

# **ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

**INCUMBENT:** The Revd. Daniel Miles

**Bank:** Yorkshire Bank

**Examiner:** Examined by Margaret Tetty

## **BACKGROUND:**

St. James Church Manston has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, In promoting, in the Ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church: pastorally, evangelistically, socially, and ecumenically.

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the annual parochial church meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rule.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC.

**The Incumbent:**

The Revd. Daniel Miles

**Licensed Lay Ministers**

Mrs Lisa Mahoney, Canon Ann Hemsworth PTO

**Church Wardens:**

Mrs Irene Parker, Mrs Leanne Packman

**The representative on the  
Deanery Synod,**

Mrs. Lisa Mahoney, Canon Ann Hemsworth, Miss  
Lindsey Sharp.

## **The elected members were:**

Barbara Dunkley, Yvonne Galley, Gillian Harrison, Ann Hemsworth, Irene Hutchinson, Elizabeth Loveday, Lisa Mahoney, Iain Packman, Leanne Packman, Irene Parker, Bryan Roberts, Martyn Sharp (resigned), Lindsey Sharp, Graham Taylor, Susan Wanty and Helen Wright.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE STRUCTURE:**

The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any directions given by the Council. In addition to the business of the Standing Committee, work between PCCs has also been undertaken by sub committees/working groups, again under the direction of the Council.

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE for Worship** as reported for the 2023 National Statistics for Mission was: -

## **CHURCH MEMBERSHIP/ATTENDANCE:**

There are 94 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 28 are not resident within the parish.

During the period Jan-Dec 2023 we had seventeen children and three adults baptised. We prepared four Junior and one adult Candidate from our own Parish for Confirmation. Three young people were prepared for and admitted to first communion.

**Other OCCASIONAL OFFICES / PASTORAL SERVICES** four Weddings and 18 Funerals were conducted.

## **CHURCH ATTENDANCE for Worship.**

*This is a figure annually reported via the 'National Statistics for Mission' systems.*

The figures we were able to submit from Manston showed that in the "October Count". Over the month we saw an attendance of 1327 individuals. The usual Sunday attendance average is 53 adults and 7 children.

The worshipping community is made up of 120 people (93 adults and 27 children).

Easter attenders 116 and Christmas attenders 647.

## **REVIEW OF THE YEAR:**

### **PCC SECRETARY**

There have been seven PCC meetings since the last report.

All PCC meetings open with prayer, each meeting agenda must include finance and safeguarding. The first meeting following the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) has a short agenda, usually just to appoint Officers, groups/committees, the leaders, and members. In 2023 Daniel was appointed Chair, Irene Parker Vice Chair, Ann Hemsworth Secretary, Iain Packman Treasurer, Graham Taylor Electoral Roll Officer and Barbara Dunkley Safeguarding Officer, The Church Wardens, Leanne Packman, and Irene Parker are also established in their role. Leanne Owen was co-opted to the PCC so that she could be consulted in her Professional Capacity regarding buildings. In addition, it was also agreed that PCC meetings would transfer from Tuesday to Wednesday, as the Scouts use every room in the hall on a Tuesday. During the year the decision was made for PCC to transfer to the Parish Office. This is a public meeting, and anyone is welcome, even though non-members may be asked to retire if a confidential matter needs to be discussed.

At the second meeting of the year, Barbara was able to explain fully the requirements from the Diocese that each member must fulfil, in addition to clear DBS status, various trainings are required especially basic safeguarding and domestic abuse. The guidelines from the Diocese are constantly changing, and we are grateful to Barbara that she ensures everyone is aware of the needs and ensures that each member fulfils them. As a parish we are over 80% up to date with the requirements. safeguarding is a compulsory requirement for each of us in the congregation and especially for anyone holding any post of responsibility and we are grateful that Barbara's conscientiousness ensures we meet all requirements.

Iain continues to ensure that financial circumstances are always up to date and for each PCC meeting he prepares and circulates a summary of the income and expenditure. Whilst we

are seeing a slight increase in income, it still does not meet the essential expenditure, especially as we have been “encouraged” by the Diocese to increase our share contribution. At the end of 2023 we were able to make up our yearly contribution to 80% and for 2024 we have committed to sending sufficient monies each month to ensure 80% and we hope that we shall be able to add to that sum at the end of the calendar year. The share for 2024 is in excess of £51,000.00.

Early in the ministry of Daniel, he, Lisa Mahoney, and Yvonne Galley attended a Leading Your Church into Growth conference (LYCIG). This is a national conference held several times a year when all delegates hear about different ways of encouraging Church Growth, perhaps changes in services, times of services, additional opportunities for people to learn more about Jesus and other different times when people may come together to meet new people, to experience church services or church meetings and to grow to love Jesus more. We are starting to see these things happen in our church community.

A Start course was available, this has simple content which enables people unused to church, to religion and especially to Jesus to come and “start” on the journey of faith – this was used as preparation for some of the confirmation candidates. It was also decided to open the church on a Wednesday evening, this would be an opportunity for those who are gathering outside the church to come in perhaps share some light refreshment, Daniel would always be present and the young people would get to see us as friends not enemies, in the event not many took up the opportunity but several people just walking through the church yard appreciated the chance to come into church to see the inside, to sit awhile and begin to feel comfortable. At this time mention of a proposed “staycation” was made, an opportunity for a less expensive parish weekend in early 2024. Also, on a regular basis morning and evening prayer cards, together with a bookmark setting out bible readings were distributed. For those who wished there were also booklets of bible readings.

Our church buildings require work throughout the year. It is necessary to have surveys done which result in action plans, estimates for work to be done and sometimes a need to find money for essential work. A couple of examples are the fact that a survey was needed on the trees in the church yard, most of the trees are elderly and it is essential that they are constantly monitored to ensure accidents do not occur. Some work was recommended, especially one cherry tree that was to be felled. We were lucky that the Wray family wished to give a donation for a memorial to Brian who had recently died, and this donation will almost meet the cost of the removal of the existing tree, the planting of a replacement and a plaque to explain the memorial. Essential work was needed to the roof of the hall and an electrical survey needed in the hall. This revealed some work to be done and an estimate has been received. The work is still needed as funds are not yet available. Other work from the quinquennial report required the metal railings to be painted, some pointing to the masonry, also some work to the outside lights.

Regularly risk assessments are written to ensure that we are always acting as safely and appropriately as we can. These have been reviewed and updated. As part of our risk assessments, we now have 6 first aid trained members of the congregation.

At all times we are looking towards becoming carbon free and always adopting a greener attitude.

As spring returned work in the church yard resumed, the work was done partly by the team Lisa leads and the Pay Back Scheme team. We are grateful to all who help in any way especially Lisa's team. The work outside is obvious and always admired and appreciated what is not always obvious is the hundreds of unseen jobs, done by many unseen people and if you are one of them then please be assured you are appreciated, and the PCC is grateful.

Always on the lookout for money saving opportunities the finance team suggested that the gas heaters should be removed from the parish office, this would add to our carbon zero contribution and save some money on the cost of the metre. The work was done, and the fires replaced by infra-red panel heaters. These are electric were not too expensive to purchase and are cheaper to run along with being more eco-friendly.

As with any home there are always jobs to do often with expensive estimates, these include a humidifier for the organ, this is essential work and will cost in the region of £3110.00. Daniel always has his eye on opportunities to request a grant. This is time consuming work and sometimes we are lucky other times not. It would be good if we could find someone to take on this task.

The food pantry continues to be successful, and we still make contributions towards the food bank. The decision was made that harvest gifts should be suitable for passing onto the food bank and our Lenten appeal, both the soup lunches and Wednesday coffee and toast would also be given to the food bank.

The church offered to become a "warm space", this is designated on church open days, Wednesday evenings and when the food pantry is open.

The PCC decided that we should consider changing the chairs in church, the existing ones are very heavy and do not stack old and not comfortable. Samples were obtained and the congregation encouraged to express their thoughts on which was most suitable.

We also considered at the same time was to offer a different time for the said service on a Sunday, it was agreed that from January 2024 to June 2024, we would have the said service at 8.30 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday and 11.30am on the third and fourth. This was to offer a suitable time for any who struggle with early morning. When there is a fifth Sunday there will be one service at 9.45.

For a long time, we have had the same Architect, who is almost ready to retire. It was decided that at the start of 2024 we would tender for a new architect.

Towards the end of the year, Harry Rhodes, the husband of Sylvia who had recently died approached the church to say he would like to arrange for the church path to be lit, lights could be strung along the trees. Before retirement Harry was Manager for Leeds Lights, so could arrange for the installation, the provision of electricity and he would pay all expenses. The work was done in time for Christmas and the colour of the lights can be changed to meet different circumstances. Thanks are expressed to Harry for this special gift as we remember with love Sylvia and all she did for the church.

As the year comes to an end, we must place on record our thanks to all who in any way ensure that the church remains open, is as warm as we can afford, is clean and a welcome is always on the mat. We are particularly grateful to Lisa, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer,

Electoral Roll officer and Safeguarding officer. All constantly busy with so many different aspects of their ministry. It is also recognised that many people are doing many important things, using their skills, their professional experience. It is stressed that we are grateful, and we do hope that we will continue to grow. Growth in numbers means increased income, increased income means the share and bills can be paid, this means a successful church can stay open for many years to come.

**Ann Hemsworth**

## **THE TREASURERS REPORT**

Accounts are attached for 2023.

Accounts are attached for 2023 which has been a challenging year balancing expenditure with our income. Our income exceeds our expenditure for the year however we have many projects in the planning which we would like to implement once funds become available.

We have increased our Parish share payment once again to achieve 80% of the request but have a long way to go to pay the full amount requested by the Diocese.

We start 2024 with a positive bank balance and thank everyone who contributes to the running our Church. We pray that our income we meet our expenditure over the forthcoming year.

Due to unforeseen circumstance Susan Butcher had to step down from being the independent examiner for the 2023 accounts. The PCC appointed Margaret Tetty, who is a retired bookkeeper and treasurer of St Michael's Mytholmroyd, as the independent examiner on behalf of the church.

**Iain Packman**

## **OTHER LEGAL REQUIRED REPORTS FOR THE AGM**

### **FROM THE CHURCH WARDENS:**

Following the APCM in April, two Churchwardens were appointed to enable the role to be shared and to support The Revd Daniel in his ministry. As Daniel continues into his second year, it has been encouraging to see growth and development of worship and numbers within the Parish and the local community. We have supported the development of his strategic plan for the Parish and the changes made.

The overdue Quinquennial report received in 2022 continued to be worked through to identify work needed.

Roof repairs to the flat porch roof and gulleys were completed as well as the gutters cleared. The back of the Vestry chimney was resealed. In July there was a substantial ingress of water from the Baptistry roof, following a continued series of smaller, but significant events whenever it rained. On checking the Quinquennial report, this should not have been

happening as it was relatively recently repaired. The original contractors visited in October after being contacted, and after a roof inspection, this has now ceased, without any apparent work being done or advised of. Damage to the internal stonework needs inspection and a claim for repair has been lodged with the insurers. This will require consultation with the architect.

The boilers, heaters and fans were all serviced and required no further work. The fire extinguishers were serviced.

In April 2023, the tree survey identified the need to cut down a cherry tree on the north boundary and a tree against the path to the Vicarage is badly leaning and needs reduction to 3ft. The latter has been done. A list B faculty was obtained for both trees with the requirement to replace the cherry tree. A quote has been accepted to remove the cherry tree and work will commence in early 2024 when the tree is not in leaf.

Payback team continued to attend, though from late spring they were not able to use any electrical equipment due to an incident elsewhere until permission was given again in the Autumn. Following 'No Mow May' and a good growing season, this left an overgrown Churchyard. A team of volunteers met on Tuesday evenings for several weeks, and finally caught up with all the work required. The Churchwardens thank them for their support in doing this. There was also a bulb planting session and the fruits of this will hopefully be seen shortly. Payback were able to help with recoating the railings on the south side boundary wall. This was an item listed on the Quinquennial report.

The cleaning team stepped back after many years of commitment and hard work to keep the Church in good order. Payback were able to support when unable to work in the Churchyard until the end of the year. A long- term strategy will now be needed for the regular cleaning.

The electrical installation report in September was satisfactory. The fan in the vestry toilet needs to be replaced. A list A faculty has been completed and a quote accepted for it to be replaced. All electrical items were PAT tested.

The organ has been serviced every six months and has been tuned. The humidifier needs to be replaced and a list A faculty has been completed. It is not an urgent repair and funds will need to be sourced as the estimate is around £4000.

The lightning conductor inspection failed. A list A faculty was obtained and a grant from the Diocese for the work was received. The repair will be undertaken in Jan 2024.

A Minor Works directive was obtained for the temporary lights on the path from the Lych-gate, in place before Christmas, in memory of a parishioner, and express our gratitude to the family for this generous gift providing light in the darkness.

The suggested electronic version of the Terrier has been downloaded from the Diocese of Leeds website, and the details for the parish have been transferred from the 1994 Terrier booklet which was full and from the spreadsheets done in 2015. There are a few items yet to be traced, namely books there were not looked for in 2015. All other items have been located and logged. Once this is done the Terrier will be available in electronic format, making annual

checks quicker, and a hard copy for archiving will be printed. The electronic version holds much more data about the parish and can then be used as a single point of information.

There are jobs on the previous Quinquennial to be completed. These are now likely to be reviewed with the appointment of a new architect.

Gratitude is expressed to all who undertake the hidden jobs that need doing, without anyone being aware but would be noticed if not done. The Churchwardens are grateful for the support we receive from the congregation.

**Pastoral:** This is a responsibility shared by all the congregation with enquiring phoning and visiting members of the church who are unwell or have difficulty in attending church.

The Pastoral Team meet to make note of any who haven't been seen for a while to follow up. Home communion is taken to 11 members of the congregation who are no longer able to attend church but are still loved and respected members of our church family. 3 ladies are temporarily in care homes and have been visited.

Every month a simple service with hymns is taken into Willow Bank. This is very much appreciated by the residents and staff. If you are able please come and join us. This visit is made on the last Thursday of the month at 2pm.

Thanks are expressed to all who visit and show concern for others in our congregation.

**Leanne Packman, Irene Parker.**

## **EAST LEEDS DEANERY SYNOD**

The Church is represented on the Synod by The Revd. Daniel Miles, Lisa Mahoney, Lindsey Sharp and Ann Hemsworth. Synod has met three times since our last APCM. The Chair of the meeting is The Revd. Canon Anne Russell, Vice Chair John Beal, Secretary Ann Nicholl, and Treasurer Christine Brett.

The first meeting had speakers on Poverty in East Leeds, we heard of the inequality and resilience of parishes, the contrast between parishes in the Deanery, unfair distribution of resources, and the question asked what are the churches doing? At the same meeting there was a presentation by Wellsprings, they support social needs. They highlighted challenges being experienced which include cost of living, need for food banks and warm spaces. John Beal explained "Marmot" the work of Professor Michael Marmot, Professor of Public Health, which works on the relationship between poverty and health.

The second meeting highlighted the Celebration of Lay Ministry. The role of the clergy and laity was outlined, expectations for responsibility considered examples of ministry which could be shared between laity and clergy. What could be introduced, what is working and what

not. It was suggested that parishes could make a pilgrimage of other church buildings in the East Leeds area.

The main speaker at the third meeting was The Revd. Jude Smith The Diocesan Director of Church Revitalisation and Diocesan lead for Barnabas. Jude spoke of all encouraging confidence, explaining that Barnabas is an initiative for missional initiatives, buildings, and equipping clergy and laity for leadership. As society changes so it is essential that the church changes too. We are to reflect on what stops that happening and spot what is helpful and do all we can to encourage that and ensure the church is authentic. Prayer is the tool we can all use.

**Ann Hemsworth**

### **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EAST LEEDS:**

Since the 2023 APCM there have been three meetings of Churches Together in East Leeds. One at St. Richards Seacroft, one at Manston and one at St. Therasas. At the AGM Ann Hemsworth was appointed Chair, Sue Middleditch from Whitkirk agreed to be minutes secretary and Karen Gray agreed to be Treasurer. Shortly before the meeting it was established that Lloyds Bank was prepared to authorise a charity account without incurring charges. This has been done as an online account and Karen agreed to be Treasurer.

CTG has been well represented at both 2023 and 2024 World Day of Prayer. We also join for the Good Friday walk of witness and the gospel read in the Methodist Chapel. The Advent Sunday Service in 2023 was held at Christchurch Halton and a successful if very cold quiet day was held in January at St. James Manston.

A successful event was held on a warm sunny day on Seacroft Green to celebrate the Coronation and Jesus.

In the meantime, we keep in touch as we pray for each congregation attempting to be good Ambassadors for Jesus wherever they meet.

**Ann Hemsworth**

### **SAFEGUARDING:**

The role of the Parish Safeguarding Officer is primarily the safeguarding of the people of the parish, particularly children, young people, and vulnerable adults and to be a link between the parish and the diocese.

To do this the PCC continues to adopt, display and gradual implement The House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy, Promoting a Safer Church.

One aspect of this is the checking of those with a position of responsibility within church which is important for the safeguarding of those they serve. This continued this year and both those on the PCC and in leading roles within church have been checked. Training has continued over the year, including that of the safer recruitment and people management pathway. Most is completed however any new member to the PCC will need to be checked and undertake the safeguarding training. The training can be undertaken as a group and having



found that this worked well the offer is there for people to undertake their training in the year ahead in this way.

The PCC has continued to give permission for church activities to take place and except for two roles and a training everything else has been completed. The PCC has also given permission for non-church activities too. With the new hire agreement there will be a safeguarding addendum to go to the organisations. The review of policies, safeguarding procedures and safeguarding action plan has taken place over the year also.

At the beginning of February, we had Safeguarding Sunday. This gave the chance for the congregation to see who their Parish Safeguarding Officer is and to learn something of the role. There was an explanation that safeguarding is everyone's business and for those who have a DBS check, thirtyoneeight (Proverbs31:8), that it reminds us to speak out on behalf of the voiceless and for the rights of all who are vulnerable.

I thank all of those who are taking an active part in safeguarding, particularly Revd. Daniel.

## **APENDIX**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**SUNDAY 21 April 2024 – in the church**

### **AGENDA**

#### **MEETING OF PARISHIONERS:**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of 2023 meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Election to the office of Church Wardens.

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

#### **FOR Parishioners on Electoral Roll**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2023 APCM
3. Notice of any other business
4. Matters arising
5. PARISH ANNUAL REPORT including:
  - Annual Financial Report (to include appointment of Independent Examiner)*
  - Electoral Roll Report*
  - Report of the PCC*
  - Report from Deanery Synod*
  - Report from Churches Together in East Leeds*
  - Appointment of Sides Persons.*
6. ANNUAL FABRIC REPORT *(to include reference to Inventory and Terrier/Church Property Register)*
7. ELECTIONS:                      To PCC
8. Parish Report by Rev Daniel Miles, Priest-in-Charge

**Copy of the Minutes from the 2023 APCM.**

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
ST. JAMES THE GREAT MANSTON  
HELD ON SUNDAY 23 April 2023 9.45am in the church, during the Eucharistic  
Service in place of the sermon of the Sermon.**

**PRESENT:**

The Revd Daniel Miles, (Interim Priest in Charge) in the Chair and 51 members of the community/congregation were present: In addition, two people under the age of 18 were present.

**APOLOGIES:** were received from Angie Timbers, Peter Loveday, Pat Atkin, and Pat Jones.

The congregation were reminded that the APCM should be an act of worship.

**ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING:**

*for those on the Electoral Roll, or who are Residents in the Parish:*

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** having been circulated were taken as read and agreed as a correct record. It was proposed by Martyn Sharp seconded by Hazel Backhouse and agreed by all they be adopted and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising.

**ELECTION OF CHURCH WARDENS:**

Two Church Wardens are required to be nominated and elected at this meeting. Nominations were received. It was proposed by Irene Parker, seconded by Peter Loveday, and agreed by all that, Leanne Packman, be elected. It was further proposed by Sue Wanty, seconded by Julie Best and agreed by all that Irene Parker be elected. These ladies were unanimously elected. Thanks were expressed to both ladies for their willingness to stand and to Irene Parker for the work she has done since the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting, four months of which was during a vacancy.

Close of the Vestry Meeting.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING:**

*for those on the Electoral Roll.*

**APOLOGIES:** As above

**MINUTES OF THE 2022 AGM** having been circulated were taken as read. There being no observations, corrections, or additions it was proposed by Helen Wright seconded by Marie Pearson and agreed by all they be signed as a correct record.

**NOTICE OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**MATTERS ARISING:** None were raised on the minutes and reports circulated.

**PARISH ANNUAL REPORT:** Copies of all reports have been circulated and are attached to these minutes.

**ANNUAL FABRIC REPORT** included in the report circulated it was taken as read and accepted.

**Annual Financial Report** Before the meeting David Rhodes submitted a series of questions which were, before the meeting, answered by Iain Packman, the Treasurer. The questions and responses are set out below:

- a) I have been looking at the accounts and have a few queries; They do not balance by £1, this presumably due to rounding pounds and pence into round pounds. Insignificant, but it looks careless. **Response:** Next year I will adjust so it agrees.
- b) Looking at the collections comparatives it appears that there were no collections at services in 2022. This seems unlikely. **Response:** There are no collections showing in 2021 as I did not do the breakdown from the cash sheets the collections are in other planned giving.
- c) Teddy Praise collection is in Hall receipts, but as you know they don't use the Hall. I am happy to leave it there because it shows that teddy Praise does contribute. (They were singled out at a PCC meeting before you arrived even though they have always had a money box. **Response:** I did not know where Teddy Praise meet.
- d) Service expenses, sundries at £2750.88 needs, I think, some further explanation. **Response:** This includes the purchase of two lecterns at a cost of £2,112.
- e) The movement in the year £14211.65 agrees with the stated figures of £75277.31+£60821.30+£244.36 (Charity appeals), but the movement in the year shown on the front sheet is £13662. Shouldn't these be the same figure? **Response:** brought forward from last year £550 accruals
- f) Further to the above, the total of the analysed expenditure is in fact £80653.77, not £75277.31 as stated in the accounts. This would make the movement for the year differ from the actual movement on the bank accounts. **Response:** The accounts show expenditure of £75,277 not sure where the £80,653.77 comes from.

The PCC of St James the Great Manston, has elected to subject to the financial statements to independent examination and, therefore, having made appropriate enquiries, propose Mrs Sue Butcher as independent examiner until the next APCM. Mrs Susan Butcher, has indicated her willingness to examine the accounts again and it is proposed Barbara Dunkley, seconded by Elizabeth Loveday, and agreed by all Mrs Butcher be appointed.

**Electoral Roll:** At the closure of the roll-on Sunday 9 April, it was recorded that the roll stood at 92, 64 residents and 28 none residents. The Roll is now open for additions. Thanks are expressed to Graham Taylor who has undertaken the work of Electoral Roll Officer.

**Appointment of Sides Persons:** It was unanimously agreed that all existing sides persons be reappointed, and any other volunteers be welcomed onto the team.

## **ELECTIONS:**

**PCC:** The number on the Electoral Roll allows for 9 elected PCC members, as they are already 11 members on, there will be no election for additional members. In 2024 9 people will be due for re-election, this will enable the numbers to be adjusted.

**Deanery Synod:** There are three vacancies available, three nominations were received. It was proposed by Irene Parker seconded by David Rhodes that Lisa Mahoney be elected, it was proposed by Peter Loveday, seconded by Sue Wanty that Ann Hemsworth be elected, and it was proposed by Marie Pearson, seconded by Barbara Dunkley that Lindsey Sharp be elected. It was unanimously agreed all three be elected to Deanery Synod for the period 2023/24.

## **CONCLUDING REPORT:**

In 4 days', time it will be a year since my interview with +Nick, AD Paul, Irene Parker, and Lisa. One of the questions I was asked early in the interview was, "Why are you applying for this job?" There were 4 parts to my answer:

1. On a practical level, closer to family and friends geographically.
2. Personal ministry, I didn't feel called to rural or inner-city ministry.
3. My friend and I had been and visited the area and we walked around the parish and prayed, and it just felt that it was right – a Holy Spirit sense of peace.
4. Finally, the one that I think is most relevant to this meeting today was that from what I could see on paper the church was doing some great things and that God appeared to be working and active.

Thankfully, what was in the profile pretty much reflected what I experienced on my arrival. A church that was doing OK. May be a sense of treading water, but that is the nature of interregnums, and a few key people who were clearly beginning to feel the tiredness of 'keeping the show on the road' so to speak. But most importantly a church who were willing to 'give things a go' understood the need to 'change and move forward' yet not throw the baby out with the bath water.

I have looked through my diary at the first month of me being here and talk about being thrown into the deep end!

Three funeral visits,  
A couple of interment of ashes,  
a meeting with the insurance company,  
a PCC meeting – when the church warden and PCC secretary decided it would be a good time to get COVID and be ill!  
a school SIAMS inspection,  
harvest festival,  
safeguarding meetings,  
line managing an LLM,  
School worship,  
Governor's meeting,  
Denary synod meeting,  
Reception class party,  
Pastoral visiting,

And Irene Parker, for some reason, desperately wanting to give me keys for the hall!  
Looking over the next couple of months we had:  
An architect to hunt down for a quinquennial report,  
Remembrance services,  
All souls service,  
Christmas services to plan and leaflets being given out,  
Christmas services then happening,  
Various training courses at Church House  
Vicar drop-ins at the office,  
The need to think about what the future would hold.  
Alongside the usual worship services to conduct, names to learn, traditions to understand.  
This list is not exhaustive and lots of it as I look down it were about developing team and working together.

Whether I am the kind of person you imagined being the next priest in charge, I'm probably not. Am I making everyone happy, definitely not. Am I learning, yes (I often ask people to explain what 'this thing is' that they are asking me what I want!). Am I me, yes. Do I feel settled that this is the place the God wants me to be, yes. This is the only job I have ever done when each day I am thankful that I get out of bed and can go to work.

But this is not meant to be about me, and the ministry here at St James should never be about the Priest, but about the work of God's people (each one of us) to see God's kingdom manifest here on earth. So here are a few things that we should be celebrating about 2022 as a Church.

#### I. We are family.

One of the strengths of this church is that there is a great sense of family. There is always someone on hand to turn to. If there is a call for volunteers' people step up – we do not lack in the gift of service and people in this church – what a blessing each person is. As with every family there are people, we get on well with and others quite frankly we 'put up with'. But each person has their part to play and if that isn't known there is the willingness to explore it and see what happens next.

As a family we have learnt over these past few months to laugh and to cry. We have, for the most part, been positive. Even when there has been negativity it is low level. I think that this is down to the fact that I said on week two – if you have a problem don't gossip about it – tell me be honest. We can't do anything about it if you do not open your mouth and tell me. I have to say for the most part people do. And what I have appreciated is this – it has not been a moan or a complaint. It has been an identification of an issue, sometimes I have been able to explain instantly why something is the way it is, other times I haven't and the person who has identified the issue through talking to me has come up with a solution. It's what is commonly known as constructive criticism. Thank you all and please do keep this happening – that is what email, vicar drop in, and my telephone number are there for.

I know that there are times when people have issues and don't tell me or find a roundabout way of telling me (the recent building form being an example) all in all that is not helpful. We must remember that as family we must listen to each other and not make it personal. Some of you will know I can take a lot of flak, it come comes with the collar, but I will not take rudeness toward myself or other people. My reason for identifying this here is to say that if we do not honour one another, remain positive, be critical and questioning, then we end up falling out and fractured family is not what we are about.

We are called to be a body united, and we need to be modelling that inside this church in order for the broken world to understand that the kingdom of God is about welcome, love, trust, and

We are a people of prayer.

In my list of things that happened in my first 3 months of being here I didn't list prayer. However, on a personal level there is a lot of prayer – I never feel I pray enough but to be honest even the brothers at Mirfield will say they don't pray enough!

But one thing I do know is that we here at St James have an army of prayers. They do it quietly, unknown, and will often say to me, "Well all I do is pray". But these prayers are the foundation to which everything is done. So, thank you for praying and please keep on praying for the congregation, the leadership, the parish, our hall. Literally, every area of life is needed to be prayed for – please keep going. Prayer is our weapon that never goes blunt!

## 2. We are people with outlook.

Irene and Lisa quickly learnt that if I ever start a sentence with "I've been thinking..." it is normally followed by something that is, at times, a bit left field! At other times it is just a different way of thinking about something.

I said that I wouldn't change anything in the first three months. Well, for the most part I didn't. There were some changes. Someone said to me this, "I was worried when there was going to be a new vicar. Someone who was just going to come in and change loads of stuff because they can. But you Daniel have made changes and that has been hard, but they are small steps that have made a difference for the positive. You have done it gently and explained why."

Yes, we did things at Christmas that were slightly different. We did remembrance in a slightly different way. The services didn't look exactly like they had always done. But we could see that there was reason and that in order for us to move forward there needed to be a new perspective on things.

The outlook on our worship, finances, building, outreach, and mission etc. is not one of this is it and its set-in stone. Our outlook is one of let's give this a go and see what may come of it. Our outlook on things is generally quite positive. We need to look at this positive outlook as a blessing and a gift. The more we give thanks for the things we do have, the more we steward well the positive outlook of this church, the more we are seeing God's blessings in all that we do.

Our outlook, thankfully, is not about getting bums on seats. Our outlook is about reaching our community with Jesus. The outworking of which is that we start to see this building full.

The future...

I have been asked by several clergy colleagues, "Is it a help or a hindrance that you have an end date to your licence?" My response is always, "What a blessing it is." The reason being, we all realise that we have a deadline to be moving toward. Which means yes, certain things that had I been on a longer licence I would not touch, we have got to start working on. Where you may have in the past had clergy wait a year or two before really ramping things up – we do not have that luxury. For some of us this will be too much too quickly and all I can say is that I will be as gentle as I possibly can.

What does our next 12 months hold...well we are starting to see it already.

Growing numbers of people coming to call this church their home because of experiencing Jesus.

We are growing in love for one another and our community.

We are growing in spiritual commitment and prayer.

And I hope that we continue to do this and more. Our vision is set, and if you don't know what it is the leaflet is at the back, we know what we are striving to achieve, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Let us all work together, with each other but more importantly with God, for it.

This is also my opportunity to say a few words of thanks – there are some specific people and if I miss you off it is not because I am not thankful for you – I truly am. Let me start by saying this...

Thank you to you all for welcoming me, and Brett (the dog), to be with you all. I am thankful daily with how God has blessed me with you people (ask me after for some horror stories from colleagues around the country, you would be shocked!). Thank you for being open to God's call on this church and being open handed with it knowing that what God wants is ultimately what will happen.

Thank you to all those who do so much that often goes unnoticed...

Barbara Dunkley for the work on safeguarding you are an angel.

Iain Packman for keeping our financial records and answering the priest in charges questions. Gillian Harrison and Sue Wanty for counting and paying the money into the bank etc.

Ann Hemsworth for PCC secretary and making sure I am doing what needs to be done.

Lisa Mahoney for being an easy LLM to have work alongside, the way you work with baptism families etc is such a blessing.

Helen Wright, Sue Wanty, David Burton, Isaac Pearson who each week play music or click buttons.

The whole PCC for being supportive of me, the church and serving Jesus in this way.

Angela Rhodes, Veronica Brown, Janet Richardson for all the work you do for Teddy Praise and being our welcomers for baptism services.

Sue and Roland Wanty for all they have done in the office and keeping the notice board and registers up to date.

Martyn Sharpe and Marie Pearson for all they do for the website and social media.

Graham Taylor, Martyn Sharpe, Yvonne Galley, Carol Sharpe, Sue Wanty, Susan Alexander, and Roland Wanty who do various pieces of cleaning and maintenance in church and in the church hall.

All the sides people and those who do refreshments (too many of you to name individually and I'm bound to miss someone out) thank you.



David Palmer, Steve Robinson, Peter Loveday, Hazel Backhouse for being my servers. All the eucharistic ministers, readers, and intercessors thank you – I trust each week that someone is going to stand up and do something and you have never let me down yet.

David Rhodes for all you do for weddings and funeral verger. Gary Mahoney for digging holes in the graveyard for me.

Robin Paterson and Alan Glasby for being there to cover during the interregnum and during my leave and sickness.

Last but no means least Irene Parker – this church would probably have imploded during interregnum if it wasn't for you. My vicarage would certainly not have been ready for me to move into. For your continued prayer and care of me and the church family. Your hospitality and welcome here at church but also your home. Thank you. That doesn't feel like enough. I am so pleased you have agreed to stay on as church warden for another year. I promised you I would find a fellow church warden so hopefully you will find time to put your feet up and catch your breath for a bit.

At the end of the meeting, the Eucharistic service continued

**PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT JAMES THE GREAT MANSTON**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>					
Cash	-				-
Bank Current Account	9,859			9,859	7,890
Lighting Appeal Bank Account	-	4,460		4,460	4,982
CBF Deposits	16,623		2,598	19,221	19,221
	<u>26,482</u>	<u>4,460</u>	<u>2,598</u>	<u>33,540</u>	<u>32,093</u>
<b>INVESTMENT FUNDS</b>					
227 shares in the CBF					
C of E Fixed Income Securities Fund			363	363	363
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Accruals	-				
	<u>26,482</u>	<u>4,460</u>	<u>2,961</u>	<u>33,903</u>	<u>32,456</u>
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>					
Brought forward	24,513	4,982	2,961	32,456	46,117
Movement during the year	1,969 -	522		1,447	- 13,662
	<u>26,482</u>	<u>4,460</u>	<u>2,961</u>	<u>33,903</u>	<u>32,455</u>

**Funds held at -**

		Opening	Closing	Balance
Current account Virgin Money	05-00-50	7,890.11	9,859.67	1,969.56
Current account Virgin Money (used as the Lighting appeal	05-00-50	4,982.21	4,460.21	- 522.00
CBF Church of England Deposit fund Manston House fund	Client no. 630091	16,622.96	16,622.96	-
CBF Church of England Deposit fund	Account no 130001382D Manston CH R	2,597.67	2,597.67	-
CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund - Incor	Account no. 130001010F - Manston Altar flowers	363.00	363.00	-
		<u>32,455.95</u>	<u>33,903.51</u>	<b>1,447.56</b>

## Receipts and Payments Year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

### Receipts

	CODE	2023	2022
<b>COLLECTIONS</b>			
Tax Efficient Planned Giving	101	26,705.00	25,304.00
Other Planned Giving	102	3,465.76	5,659.33
Tax recovered	103	7,328.36	5,055.31
Collections at all Services	104	5,193.10	6,125.50
<b>FUND RAISING</b>			
Christmas cards	203	270.00	306.30
Open Church	204	960.37	1,981.23
Vegetable sales	205	94.92	
Family Fun	206		141.06
Sponsored Walk	207	816.00	1,087.00
Coffee Morning / Afternoon tea	208	50.00	10.00
Lisa's Afternoon Tea	209	158.94	
Leanne's Knitting	211	107.00	174.00
Autumn Fair	212	1,099.46	1,173.77
Harvest Supper	214	160.00	-
Pancake Party	216	40.00	-
Sundries	217	20.00	90.27
Social evening / Quiz night	218	615.10	300.00
Robin's talk Phillipines	219	180.00	
Lisa's Triathlon	220	728.61	
Easter raffle	222	88.20	
Lent lunches	223	313.28	
Music festival	224	374.61	
Garforth Brass band and choir	229	265.52	

<b>PARISH HALL</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Parties	301	3,185.00	1,500.00
Crafty Duo	304	300.00	500.00
Rainbows / Brownies	307	545.00	60.00
Yoga	309	2,433.50	1,055.00
Guides	311	75.00	471.50
Scouting	313	3,352.50	-
Playgroup	316	2,280.00	1,390.00
Leeds Christian conn xgates	317	965.00	515.00
Hall hire	318	2,500.00	3,016.84
Teddy praise	319		78.08
Table tennis	320	270.00	
AA	321	400.00	
<b>MAGAZINE &amp; BOOKSTALL</b>			
Magazine Receipts	401		45.00
Magazine printing costs	402		45.00
Book Stall Profit	403	40.00	
<b>DONATIONS</b>			
Donations	501	4,651.38	2,305.00
Box in Church Wall	503		55.30
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Wayleave	604	4.60	
School Field Rent	605	500.00	
Weddings	607	1,111.00	2,155.64
Investments	701	1,142.87	221.17
DBF Fees	841	3,266.54	2,688.03
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>76,056.62</b>	<b>63,509.33</b>

## Expenditure

	CODE		2023		2022
<b>PARISH HALL EXPENSES</b>					
Repairs and Maintenance	702	-	993.46	-	2,285.32
Telephone / Internet	703	-	515.12		
Kitchen Gas	707	-	200.00		
Fire Extinguishers Service	708	-	450.38		
Hygiene Equipment	710	-	817.28		
Roof Repairs Parish hall	712	-	390.00		
Cleaning	713	-	2,025.37	-	2,018.25
<b>Church Utilities</b>					
Heating	801	-	5,628.40	-	5,404.94
Lighting & Power	802	-	3,478.85	-	1,821.33
Water	803	-	855.18	-	852.72
Insurance	804	-	5,257.46	-	4,941.08
<b>Church Maintenance</b>					
Boiler Repairs & Servicing	810	-	857.63	-	1,142.27
Electrical Repairs	811	-	581.69		
Purchase of two televisions	812	-	930.92		
Lightning Conductor	813	-	176.40	-	168.00
Fire Extinguishers Service	814			-	393.00
Roofing	815	-	670.00	-	390.00
Sundry Repairs	818			-	249.13
Sound systems	819			-	1,759.10
PAT Testing	820	-	151.50	-	97.50

<b>Services expenses</b>	<b>CODE</b>		<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>
Bread & Wine	830	-	164.33	-	18.00
Candles	831	-	28.86	-	219.05
Licences	832	-	417.28	-	385.17
Organ Repairs & Servicing	834	-	743.40	-	734.40
RSCM Sub	838	-	127.00	-	110.00
Churchsuite	839	-	555.00	-	93.00
Baptism and Confirmation Expenses	840	-	222.18		
Other Fees	842	-	337.33	-	439.08
First aid course	844	-	200.00		
Sundries / Flowers	845	-	945.14	-	2,750.88
<b>Churchyard Expenses</b>					
Tree and Hedge Maintenance	850	-	625.00		
Machinery Repairs	851	-	35.95	-	330.00
Petrol	852	-	15.06	-	72.94
Skip Hire	853	-	240.00	-	150.00
<b>Church &amp; Services Summary</b>					
Church Running	860	-	124.99		
Church Maintenance	861	-	383.76		
Services Expenses	862	-	587.44		
Parish share	864	-	42,110.00	-	39,300.00
Historic parish share	865			-	10,000.00

<b>9 OFFICE EXPENSES</b>	<b>CODE</b>		<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>
Stationery	901	-	587.63	-	69.39
Photocopier Copies	902	-	494.76	-	199.23
Photocopier Lease	903	-	215.44	-	490.88
Telephone	904	-	560.19	-	478.64
Gas removal	907	-	40.00		
Website Rental	909	-	30.77	-	252.12
St James Mews	910	-	349.92	-	349.92
Servicing and Repairs	911	-	199.98		
Churches Together	914	-	30.00		
<b>Total Payments</b>		-	<b>74,351.05</b>	-	<b>77,965.34</b>

#### **10 CHARITY APPEALS**

Collected for Charity	1001		2,768.90		736.71
Paid Over for Charity	1002	-	3,026.91	-	477.35
Un presented cheque from last year			-	-	15.00
Movement in the Year			<b>1,447.56</b>	-	<b>14,211.65</b>