better understanding of the role of Churches in the towns Malton and Norton.

Listening to what people had to say, the dream emerged to see small groups of 20's to 40's develop in the neighbourhood they live in (encouraging discipleship and mission to become practical at this level) whilst at the same seeking to create a sense of a movement with others across Malton and Norton. Working with the name "OMG", we'd like to see people discovering God in the mess and in the glory of their everyday lives and sharing his love across Malton and Norton. This sense of movement becomes visible online and when we gather people from across Malton and Norton. We seek to develop in such a way that almost all we do is replicable and

can be a blessing beyond Malton and Norton, encouraging a ripple on effect in Ryedale.

As our aim is to not just engage the 20's to 40's the Church already connects with but to reach out beyond the 20's and 40's we are already in contact with. Therefore I seek to be present in spaces where relationships can be formed and where there is space to start to connect with people's spirituality. The Pop-up Café (every other week at St Peter's Church Hall in Norton) was very good for this and we were developing relationships at Peasey Hill with a view we might be able to (help) (re)start a parents and toddlers group there. We also connected a bit to Brew and Dumplings (at the Stew & Oyster) and to Tots Church and started the preparations for acquiring a coffee bike as a vehicle for conversation.

On Shrove Tuesday I organised a Pancake party and around the same time I tried to start a small group activity around the same time as well but this wasn't successful at the time. It was clear more relationship(s) had to be formed first.

Soon after Covid-19 changed our lives drastically and our approach and opportunities for ministry had to change too. I developed the Coronaprayers website to see if that was something people would connect with. This had some impact and was valuable for some but the reach appeared to be fairly limited.

During the second lockdown I did a few more prayer livestreams using the Coronaprayers platform. Learning the lessons from the first lockdown and taking advantage of the way the rules were during this second lockdown, more people were involved in these prayers which made them more accessible.

In May we started thinking about Bible Adventure Bags and we did the first one in June. The idea of Bible Adventure Bags is to bless families with a bag filled with a number activities and all the materials needed are included in the bag allowing families to connect with a bible story, do something around prayer all in a way that is fun to do. After "trailing" this with a small number of families the Church and I were already in contact with (we started with 20 bags in June 2020), we saw this ministry gradually grow and by Christmas this number had grown to 90

bags serving many families in Malton and Norton who had little or no contact with Church.

It has been a real blessing working with the team on this (they are awesome!) and it is also a real blessing to see how these bags have opened doors. The delivery is always an important moment as it allows for some personal contact and for relationship to develop. We pray that this is just the beginning of our journey with these families and we will seek to build on these new connections whilst we are also just grateful to be able to serve these families with these bags in a time like this.

Throughout the year I continued to seek ways to start and develop new contacts. As a consequence of the pandemic, most of this had to happen on social media. During the last months of 2020 I regularly met with a group of 3 to 6 men around a firepit where we shared life and faith in a relaxed and non-threatening environment. We finished these evenings with evening prayers for which all men joined. This was a really good and safe way of connecting with people at a time when it was generally quite difficult to meet others.

Hendrik Klaver

Tech Team Report Year 2020-21

March 23rd 2020. Mothering Sunday. Church closed and the Minster has a friendly sign outside – 'closed due to pandemic'.

Although the Joint Archbishops letter in March encouraged us to think of modern ways to connect, the Church of England was basically shut. For me and others this was a dismal response to a World Crisis. In these circumstances I often think of the fictitious character Don Camillo in Giovanni Guareschi's novels- what would he do? He would find a way around this and not dither over it.

From Sunday 22nd March we ensured something was done about this. Words and hymns and the like available from the internet were one thing, but the technical issues of making a service live were unknown to me. It was a steep learning curve and with dogged determination (as a previous vicar has said about me!) and with Alan's sterling support we

tested a live transmission from Glyn's home on 19th April.

The process of moving from an online interactive session with Zoom (basically unknown to all of us at that time) to a live transmission from church was fraught with problems.

Firstly, we needed to ensure there was the infrastructure in place (ethernet, wifi, fast broadband etc) and secondly, we needed the necessary hardware and cables. That required expense.

On top of that however, we needed to understand how the software worked and why certain things did not happen. Both were hard graft-there was little from the internet and mainly American written by geeks who thought you knew everything! The C of E had zero knowledge on this. In fact, I can safely say that they, and the whole Diocese have been of no help whatsoever through last year.

Using our own resources and our own money we sorted the hardware and infrastructure out by May. Through weeks of testing and research we felt by the end of May we were ready to run live from church. We had cables everywhere!

We had to wait until July before a live transmission and that was with Simon. From then on we got into a semi routine. One person operating the laptop and the other moving cameras and firefighting!

Our objective now was to be able to operate this with one person and remove many of the wires and plugs- each fraught with their own problem. Andrew came to help us with his technical sound background and several things were resolved. We knew what we wanted but this cost money. The Standing Committee would not approve expenditure and so it

was not until December that we obtained approval to buy a second wifi camera and various kit and get reimbursed. Fortunately, we were able to order this before Brexit and use the kit over Christmas. It is difficult to buy this now – indeed it is easier to buy from China than Europe.

Alan developed his skills into pyrotechnics and laid words over the video which has helped at All Age services and the carol service. We tested the two wifi cameras and the camcorder and reduced the video complexity, but in the end, we decided that sound needed to be simpler and more understandable to control.

The last year has been an eyeopener to me on a variety of matters. It has at times been quite frustrating and stressful as Alan will no doubt concur, but we seem to have now settled down somewhat and learnt a great deal. Without Alan's support throughout the Tech Team would have not even happened. We have had arguments and frustration, but these have been offset by many jokes and good humour! And we have generally reached a good solution between us.

However, I think our overall pleasure has been the almost universal support and encouragement from many parishioners and Zoomers. Seeing the whole congregation on Zoom singing away to hymns has been very satisfying. Many have been ready to read, sing and prepare prayer at short notice. It has assisted in keeping the community of St Michael's together and getting the church into your home.

In my view one of the best Zooms was the wedding in October. It helped make the marriage for the couple more complete and inclusive, and attracted a world audience- even Manchester as well!

John Patten 8.2.21

St. Michael's Church Malton
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2020

Note	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	7a	50,899		3,430	54,329	92,586
Activities for generating funds	7b	2,127			2,127	8,925
Church activities	7c	1,889			1,889	2,642
Income from Investments	7d	3,024		2,142	5,166	4,131
Other	7e					
		57,939		5,572	63,511	108,284
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Cost of generating Funds		39			39	377
Charitable Activities		478			478	1,799
Church activities	8	59,044			59,044	63,089
Major Repairs				19,863	19,863	
Governance costs						
Other Resources Used						
		59,561		19,863	79,424	65,265
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS & LOSSES						
		(1,622)		(14,291)	(15,913)	43,019
Unrealised gains /(losses) on Chancel Fund				1,726	4,861	14,235
Unr'd gains/(losses) on CBF Investment A/C		12,077			12,077	4,450
Unrealised gains/(losses) on RBS shares			(156)		(156)	53
Other & agency funds						
Transfer between funds	9	(2,145)		2,145		
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		8,310	(156)	(10,420)	4,861	61,757
Balances b/f 1st January 2020		124,530	14,392	31,030	70,676	240,628
Balances c/f 31st December 2020		132,840	14,236	20,610	75,537	243,223

St Michael's Church Malton
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2020

Notes	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	2020	2019
FIXED ASSETS						
Investments	119,899	14,236	18,648	75,537	228,320	150,812
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors						
Prepayments						
Investments						
Cash at bank	12,941		1,962		14,903	89,816
LIABILITIES						
Creditors						
TOTAL NET ASSETS	132,840	14,236	20,610	75,537	243,223	240,628
PARISH FUNDS						
Unrestricted					132,840	124,530
Designated					14,236	14,392
Restricted					20,610	31,030
Endowment					75,537	70,676
					243,223	240,628

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005.

2 Reserves policy: it is the intention of the PCC to retain a balance of at least £35,000 being approximately six months committed expenditure within unrestricted funds

3 In accordance with the guidance provided by the Church Commissioners any collections taken at special services - including Weddings and funerals - which go directly to charity are excluded from the 2020 accounts. This also applies to the Lent Appeal. Funds raised in this way were as follows: British Heart Foundation £386, Donkey Sanctuary £85, Marie Curie £66, M S Society £25, St Catherine's Hospice £72, York Hospital £386, York Cancer Research £66.

4 The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No payments were made to PCC members apart from the reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC

5. The working expenses of the incumbent and the curate are Shared equally with St Mary's PCC

6 The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance b/f	Receipts	Payments	Transfers out	Balance c/f
Restricted & Designated Funds in Bank Accounts:					
General Funds					
St Michael's 2000	561	120		620	61
Church Repair Fund (Deposit Account)	9,243	2,142		9,240	2,145

7 Incoming Resources

a Voluntary income

Planned Giving

Gift Aid donations inc CAF

Other regular giving

Tax recoverable

Collections (loose plate)

One off gift aid

Gift Days / Recurring Giving

Non recurring giving / donations

Special Appeals and Donations

Non recurring grants

Legacy

b Activities for generating funds - receipts

Church lettings

Fund raising

Non charitable trading

c Receipts from church activities

Fees

Other

d Receipts from investments

Dividends and interest

e Other receipts not counting as gross income

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	32,197		120	32,317	28,360
	2,862			2,862	3,082
	9,604			9,604	9,965
	2,206			2,206	6,554
	2,042			2,042	3,755
	299			299	588
	1,302			1,302	282
	387		3,310	3,697	
					40,000
	50,899		3,430	54,329	92,586
					641
	2,127			2,127	8,284
	2,127			2,127	8,925
	1,889			1,889	2,642
	1,889			1,889	2,642
	3,024		2,142	5,166	4,131
	57,939		5,572	63,511	108,284

Resources Expended

8

Cost of generating funds

Donations (grants) to charities

Church Activities

Overseas missions

Christian relief

Home missions

Secular charities

Ministry

Diocesan Freewill Offering

Working expenses of incumbent

Working expenses of assistant

Church utility costs

Church running costs

Salaries, wages & honorarium

Mission and evangelism

Major expenditure

Major repairs to church buildings Heating pipe repairs

Major repairs to other PCC properties

New building or major works

Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
39			39	377
478			478	1,799
				428
				97
478			478	1,274
41,240			41,240	44,000
884			884	1,318
1,149			1,149	193
3,023			3,023	3,463
7,856			7,856	8,835
4,541			4,541	4,020
351			351	1,260
59,044			59,044	63,089
		19,863	19,863	
59,561		19,863	79,424	65,265

This transfer will be reversed in 2021 when that sum is moved from the CBF Church Repair Fund to the PCC bank account.

9

St Michael's Church, New Malton



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Annual

Report

and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December 2020

**together with Reports given to the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Sunday 25 April 2021**

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc
Yorkersgate
Malton

Independent Examiner:

Mr A W Richardson

St. Michael's Church, New Malton

Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Contents

	Page
Annual Report	1- 6
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Clergy and other reports	7-12
	APPENDIX
Statement of Financial Activities	1
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2020	2
Notes to the Accounts	3-4

St Michael's Church – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Administrative Information

St Michael's Church is situated in the Market Place, Malton. It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 17 The Mount, Malton, North Yorkshire YO17 7ND

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2020 until the date of this report was approved on 10 March 2021 are:

<i>Vicar</i>	The Revd Glyn Diggins	
<i>Wardens</i>	Mr Alan Young	
	Mrs Constance Clark (Lay chair)	
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i>	Mr David White	until 15 November
	Mrs Patricia Atkinson	until 15 November
	Mrs Margaret Clark	until 15 November
	Mrs Susannah Clark	from 15 November
	Mrs Tracey Young	from 15 November
<i>Elected members</i>	Mrs Tracey Young	until 15 November
	Mrs Heather Williams	
	Mrs Sue Wright	
	Mr John Morris (Treasurer)	
	Mrs Anne Screeton	
	Mrs Samantha Free	
	Mr Robert Hall	from 15 November
	Mrs Elaine Ramsey	from 15 November
	Mr Barry Gillespie	from 15 November
	Mrs Janet Patten	from 15 November
	Mr Hendrik Klaver	co-opted November 2019
<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Helen Shaw	

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Michael New Malton".

The charity number is: **1130648**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the PCC is to work alongside the clergy in promoting the mission of the church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. All the activities of the parish noted elsewhere in this report are in furtherance of that primary objective.

The underlying pattern of services remains broadly the same as that in 2019, albeit that for extended periods these have had to be suspended due to Covid-19 restrictions. Throughout, however, we have maintained the main Sunday Service of Parish Communion, whether a congregation has been present or not. During the times the place has been closed to worshippers we initially provided access online to recordings by the choir and of readings and the sermon for the Sunday service. However very shortly afterwards the service was streamed live, with the celebrant (Glyn or Simon) hosting from their homes with church members recording the readings and intercessions and the music for the hymns to be played in at the appropriate time. This was accessible by those with computers or tablets. After a while it was possible for those without these devices to listen in by phone. As soon as we could, we streamed the service from church.

When permitted, the Wednesday Holy Communion service has taken place in church. All other opportunities to worship have moved online and will remain so for the foreseeable future. At time of writing, this comprises Morning Prayer every morning at 09.00 and Evening Prayer on Tuesdays at 19.15.

In the last report it was mentioned that there had been increasing pressure to review services as the demographic of the congregation changes as we welcome an increasing number of young families to our flock. Some changes were about to be trialled at the Sunday Holy Communion service when the pandemic intervened. It is important that these are taken forward as soon as normal service resumes.

Achievements and Performance

The Church Electoral Roll was fully updated during 2019. There were 105 members on the Roll at the end of 2020 comprising 82 people living within the parish and 23 outside our parish boundaries.

The total number of communicants over Christmas was 41 and the total attendance at all services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was in person 49, on Zoom 85.

Review of the Year ended 31st December 2020

It goes without saying that the year has been dominated by the implications of the Coronavirus pandemic. It is difficult to recall what things were like before we were required to close the church building completely on 26 March at the start of the first lockdown. In fact, the last Sunday service the congregation could attend was an Area Deanery event at St. Peter's in Norton on 15 March to mark the end of the "Come and See" weekend.

Lockdown One:

The instructions received for the first lockdown were severe, to the extent that no one was permitted to enter the building other than in exceptional circumstances.

Of course, the church is not merely a building. It is the people. However, given we could no longer meet in person in church or even in our homes, it was seen as important to find other ways to keep in touch with one another. We quickly reviewed our list of church members. We added to it any others known to us and associated with the church. We ensured it was up to date with email addresses etc. Special note was made of the more vulnerable on the list and contact made with them. All received details of who to contact during the lockdown if help was needed. It was immediately decided to retain the Weekly Sheet and distribute this principally by email (the Church of England advised against posting items, although we did breach this guidance to ensure we kept in contact with most people).

Streaming of Services:

One of the most remarkable outcomes of the Covid-19 restrictions has been the use made of electronic means to remain in contact. This has been no different for the Church and for us at St. Michael's. As stated earlier we soon moved our main Sunday service online, initially by emailing out readings, music and other parts of the service, but quickly moving to streaming the whole service "live" from the celebrant's home. Morning Prayer was moved online as well. Of course, not everyone is able to join us in this way. It is possible to listen on the phone, and several make use of this facility. However we have tried to maintain some form of meaningful

contact with all members of the congregation (and beyond) even if they are not with us online.

Bible Adventure Bags:

Several members of the congregation have been working with our 20-40 Minister in the filling and distribution of Bible Activity Bags every month as the year has progressed. These are aimed at keeping in contact with families with young children, providing them with Bible related activities to fill their time (a sort of virtual Messy Church – but we're not cleaning up the mess afterwards). These seem to be growing in popularity as each month passes and may well continue after the Covid restrictions are lifted.

Summer Reopening:

In the summer, restrictions were lifted on 15 June to the extent that it was permitted to reopen the building for private prayer and for services from 4 July. However, we were unable to do this as contractors were in the place repairing the heating system (see Fabric Report below). We eventually reopened for visitors on 22 July and the first service with a congregation was held the following Sunday, 26 July. We had, however, been able to access the church prior to that to enable us to stream the Sunday service from the building for a couple of weeks. While services had been resumed in church, the decision was taken to continue streaming the Sunday service for those who preferred to remain at home and we will continue to do this for the foreseeable future. Morning Prayer has remained entirely online as well.

Reopening followed the removal from the nave of all but essential items to reduce the risk of virus transmission, in line with guidance received, and a thorough clean of the building by Joanne our cleaner and an army of volunteers to whom thanks are due. Precautions and protocols were introduced following the completion of the appropriate risk assessment provided by the Church of England and shared with the PCC.

One strange consequence of our delay beyond 4 July in reintroducing Sunday services at St. Michael's was that we could have technically been in breach of Canon Law! The Diocese advised us that the legislation passed in Westminster that introduced the lockdown in March included the disapplication of the Canon Law requirement for us to hold a service every Sunday. This lapsed on 4 July with the lifting of the Government restrictions on holding services of worship. Anyway, we had to pass a PCC minute to get over this problem, which we duly did.

Virtually all social and fund raising events have been cancelled during the year including Coffee Stops, Table Top Sales, Benefice lunches

(although one was held in August) and Christmas Lunch. Let us hope that later in 2021 we can again start meeting in this way.

We have tried to maintain the momentum of the monthly All Age Service. Thanks go to Janet Patten and her team for this. Those that have taken place in church see an increasing number of families with young children, a trend that hopefully will continue as and when things return to normal.

New Director of Music:

A number of other things have either been cancelled or postponed as a result of the Coronavirus epidemic. Foremost among these is the appointment of a new Director of Music. This had been planned to take place shortly after Easter to allow Janet Patten to retire at the end of July after 37 years sterling service. In the meantime Janet agreed to continue. While she has not seen out her last few months in the job in a way she could ever have imagined, our immense gratitude goes to her in the way that she has adapted and found ways to allow us to be able to continue to enjoy music with our worship throughout the lockdown and beyond. Hopefully later in 2021 we can join together in a celebration of Janet's contribution to St. Michael's, another event we have had to postpone from 2020.

Eventually we were able to hold interviews for the post in October. Alison Forster was appointed to the job and started with us on 1 November and immediately was confronted, as we all were, with the implications of a further national lockdown. It was not until later in December that she was able to meet and hear the choir in person for the first time!

Lockdown Two and reopening for Christmas:

The second lockdown saw the suspension of services in church, although we were able to remain open for visitors, which we did. We were able to hold services again four weeks' later, in time for us to consider what to do for Christmas. We had already cancelled our annual main fund raising event (the Christmas Fayre). This was replaced by a "virtual" event where people were encouraged to donate what they might have spent at the Fayre (or contributing things for it). Amazingly, this resulted in an outcome which was only a few hundred pounds less than that achieved at the actual thing the previous year (and with a lot less effort!). That said, I think we all missed the fellowship of queuing for the tombola and guessing the weight of Eileen's cake (among other things).

It was decided to maintain the usual pattern of services over Christmas. However, the two services that see numbers in excess of the

capacity of the building in usual times, let alone that required for social distancing, were moved entirely online. These were the Carol Service and Christmas Eve Crib/Christingle service. In the case of the Carol Service, there was the added complication of the space taken by the augmented choir. The risk assessment for singers during Covid requires enhanced distancing. Hence the choir could only be accommodated in the body of the church, rendering virtually no space for any congregation. It was felt that children and families would better enjoy and participate at home for the Christingle. Both events proved immensely popular with those at home. A great deal of work went into both services, but particular thanks must go to Alison, our new Director of Music, for the Carol Service. This was among her first tasks in joining us, and was achieved with just four or five rehearsals, two of which were online and with people she had yet to meet in person!

Lockdown Three:

As the year closed, the Government announced a further lockdown of activities. On this occasion, however, there is no requirement for places of worship to close or for services to be suspended. However, it was quite clear that the situation with the virus was considerably worse than even in the first lockdown. So the decision was taken at the start of the year to suspend services, but that the building remain open for visitors and private prayer. The Sunday service continues to be streamed from church with the minimum number of people present (four or five).

Looking Ahead:

Of course, it is important that the efforts taken to stay on top of things in respect of the virus does not detract from our wider mission. To this end, the PCC was able to meet in person a couple of times in the autumn, including for a special meeting in October. Here we discussed our objectives for the next few years and alighted on the following three:-

- Improving the flexibility of the building in order for us to better capitalise on our "Church in the Market Place" position
- Pastoral Care
- Prayer and Bible Study.

Let us hope and pray that as life returns to more like normal, we can actively turn to these and move forward in 2021.

Connie Clark
Alan Young

Annual Report on PCC 2020

The year has been the most difficult in living memory on account of Covid-19 and for long periods of time worshipping in church has been impossible, not to say banned. The PCC met in church in January and March but the May and July meetings could not be held. By September, the PCC was able to meet in church again but, following another lock-down in November, the November and December meetings were held successfully on Zoom. The December meeting is usually a short business meeting followed by a bring and share social gathering, but there was none of that this year. Every social and fund raising event that was planned for 2020, as well as bookings by third parties for concerts, had to be cancelled, including, very reluctantly, the annual Christmas Fayre in the Milton Rooms. The APCM, due to be held in April, was postponed and held on Zoom in November.

An extraordinary meeting was held in church in early February to discuss essential heating system repairs, following the discovery of leaking Victorian cast iron pipes running under the floor across the eastern end of the nave. Against the odds, contractors were eventually able to come in and lift paving slabs, renew the leaking pipes and make good. Thanks are due to R&R and Pickups for a smooth running project and also to Jason Othick who removed asbestos from the boiler house to ensure a safe working environment for our contractors. Other works carried out during the year included the cleaning out of all the gutters and parapets around church, repairs to entrance doors and fencing and the refurbishment of some of our silverware.

Following a deep clean and the necessary risk assessments, St Michael's was ready to reopen for public worship on Sunday 26th July. The PCC determined that, even though we could welcome the congregation back into church, the Parish Communion service would still be broadcast on Zoom. Attendees were very co-operative of the new regime of face coverings, hand sanitiser and leaving contact details, with every other pew roped off to maintain social distancing, and only the wafer for Communion.

The PCC held a supplementary meeting in church in October to discuss the way forward and a number of new initiatives were discussed. The second wave of Covid has meant that none of these ideas have yet been implemented. Changes have been made to the pattern of services and Morning Prayer began to be held on Zoom every morning. Later on, Evening Prayer was also broadcast on Zoom on Tuesday

evenings. The All Age Parish Communion service continues to be held on the first Sunday of the month. Our annual Crib & Christingle service was held online only and parishioners helped to deliver the Make-Your-Own Christingle kit bags. Our new Director of Music was faced with holding her first Carols by Candlelight service online. A socially distanced choir occupied the pews and the congregation watched from home. It was a resounding success. Another resounding success was churchwarden Alan's idea of a Virtual Christmas Fayre. The idea being that people were invited to donate what they would have spent at the Christmas Fayre, if it could have been held. There was a very healthy response and the sum generated for church funds was only marginally less than usual.

We have carried on with exchanging observers with the Methodist church at our PCC meetings. Three members of the PCC completed their terms of office and stepped down at the APCM in November: Trish Atkinson, David White and Margaret Clark. Five new members joined and were welcomed: Susannah Clark, Robert Hall, Janet Patten, Barry Gillespie and Elaine Ramsey. Hendrik Klaver has attended meetings throughout the year to update the PCC on his activities as our Associate Minister for the 20-40s age group.

Several charities benefitted from our severely limited opportunities for fundraising over the year, including Christian Aid, The Children's Society, Ryedale Food Bank, Samaritan's Purse and Ryedale Special Families. At the start of the year, a donation was made to a fund set up and administered by the Diocese of Melbourne, to assist victims of the Australian bush fires that raged in late 2019.

In summary, a very testing year in which everyone did their best to hold the congregation together.

Helen Shaw

Fabric Report 2020

This has been a very different year, in that the country has been in lockdown for the greater part of it. What follows is a brief report on what we have been able to achieve by way of maintenance of building, grounds and fabric.

- **Church Heating**

After a postponement in March, major works were undertaken to replace a corroded water pipe across the nave

carrying water to/from the radiators and the boiler in the church office. Once the work was started it became obvious that a boiler house re-pipe was needed to complete the installation. This further work meant that the project was not completed until middle of July. Our thanks to Pickups and R&R for their excellent work. The heating is now very effective in church.

Further, Once the flags had been lifted, the opportunity was taken for a conduit to be laid across the chancel step in order to facilitate future use of electronic equipment.

- **Church Notice Board**

The Church Noticeboard was out of date in the fact that it mentioned Morning Prayer which is no longer applicable.

- **Church Lighting**

We continued to experiment with stronger lights in church. Through trial and error we have now reached a compromise using the brighter bulbs where they do not cause discomfort. John Waind, the electrician, has been asked to quote for two spotlights to illuminate music/singers on the chancel step. Lockdowns have delayed this request.

- **Outside Fencing**

Our thanks go to Simon Wright and Maurice Walker for replacing rotten fence posts and making good the chain links on the north side. A great job was done which enhances the care of our church property.

- **Guttering**

We have now established a biannual cleaning of both high and low level guttering.

- **Silver Ware**

As church services and numbers attending were restricted, the opportunity was taken to have a damaged chalice and paten repaired.

- **Clerestory Windows**

Architect Andrew Boyce on a site visit had made us aware of damage to the plasterwork surrounding the clerestory windows. Repair work has now been commissioned a special thank you to Helen Shaw for facilitating this.

- **Church Office**

A new printer and a new telephone system have been installed.

- **Vicar's Vestry**

A cause for the smell of damp in the cupboards has not been found.

- **Church Linen**

An ongoing inspection and sorting through of linen is continuing, with substandard items being discarded. Thanks to Sue Wright for her help in this and for also ensuring altar cloths are fit for purpose.

- **Terrier**

It has not been possible to carry out an annual inventory of movable objects in church, as a lot of it not accessible. A note to this effect will be lodged in the register.

Local townspeople and occasional visitors have appreciated the church remaining open for private prayer whenever the regulations have allowed this.

Thank you to all those who help to keep the church looking clean and tidy and adhering to the extra hygiene protocols now in place.

Thanks too to all those who care so beautifully for all the linen and the flower arrangers for the ongoing flower displays.

Connie Clark

Alan Young

Treasurer's Report

In an exceptional year you will not be surprised to read that there was a deficit in 2020 on our day to day activity (Unrestricted Funds) of £1,622. The surprise was that the deficit was not larger given that the PCC also maintained its Free Will Offering (FWO) to the Diocese of £41,240. The Virtual Christmas Fayre at the end of the year provided a welcome boost.

Inevitably many comparisons with 2019, in numerical terms at least, were rendered somewhat meaningless but you can see the impact that the reduction in services in church and in the number of events held, had on our income from collections, tax recovered and fund raising. This in turn reduced the

amounts that would normally have been given to charity.

Having said that historically speaking 2020 was an exceptional year, 2021 promises to be at least as challenging and the PCC will keep under review its FWO and other commitments.

Thank you to those who support the church through the planned giving scheme: it is particularly important when other sources of income are absent and represented 74% of our income in 2020 (including any tax recovered on Gift Aid where appropriate).

The only major repair (from Restricted Funds) of 2020 was the fixing of the leaks in the central heating system which was completed at a net cost of £16,553 [ie once the VAT had been recovered].

John Morris, 22nd January 2021

APPENDIX 1 Accounts

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Michael, New Malton

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2020 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('The Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('The Act')

Independent examiner's statement

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

- ❖ which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or
- ❖ To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts be reached.

Mr A W Richardson,
White & Hoggard,
Wheelgate Malton
7th April 2021

The Vicar's Report

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43:19)

And we know [with great confidence] that God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose. (Romans 8:28)

I think we'd all agree that 2020 was an incredibly testing year. At the time of writing this report over 4 million people have been tested positive for COVID resulting in excess of 122,000 deaths. Our economy is struggling (to say the least) with approximately 1.75 million people being registered unemployed. Families have been separated for over 12 months, the lonely have felt even more isolated, the NHS has been stretched to breaking point and our education system has been bolstered by parents having to juggle home working with home schooling.

Looked at in isolation, the above would be enough to drive anybody "to take a quick walk off a tall cliff" and that is definitely the picture the media likes to paint, however, as people of God, we have a more eternal perspective and we know that our hope is grounded in our Lord Jesus Christ. God will work all situations to our good and He is the master of New Beginnings.

I am reminded of *The Valley of Dry Bones*, as described in Ezekiel 37. As the prophet was surrounded by death and lifelessness, God commanded him to prophesy over the scene and as he did so; *there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them, but there was no breath in them.* Ezekiel was commanded to prophesy once more (to breathe God's Holy Spirit over them) and as he did; *they came to life and stood up on their feet - a vast army.*

I believe with all my heart that God is going to do a "new thing" in this nation and as a result, we will witness new life from the devastation which will produce a "vast army" of God's people.

Talking of a "vast army", I was listening to a fascinating interview with Brigadier John Clark (Connie's son) who is now Head of Strategy for the British Army. In the interview he explained the

changes that the Army will need to undergo, in order to be "fit" to meet the defence needs of the 21st Century. During the discussion he explained that one of the biggest risks the Army faces is trying to address 21st Century needs through a lens and structure of a 20th Century Army.

I think there are real parallels between what John was outlining and the changes necessary in the Church of England.

2021 has seen the start of a full Strategic Review of Ministry Needs and Resources throughout the Church of England, with a year long Consultation Process within the York Diocese. Bishops and Archdeacons have already started conversations with Deanery Leadership Teams, which will permeate to Benefices and individual parishes as time goes by. It is envisioned that within the next 5 years, updated structures, methods and procedures will have been put in place, which will enable a Christian Presence In Every Community, while taking into account changing needs, resources and methods.

York Diocese is adamant that the review will result in changes that have been discussed, identified and resolved on a Deanery (Benefice and Parish) level, which take into account local complexities and nuances.

I think it's fair to say that the model of a dedicated Parish Priest in every location is no longer sustainable and we, as the people of God, will need to decide how best we can resource the Mission of God in our local communities.

As you all know, I'm a huge advocate of Every Member Ministry, as opposed to Everything Is Down to The Vicar. It is my view (and that of the Early Church) that the Victorian Model of Parish Ministry has in fact hindered God's people from identifying their own gifting and stepping into the Calling that God has place on their lives.

I'm pleased (actually delighted) to observe that the above approach is not one that I witness at St. Michael's. In fact, the breadth and number of people (more are always welcome) who are involved in church life, taking initiative and "cracking on" with things is heartening.

This past year has placed a spotlight on people who have "stepped up to the plate" and shown real "grit" and I would like to commend and thank them for their service to The Kingdom. Please note that my

list is by no means exhaustive and I'm sure there are more people to thank, but I only have so much space for my report (the order I have placed them is by no means indicative of their level of importance):

Streaming of Services

Under John Patten's leadership, the Technical Team (inc. Alan Young and Andrew Slack) have researched, experimented and implemented a state-of-the-art video streaming capability that will serve us well into the future. Not only have they enabled us to stay together as a Worshipping community from the very beginning of the COVID crisis, but we now have a permanent system that will enable us to stream further services, weddings and funerals. None of this was planned before the crisis hit. A great example of a "good" thing out of a "bad" situation.

Repair of Leaking Pipes

You may or may not be aware that we have had a leaking pipe at the front of church for some time, resulting in slow but gradual structural damage. The first Lockdown gave us a gift of a "window" to shut church and allow the necessary work to take place. The repairs have now been completed resulting in a heating system that is now much more effective and can be "zoned" into three distinct areas, as opposed to heating the entire building whenever one area needed warming up.

Pew Sheet

I would like to thank Helen Shaw and Alison Hardwick for their diligent work in keeping the Pew Sheet "hot off the press" every week. It has been an enormous task for Helen to produce the sheet, edit the content and send the resulting documents out to each of the Zoomers on a Sunday. Many thanks to you both.

Wardens

Connie Clark and Alan Young have both done a sterling job throughout the year. Their joint contribution is so extensive that I would struggle to list everything they have done and continue to do. Their initiative, ability and commitment is nothing short of breathtaking. Thank you both so much and no...you can't retire yet. Helen Shaw has also been instrumental in a number of "structural" initiatives and we are blessed to have her expertise in relation to our building.

All Age Worship

The All Age Worship Team has continued to deliver engaging services on the first Sunday of every month

and I would like to thank Janet Patten for her leadership of this team.

Musical Director

We said goodbye to Janet Patten as Musical Director. She has faithfully served St. Michael's in this role for close to 40 years. Lockdown prevented us from celebrating Janet's ministry in a correct way, but, this will be resolved as soon as possible after restrictions are lifted. Subsequently we were fortunate to secure Alison Forster as our new Musical Director. What you may not realise is that we had started the recruitment process prior to COVID, but the process was "stalled" once the first Lockdown hit. During this time, it was announced that The Minster School would close, where Alison was Head of Music. This meant that once we restarted recruitment, Alison was now in a position to apply. Without COVID, it is unlikely that we would have secured Alison's services. "Good" out of "bad".

As I finish this report, there truly is "light at the end of the tunnel" and before too long I hope that things will start getting back to "normal".

The past 12 months have achieved some other positives worth mentioning:

- We've been forced to slow down and reflect on what's really important to us.
- We have learnt a new found respect for our relationships; with God, others and ourselves. At the end of the day, it's really only relationships that matter.
- We've discovered new and innovative ways of "being church", which will ensure we are well placed for what the future brings. Perhaps you really can "teach old dogs new tricks".

Yes the last 12 months have been tough but as a church I believe we have weathered the storm well and I for one feel really positive for the future. Yes I admit it will be different from what we're used to, but a bright future none the less.

After all; "If God is for us, who can be against us".

Every Blessing in Christ

Rev. Glyn

Prayer

2020 has been a very strange year! Early in January we were informed that a corona virus was threatening us all and we were to be vigilant by keeping our hands sanitised every time we went out. Life went on much the same as normal and church remained open until our last service on 8 March when we were told we should no longer meet together. From 24 March we were in Lockdown and the church was closed completely! This continued until mid June when the church was able to be open again but only for private prayer until our first service on 26 July. We were able to continue meeting in church, wearing face masks, sitting socially distanced and not being able to sing until another complete Lockdown that began again on 6 January 2021.

Morning Prayer was held on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. in the Lady Chapel but as the lockdown took over it was started on Zoom seven days a week and continues up to the time of writing this (January 2021). It is attended by members of St Michaels congregation and people from a distance, currently there are usually ten to twelve people who join in. Evening prayer takes place on Zoom each Tuesday evening. The 9.30 Sunday service has been on Zoom since mid May and is continuing for the foreseeable future.

We are no longer permitted to have books on the prayer table because of the risk of passing on infection but the prayer posters are able to be displayed on the two screens on the prayer table and in front of the Lady Chapel which are kept up to date reflecting the changing seasons in the churches calendar.

It has been a hard time for us all especially those in the congregation who have had to stay at home because of underlying health problems, but we have continued to be a prayerful church upholding all these people in our prayers either virtually or when we have been able to meet together.

Trish Atkinson

St Michael's Church Choir - Report for January to October 2020

This really is my final report as Director of Music. I retired from the post at the end of October 2020. I played my last service as DOM on 1st November.

The year began normally with the choir singing at the Parish Communion services. We had just got into the Lent music, and planning for Passiontide and Easter was underway when Covid struck, or rather the lockdown started. Mothering Sunday was the first service with no one in church. Fortunately we were able to get one choir practice in before total lockdown. We recorded the choir singing all the music for Mothering Sunday and Passion Sunday. The recorded music and pew sheets were then made available to all members of the congregation who had access to the internet. For the next four weeks John and I went to church every Sunday morning to record a couple of hymns on the organ so that air continued to be blown through the pipes regularly. The other hymns for each Sunday were recorded at home on the piano. All the recorded hymns and the words were made available on-line.

The 26th April was a big turning point when the Parish Communion service was zoomed live from home by the vicar, but still using recorded hymns and readings.

July 26th was the next big event when the congregation came back into church. For the next 3 months I played the hymns in church and the service continued to be zoomed for those who preferred to stay at home where they could join in with the singing!

Choir members have met every Thursday evening, first on skype and then on zoom, to sing through favourite hymns and anthems. For the first few weeks they also met on Sunday mornings to sing what they would have sung had we been in church. From June onwards, a few choir members became a 'virtual' choir by recording themselves at home to piano recordings of hymns and anthems. These recordings were used during the services, mostly for the communion hymns but also a few others. On the last Thursdays of August, September and October members of the congregation were invited to join us for a Hymn Singalong.

We were still able to hold our annual Choral Evensong with the West Buckrose choir which was broadcast on zoom on 26th July. All the music was recorded at home by singers from both choirs accompanied by either myself or Moira Gray. The service was led by their vicar.

A few choir members were able to sing in church for the first time for a wedding on 24th October. We had to work out the best arrangement for the singers and found we could have a maximum of 8 in the chancel suitably spaced out.

I felt it was very important during this time to keep the choir going by meeting regularly and singing favourite hymns and anthems and also learning some new music. The virtual choir benefitted from the challenge of recording themselves to be mixed together by John P. The results were quite impressive and I was told that for the 'cong at home' it was much easier to sing along if they could hear others singing. Thank you choir for all your hard work, meeting these new challenges.

Reflections on the past 37 years as DOM at St Michael's.

There are not many folk who will remember a time when I wasn't in charge of the music at St Michael's! I started in November 1983 and learnt 'on the job'! Thank you to everyone who has supported me over the years. We have had some memorable services including performances of the Fauré Requiem every other year, Carol Services when the church had standing room only, joint services with West Buckrose choir and St Mary's choir. We've been to RSCM singing days and learnt new repertoire. Choir members have worked for their RSCM medals and we've attended the services in various cathedrals when they have been presented.

I have worked with 6 vicars. The first was Ron Treasure to whom I am very grateful for having faith and trusting that I could do the work in spite of not being a 'proper' organist. Roger Pope was another help in guiding me in the ways of the choir. The RSCM helped with courses for Reluctant Organists and Choir Directors, which built on the training I had at music college.

In the early years I had two young assistants, first Anthony Wilson and then later, Bernard West. They have both gone on to become organists and choir directors elsewhere.

The number of singers has developed and changed over the years. We have had children and young people up to fairly recently and an instrumental group ran for about 10 years playing for family services. The choir has always been like a family who care about and support each other. I have always been very grateful to our 'augmented' choir members who come along when they can and especially for the Carol Services.

Over the years I have had the help of many other organists who played when I was away, their help has been very much appreciated.

I am going to miss playing for the regular 'bread and butter' part of the job which is the weekly Parish Communion service, and the camaraderie of choir

practice!

I wish Alison all the best as she takes over from me and I am sure she will enjoy the kind of support and friendship that I have had for the past 37 years!
Janet Patten,

Director of Music (1st Nov 1983-1st Nov 2020)

Report for St. Michael's Church Choir November 2020 – January 2021

Due to Lockdowns Two and Three, the Choir of St. Michael's Church have had an unusual November, December and January; as have all church choirs. Having been appointed Director of Music for St. Michael's Church in the Autumn, the Choir only met me in person in the middle of December!

Most rehearsals have taken place over Zoom and much service music has had to be pre-recorded by Ceri, Heather, John P and Alan. My heartfelt thanks to them for ensuring that there was choral music at each Sunday service, regardless of Covid restrictions. Special thanks should go to John P for his advice, and his ability to mix and produce the individual voices and accompaniment.

We were all delighted to sing together live from Advent II through to Christmas II though, with Boris Ord's *Adam Lay Ybounden* and Rutter's *Nativity Carol* sung in Advent.

Although the traditional Carol Service had no live congregation, the occasion still had a magical awe to it. The choir were all very keen to make the occasion as successful as possible: a feat that was even more impressive considering we had only had two live rehearsals prior to the service! Ian Little was unable to play for the service, due to needing to self-isolate. Fortunately, William Dove, organist at Ampleforth School, was able to step into the breach at short notice. My thanks to him. A former chorister of York Minster, Jamie Vicary, also joined the choir for the service, singing the 1st verse of *Once in Royal* with utter musicality and accuracy. Since then, I am delighted to announce that young Jamie has just been awarded a Music Scholarship to Bootham School in York.

Throughout the Christmas season, the Choir has sung a range of music, some known, some unfamiliar. Darke's *In the Bleak mid-winter* and *Torches* by Joubert, were coupled with Gardner's rhythmically exciting *Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day* and Chilcott's dance-like arrangement of *In Dulci*

Jubilo. New anthems were also introduced for the season of Epiphany. My thanks to Ceri, Sarah and Alan for their solo work during the season.

As I write, the choir has now started the repertoire for Lent. Hopefully, we shall be allowed to sing live again by Easter. Whatever lies ahead though, I would refer the choir and congregation to the last lines of the hymn *Ye Holy Angels Bright*:

“Let all thy days ‘til life shall end, what’er He send,
be filled with praise.”

Alison Forster

Director of Music 31/1/2021.

Safeguarding update

A review of the Parish Safeguarding Policy was completed earlier in the year and our policy was found to be up to date.

Four new Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks were completed, and certificates obtained, and others have been renewed as necessary by our Parish Verifier, Sue Wright. For information, all members of the PCC must have a DBS at enhanced level, as well as all church members who are involved in children’s work.

Due to the COVID-19 situation over this past year, most of the Diocesan training was put on hold, though a small amount has recently moved online. These changes have meant that fewer training modules have been completed this year than usual. As the Parish Safeguarding Representative, I have one further training module to complete, and am hoping to attend this later in the year. Sue Wright has previously attended courses in safeguarding and safer recruitment.

The members of the PCC are working their way through the online training modules offered by the Church of England, to enable as many people as possible to be fully aware of the needs and safety of children and vulnerable adults. If anyone else would like to complete these, please let me know and I will provide further information.

Samantha Free

All Age Worship

The new pattern of All Age Worship began in July 2019 following discussions during the Lent Course that year. They are held on the first Sunday of each month.

In 2020 we had three services before lockdown, for Epiphany, Candlemas and Lent. Sadly, Mothering Sunday was the first Sunday that the church did not have a service. The booklets had been printed and the bunches of daffodils were ready, so both were left at the back of church for people to take home.

The hymns had been recorded by the choir and made available via the internet, so that the service could be read and the hymns sung at home for all who wanted to do so. There was a gap in All Age services until we decided to start again in September, followed by October (Harvest Festival), November (All Saints), and December (Advent 2).

The service is a shortened form of Parish Communion. The team who plan it, meet to decide on the content, who will do the readings and intercessions, and to have ideas for activities related to the theme, for the children to do during the service. At first, activities were provided for the children to do sitting at a table in front of the pulpit. This was not possible for the final four services of the year, so children attending the service were given activity bags to do in their family group. For the talk, the children were encouraged to sit on kneelers at the front of the nave. From time to time, the young people take part in the reading and intercessions.

Each service has a separate booklet so that we can have variations in the liturgy for the different seasons, and readings and hymns can be included where appropriate. Details of forthcoming events for families and children can be listed when they are happening.

As a team we have been very encouraged by the positive responses we have had for this service, and by the number of young families who now attend and take part.

Thank you to the AAW planning team who have worked hard to make it happen each month, especially during the latter part of the year.

Janet Patten

Children's work – Growing Faithful Families

“New ideas are beginning to grow wings and with our prayers and support who knows what we will be reporting on next year—well...God does of course!”

These were the words that ended my report, written in March last year, on our work with children and young families, and yes, who knew what the last year was about to bring!

Due to the Government restriction that have continued throughout the last year, there was no point at which we were able to meet for our usual activities such as Messy Church, Tot's Church and activities we would normally arrange around festivals or social occasions. As the initial impact of restrictions began to sink in, we quickly realised that to maintain contact with families at a 'social distance' was a priority requiring lots of creative thinking.

As Mothering Sunday and then Easter passed, a small team began to explore supporting, encouraging and getting alongside families by providing a variety of active and prayerful activities in a bag to be taken out to family homes monthly. And thus the Bible Adventure Bags were born and have proved to be an invaluable way to maintain and develop relationships and contact with a growing number of families in our parish and beyond.

As levels of restriction came and went, we were happy to welcome families back to our All Age services in the autumn and kept up communication with them to ensure they were comfortable and safe within a new way of meeting together.

Hopes and plans to celebrate Christmas together with families rose and fell according to the rates of the r-number. When gathering together en masse, other than virtually, became impossible, we were able to embrace 'zoom' for our Christingle service. A small group of helpers ensured that all at church, young and old, were offered the opportunity to receive a 'Christingle in a Bag', complete with an orange, candle, sweets, activities and zoom joining instructions. It was a joyous service, attended by several nativity characters and those that had already eaten their sweets and was much

appreciated by all.

As we have entered 2021, the Bible Adventure bags have continued and families have been involved actively in our virtual All Age worship.

As we emerge slowly from 'lockdown' we must now give careful and timely thought to how we take forward our mission and nurture the roots and shoots that have grown during the past very strange year. We can reflect on what worked well in 'pre-covid' times, but also reflect on the mission that the pandemic forced us to explore. The best of each will take us forward into new ways of touching young families within our community with God's love.

Tracey Young

Report 20s to 40s minister

During the first few months of 2019 I was still in the listening stage of the Multiply project where I was not expected to "do" much but was there to focus on listening and asking many questions in order to hear and see what God is doing and how we can start to grow something new. To this end I was drinking lots of coffee with lots of different people to ask questions to gain a better understanding of the area, a better understanding the 20's to 40's in the area and to start to gain a better understanding of the role of Churches in the towns Malton and Norton.

Listening to what people had to say, the dream emerged to see small groups of 20's to 40's develop in the neighbourhood they live in (encouraging discipleship and mission to become practical at this level) whilst at the same seeking to create a sense of a movement with others across Malton and Norton. Working with the name "OMG", we'd like to see people discovering God in the mess and in the glory of their everyday lives and sharing his love across Malton and Norton. This sense of movement becomes visible online and when we gather people from across Malton and Norton. We seek to develop in such a way that almost all we do is replicable and

can be a blessing beyond Malton and Norton, encouraging a ripple on effect in Ryedale.

As our aim is to not just engage the 20's to 40's the Church already connects with but to reach out beyond the 20's and 40's we are already in contact with. Therefore I seek to be present in spaces where relationships can be formed and where there is space to start to connect with people's spirituality. The Pop-up Café (every other week at St Peter's Church Hall in Norton) was very good for this and we were developing relationships at Peasey Hill with a view we might be able to (help) (re)start a parents and toddlers group there. We also connected a bit to Brew and Dumplings (at the Stew & Oyster) and to Tots Church and started the preparations for acquiring a coffee bike as a vehicle for conversation.

On Shrove Tuesday I organised a Pancake party and around the same time I tried to start a small group activity around the same time as well but this wasn't successful at the time. It was clear more relationship(s) had to be formed first.

Soon after Covid-19 changed our lives drastically and our approach and opportunities for ministry had to change too. I developed the Coronaprayers website to see if that was something people would connect with. This had some impact and was valuable for some but the reach appeared to be fairly limited.

During the second lockdown I did a few more prayer livestreams using the Coronaprayers platform. Learning the lessons from the first lockdown and taking advantage of the way the rules were during this second lockdown, more people were involved in these prayers which made them more accessible.

In May we started thinking about Bible Adventure Bags and we did the first one in June. The idea of Bible Adventure Bags is to bless families with a bag filled with a number activities and all the materials needed are included in the bag allowing families to connect with a bible story, do something around prayer all in a way that is fun to do. After "trailing" this with a small number of families the Church and I were already in contact with (we started with 20 bags in June 2020), we saw this ministry gradually grow and by Christmas this number had grown to 90

bags serving many families in Malton and Norton who had little or no contact with Church.

It has been a real blessing working with the team on this (they are awesome!) and it is also a real blessing to see how these bags have opened doors. The delivery is always an important moment as it allows for some personal contact and for relationship to develop. We pray that this is just the beginning of our journey with these families and we will seek to build on these new connections whilst we are also just grateful to be able to serve these families with these bags in a time like this.

Throughout the year I continued to seek ways to start and develop new contacts. As a consequence of the pandemic, most of this had to happen on social media. During the last months of 2020 I regularly met with a group of 3 to 6 men around a firepit where we shared life and faith in a relaxed and non-threatening environment. We finished these evenings with evening prayers for which all men joined. This was a really good and safe way of connecting with people at a time when it was generally quite difficult to meet others.

Hendrik Klaver

Tech Team Report Year 2020-21

March 23rd 2020. Mothering Sunday. Church closed and the Minster has a friendly sign outside – 'closed due to pandemic'.

Although the Joint Archbishops letter in March encouraged us to think of modern ways to connect, the Church of England was basically shut. For me and others this was a dismal response to a World Crisis. In these circumstances I often think of the fictitious character Don Camillo in Giovanni Guareschi's novels- what would he do? He would find a way around this and not dither over it.

From Sunday 22nd March we ensured something was done about this. Words and hymns and the like available from the internet were one thing, but the technical issues of making a service live were unknown to me. It was a steep learning curve and with dogged determination (as a previous vicar has said about me!) and with Alan's sterling support we

tested a live transmission from Glyn's home on 19th April.

The process of moving from an online interactive session with Zoom (basically unknown to all of us at that time) to a live transmission from church was fraught with problems.

Firstly, we needed to ensure there was the infrastructure in place (ethernet, wifi, fast broadband etc) and secondly, we needed the necessary hardware and cables. That required expense.

On top of that however, we needed to understand how the software worked and why certain things did not happen. Both were hard graft-there was little from the internet and mainly American written by geeks who thought you knew everything! The C of E had zero knowledge on this. In fact, I can safely say that they, and the whole Diocese have been of no help whatsoever through last year.

Using our own resources and our own money we sorted the hardware and infrastructure out by May. Through weeks of testing and research we felt by the end of May we were ready to run live from church. We had cables everywhere!

We had to wait until July before a live transmission and that was with Simon. From then on we got into a semi routine. One person operating the laptop and the other moving cameras and firefighting!

Our objective now was to be able to operate this with one person and remove many of the wires and plugs- each fraught with their own problem. Andrew came to help us with his technical sound background and several things were resolved. We knew what we wanted but this cost money. The Standing Committee would not approve expenditure and so it

was not until December that we obtained approval to buy a second wifi camera and various kit and get reimbursed. Fortunately, we were able to order this before Brexit and use the kit over Christmas. It is difficult to buy this now – indeed it is easier to buy from China than Europe.

Alan developed his skills into pyrotechnics and laid words over the video which has helped at All Age services and the carol service. We tested the two wifi cameras and the camcorder and reduced the video complexity, but in the end, we decided that sound needed to be simpler and more understandable to control.

The last year has been an eyeopener to me on a variety of matters. It has at times been quite frustrating and stressful as Alan will no doubt concur, but we seem to have now settled down somewhat and learnt a great deal. Without Alan's support throughout the Tech Team would have not even happened. We have had arguments and frustration, but these have been offset by many jokes and good humour! And we have generally reached a good solution between us.

However, I think our overall pleasure has been the almost universal support and encouragement from many parishioners and Zoomers. Seeing the whole congregation on Zoom singing away to hymns has been very satisfying. Many have been ready to read, sing and prepare prayer at short notice. It has assisted in keeping the community of St Michael's together and getting the church into your home.

In my view one of the best Zooms was the wedding in October. It helped make the marriage for the couple more complete and inclusive, and attracted a world audience- even Manchester as well!

John Patten 8.2.21