THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

England & Wales · Charity number 1131420

Details

Other names	ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER PCC, EASTBOURNE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-08-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	St. Saviours Vicarage Spencer Road Eastbourne BN21 4PA
Phone	01323722317
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Activities

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

Activities: RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Classification

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

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£201,151	£159,557	-	-
2024-12-31	£266,333	£179,205	-	-
2023-12-31	£467,139	£237,972	-	-
2022-12-31	£126,086	£129,821	-	-
2021-12-31	£146,354	£90,851	-	-
2020-12-31	£188,469	£112,037	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Mark John Simon McAulay	Chair	2018-09-25
Alan Albert Fairs		2025-05-25
Anne-Marie Manuel		2026-05-17
Anthony Brian Sharley		2026-05-17
Beverley Ann Thorp RGN RM BSc		2020-10-11
Dr Tom Anthony Simon Thorp MB ChB DA		2020-10-11
Krystyna Breeze		2020-10-11
Marilyn Anne Benzing		2024-05-26
Noel Thompson		2022-05-22
Paul Howard Pompeii Fella		2022-09-07
Pauline Fella		2015-04-26
RICHARD NICHOLAS CROOK		
Sharon Pearson		2026-05-17

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER,

England & Wales - Charity number 1131420

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Saviour and St Peter, Eastbourne

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4UT

Registered Charity no. 1131420

For the year ended 31st December 2025

CONTENTS

Page	
1	Trustees annual report
11	Financial review
14	Statement of receipts and payments
16	Notes to the financial statements
17	Report of the independent examiner

Website:	stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk
Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC The Vicarage, Spencer Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4PA
Independent examiner:	John Caladine FCCA Caladine Limited, Chantry House, 22 Upperton Road, Eastbourne, BN22 1BF
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc 63 Terminus Road, Eastbourne BN21 4TD

St Saviour's Eastbourne
Trustees Annual Report for 2025

"I have found this a very welcoming church. The last time I was there, four or five separate people spotted I was a visitor and invited me into the hall for coffee…"

- a 'Facebook' reviewer

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC, in:

- The promotion of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical
- To know Jesus better and make Him better known
- Being more open, converted, generous and engaged as a church (Diocesan Vision for Growth 2020-2025)
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need, or ability to pay
- Providing practical support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. Our Mission Action Plan is regularly reviewed, and we also regularly ensure our activities are in sympathy with the Diocesan Vision for Growth 2020-2025.

For 2025 we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering a daily Mass (and other opportunities) of worship, teaching and prayer
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Aiding the poor and needy of the parish, and beyond, through donations of food, non-perishable goods and money to the Matthew 25 Mission, Family Support Work and Eastbourne Foodbank
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as an historic and significant venue in the centre of the town which is also used extensively as a venue for instrumental and choral recitals
- Maintaining the church hall as a venue for parish events and for use by local groups and charities (often without charge)

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Worship

We are pleased to welcome visitors from outside as well as inside the parish boundary. Mass is offered daily on every day of the year, including Bank Holidays, and the Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer are also celebrated on behalf of the entire parish. As Eastbourne is a popular holiday destination some visitors seek out St Saviour's for its traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, many of whom return to us year after year. Visitors attend by personal choice, and it is our great pleasure to welcome anyone from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that being open to all people, and voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

"It is inspiring to see how the attendance at Sunday Mass has increased incredibly... I am sure this is due to the level and quality of worship at St. Saviour's…"
– a member of the congregation

Our average regular weekly attendance, counted during October 2025, was **193** adults and children (**205** in 2025 and by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **50** adults and children attending each week in 2024 (the latest available statistics)).

It has been a great encouragement to welcome many new worshippers to St. Saviour's. At the time of writing this Report (April 2026), average attendance at the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am is **141** (an increase from **124** in 2025 and, by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total Sunday average attendance of only **41** adults and children in 2024 (the latest available statistics): (see p.10 at https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2025-10/statisticsformission2024.pdf). At the time of writing average attendance at the earlier said Sunday Mass at 9am is **12** (down on **15** in 2024). Also at the time of writing our average attendance at weekly services *excluding Sundays* is **65.**

Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and guided prayer before the noon Mass on Tuesdays continued throughout 2025 and continues to be much appreciated. The healing ministries of laying on of hands and anointing at the Mass on every 3rd Sunday continued and are well valued and used by the congregation, and those visiting for Mass. In January 2024 we introduced the recitation of the Holy Rosary after the 10.30am Mass on Wednesdays, which has been much appreciated since then by those who attend (this also livestreamed for those unable to attend, and for those who like to "catch up" at another time at their convenience).

The daily Mass and the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am also continued to be live streamed for the benefit of those who were housebound and/or ill, together with many people across the UK (and, indeed, beyond). We take this "online" ministry seriously and know that it is much valued and appreciated by those who engage with it. In 2025, our online 'reach' on Facebook increased by almost 2% to over 1,200 people. The total number of Facebook visits (i.e., where people have deliberately sought us) was 30,000, which is an increase of some 46% from the previous year and we now have a group of over 1,200 dedicated followers (up 10%). The audience for our posts and videos includes people from as far afield as the US & Canada, Australia and Europe – as well as other parts of the UK besides Eastbourne. Our daily Masses were always watched live by at least some people, whilst Mass on Sundays usually had a live audience in double figures. These services also enjoyed – and continue to enjoy – substantial engagement after their broadcast and are available online to watch at a later date as well both on Facebook and YouTube.

Numbers attending on Ash Wednesday were similar to the previous year with **83** attending, with an average weekly attendance at **15** for Stations of the Cross throughout Lent. Attendances throughout Holy Week were again incredibly encouraging and increased considerably on the previous year (from Palm Sunday to Easter Day no less than **704** people attended our services (618 in 2024)).

"I know there is a lot of time spent by the clergy preparing for these services and it does not go unnoticed by us your flock. Thank you."
– a member of the congregation

The Easter Vigil and Easter Day Masses were attended by **275** people (**278** in 2024, and by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **68** adults and children attending Easter Services in 2024).

Christmas is obviously a very special time of celebration where many sections of the community come together to join in our services, particularly Nine Lessons & Carols – which was attended by **270** people (strangely exactly

the same as the year before! Were they exactly the same people!?). The Midnight Mass of Christmas, and Mass of Christmas morning were attended by **199** people (not a huge difference from the **202** who attended in 2024 and, by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **134** adults and children attending Christmas Services in 2024).

A greater number of our church family have been involved in leading various aspects of worship, reading the lessons, leading intercessions and serving at the altar. During 2025 new servers were identified, trained and are now deployed at the altar. In this latter respect, our thanks go to Canon Richard Harper SSC who has done sterling work training the serving team and generally improving the standard of our liturgy. We are also grateful for the dedication and hard work of our volunteer Sacristan, Bruno Da Silva and his mother Maria Pontes who faithfully launders and irons all of our small linens.

We have continued to try to improve the quality of our welcome to, and engagement with, visiting worshippers by deliberately deploying clergy at the back of church to engage with them and guide them towards refreshments and fellowship after the main Sunday Mass, which is much appreciated. This engagement also helps the clergy to be more aware of, and responsive to, the pastoral needs of our congregation and visitors.

At St. Saviour's we take seriously our duty to *"worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness"* (Psalm 96:9), and our programme of restoration and renewal in this respect continued throughout 2025. In February our ever-talented Paul Fella carried out remedial work to the Paschal candlestand to ensure it stood level and repaired a broken hand on the plaster statue of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. The Vicar sourced more appropriate stoppered glass bottles to act as reservation Holy Oil stocks which were suitably engraved by a local business in Grove Road; Paul Fella then made a bespoke wooden case for the bottles which certainly aided in their transporting to and from Chichester Cathedral to be filled at the Chrism Mass.

In March we were delighted to take delivery of a beautiful new reversible purple and green High Altar frontal which we had commissioned from Genevieve Gomi of Stella Maris Vestments. It is pleasing that the fabric used in these commissions, "Jay" by Comper, is a modern pressing of a fabric in which we have always had Victorian era vestments at St. Saviour's. The funding for the High Altar frontal again came from the generous legacy of the late Alan Langridge; we are confident that, as a faithful servant of the sanctuary, Alan would have approved of what we have commissioned, and we continue to pray that he may rest in peace.

Through Lent 2025 Paul Fella made a new wooden Calvary to be incorporated into the Easter Garden.

In March Paul fixed the Blessed Sacrament Chapel lectern so that it could stand without wobbling and without the aid of folded paper underneath it and also restored some superficial damage to the painting on the front of the nave altar.

In May the PCC commissioned extra sets of concelebration chasubles and a purple Comper Jay tabernacle veil for use in Advent and Lent from Stella Maris Vestments.

In July the Vicar acquired a French 19th Century Missal Stand/Tabor at auction which was subsequently sent to local firm Collier Webb for restoration. Upon its return it has been used each week for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and is a beautiful and fitting addition to our worship.

In August the PCC commissioned a rose Low Mass set from Stella Maris Vestments in memory of the late Carole Hamilton.

In September, Richard Crook and the PCC began to look at the possibility of introducing two cast iron Ebenezer Morris heritage lamp posts which Richard had acquired into the churchyard. These lamp posts were, for many years, a unique feature of the town.

In October, Paul Fella (in close consultation with the Vicar, Canon Richard Harper SSC and Richard Crook) began work on plans for a new reredos on the East wall of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in keeping with the reredos in the church.

In November, Tony Sharley returned a pair of large Pugin-style brass candlesticks which had been found under the stairs of the "choir gallery" in a dreadful (and completely oxidised) condition. He had spent 14 months' cleaning and restoring them and presented them in an "as new" condition. We were immensely grateful to him for his hard work and looked forward to their use (with new nylon candle stocks commissioned for them).

During most of November we honoured our war dead through our Festival of Remembrance which included again a large carpet of hundreds of hand-knitted poppies in the porch – our thanks to those who knitted the poppies. Paul Fella also designed and produced another visually effective display for the education of parishioners and visitors in the baptistery.

We were delighted to be joined by our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Revd. Dr. Martin Warner SSC, for our "Feast of Title" on Christ the King Sunday (23 November) when he formally blessed and dedicated the Blessed Sacrament Chapel glass screens, the new glass entrance doors and the lighting scheme.

During Advent we used the set of oil filled Advent candles, which had been donated by Fr Tom Mendel SSC, which were adapted by Paul Fella. In December the PCC also decided to move forward with a project proposed by Richard Crook to illuminate the spire of the church tower so it would act as a "beacon of hope" across Eastbourne, and we were delighted that it could be seen from afar.

Over the course of the year the beauty of the church is significantly enhanced by the wonderful flower arrangements put together by our dedicated team of arrangers. Our thanks to Judy Grundy, Krys Breeze, Pauline and Paul Fella and the rest of the team.

A significant amount of the work we have carried out to enhance both the use (both for worship and to be enjoyed by visitors) and the appearance of the church has been funded through using the generous legacies of those who worshipped here. As we honour their memory in this way, and express our immense gratitude for their generosity, we hope those who currently enjoy their legacy will consider perhaps following their example.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

"I've never experienced a church before with such an emphasis on teaching and learning as this..."

"Your sermons are often very direct and 'non-fluffy' with a strong, bold core that you explain very clearly..."

- two members of the congregation

Since becoming parish priest in 2018 Fr Mark has put a deliberate emphasis on teaching and catechesis, which is both noted and valued. A short teaching homily is preached at every daily Mass (sadly, an unusual practice these days in most churches), short explanations of the Sunday readings are provided in the Sunday service booklet, and daily teaching and devotional materials have been introduced for the use of the congregation in Advent and Lent.

In January and February, one of our associate clergy, Canon Tom Mendel SSC, presented two very well received teaching sessions on the significance of the Old Testament entitled *"The Old Testament – change or continuity?"*. On 22 March our Assistant Curate, Fr Richard Keeble SSC, led a day visit to Pusey House and Keble College, Oxford. Fr Richard also wrote and delivered a course on the Psalms and their relevance entitled *"Exploring the Psalms as the People of God"* which was attended by 25 people and delivered over two sessions in late May and early June. A further, very successful, two-session course on the theology of the Book of Revelation was written and delivered by Canon Mendel at the end of October and beginning of November.

Our attractive, and high quality, parish magazine ("Logos") also has regular teaching articles in it, including the Vicar's monthly theological reflection and a similar appropriately entitled article from our assistant curate, "The Curate's Egg". Throughout 2025 via the "Art of St. Saviour's" column readers have also been educated about the meaning behind the many Salviati mosaics in the church (particularly the Prodigal Son, Good Samaritan, the Master and Three Servants, the Pharisee and Tax Collector praying in the Synagogue, and the Flight Out of Egypt). We also learned about S. Michael the Archangel (depicted on the west wall in the baptistery), the coins of Caesar and the church at Berwick (S. Michael). There were also teaching articles on vessels and vestments and the Holy Oils, and we ran meditations on the Lord's Prayer which had been written by the Archbishop of York. These articles have been highly regarded and our sincere thanks to all our contributors and particularly to Paul Fella for his hard work in editing and producing such a high-quality magazine.

On Epiphany Sunday we were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Lewes, the Rt. Revd. Will Hazlewood SSC, to celebrate Mass and confirm three of our congregation (2 adults and a young person). We celebrated with them with drinks and cake in their honour after Mass.

During Lent there was a full programme of events, including weekly Stations of the Cross, a Lent Course, three charity Lent lunches (which raised £620 for the Beachy Head Chaplaincy and Family Support Work). The Lent

course, based on the Nicene Creed (in its 1700 anniversary year) was both well attended and incredibly well received. Those attending clearly deepened in their faith and in their sacramental lives.

Walk with Me Lent prayer booklets were made available, as was a pamphlet explaining the significance of Holy Week and the times of the services which was widely distributed.

"For the first time for a few years I came to every Holy Week service (nine in all!), and I found the whole journey exhilarating, sometimes emotional and harrowing, but making the celebrations of Easter Day very special…"
– a member of the congregation

During the year we were privileged to welcome guest preachers to St. Saviour's. These included: the Rt. Revd. Dr. Martin Warner SSC (Bishop of Chichester); the Rt. Revd. Will Hazlewood (Bishop of Lewes), and; (the now Fr) Ben Almond (at the time an ordinand at S. Stephen's House, Oxford).

On 16 June (the Feast of S. Richard of Chichester) the Vicar led a pilgrimage of 14 people to Chichester Cathedral where we were given a short tour by the Dean (and longstanding friend of S. Saviour's) the Very Revd. Dr. Edward Dowler. The very enjoyable day, which we hope to undertake again, finished with us attending Choral Evensong in the choir.

16 people went on pilgrimage, led by the Assistant Curate & Canon Richard Harper SSC to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham from 22-26 September. As well as an opportunity for prayer, quiet reflection and spiritual refreshment, there was an opportunity for fellowship with old friends from the Vicar's previous parish in North London.

"There was an overwhelming air of peace and serenity pervading all parts of the Shrine..."
– a first time pilgrim to Walsingham

The new lectionary came into general use on Advent Sunday 2024, and hardback Holy Week Passion Books were procured once published in 2025. We are grateful to those who supported this project and to Paul Fella for designing and producing bookplates for each of the three volumes. We are also grateful to the donor of two Daily Missals for use in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, and to the donors of the three "ring" Holy Oil stocks which are used on every third Sunday when the Ministry of Healing is offered at the Solemn Mass.

Throughout Advent, our Assistant Curate successfully delivered an Advent course he had adapted from the Diocesan Course – *Advent through Art: The Unfolding of Revelation* - which was well attended and well received. *Walk with Me* Advent prayer booklets were also made available.

Building up the Body of Christ together

"You and the associate clergy have created a wonderfully welcoming, accepting, joyful community full of inspiring and comforting worship. A place so many of us call "home"."
– a member of the congregation

As well as worshipping together, we continue to be deliberate in our attempts to build up relationships and social cohesion amongst our members, our visitors and all those who wish to join us. In addition to our weekly time of fellowship together after the Solemn Mass on Sunday (our thanks go to Alan Fairs, Noel Thompson and the rest of the team who provide us – and, more importantly, those visiting us - with that important ministry), we were pleased to offer an extensive programme of social activities (some of which are outlined later in this Report).

We also build relationships and cohesion as a church family by supporting each other in times of difficulty and in celebrating happy occasions together. We gave thanks at the altar for the lives of Robert Devey in March, Martin Tardif (greatly respected Churchwarden Emeritus of S. Saviour's) in April, Brian Knight and Trevor Moore in August, and the much-loved Canon Anthony Delves SSC in December. On 9 December the Vicar dedicated and blessed a new bench in the church garden in memory of the late Helen Burford. May they all rest in peace.

We continued our tradition of regularly celebrating the significant birthdays of our members with cake and wine after Mass on Sunday (including the 80th birthdays of Stephanie Bishop, David Horne, Keith Metcalfe, Noel Thompson and Jean Whale, the 85th birthdays of Tony Sharley and Martin Stone and the 98th birthday of Barbara Fisher OBE). In May we celebrated the 63rd Wedding Anniversary of Tricia and Chris Sneath in similar fashion.

On 9 August in celebration of his 80th year, David Horne and friends put on a very entertaining concert in church – *Life begins at 80!* - which was incredibly well-attended and raised £700 for our outreach activity *ChatStop*.

Evangelism and outreach

During 2025 we ran two primary outreach ministries: *ChatStop* (a monthly coffee morning for those who would benefit from companionship and conversation), and the *Wellbeing Café* (a weekly café for those with mental health challenges) – all of which are greatly valued by those who use them, and the local community.

ChatStop is an invitation to anybody and everybody to come along to the church hall every second Saturday of the month (10 a.m. to 12 noon) and enjoy a cup of tea, coffee or cold drink with a slice of cake and/or a biscuit while having a chat to friends and/or meeting new people in a safe and friendly atmosphere. *ChatStop* is not restricted to churchgoers and there are always volunteers handy to make an introduction or kick off a conversation. There is also a quiz every month called the Baffler to have a go at. We are delighted that *ChatStop,* under the leadership of Alan and Francesca Fairs, has gone from strength to strength in 2025. Those who attend (an average attendance of 19 people in 2025) value what is offered and we are finding that there is some overlap in guests attending who are regulars at our *Wellbeing Café.*

"I believe that it's a fabulous place for people to come to, whether they're lonely or they've got issues. I would say it's incredibly friendly and welcoming and is thriving."

"Jesus said in Matthew 25 "When I was poor and sick you visited me and that whatever you did for others you did for me". The Wellbeing Café shows love and friendship. There's a welcoming atmosphere and we're filled with the Holy Spirit. It's creating a community."

"I feel like everyone accepts one another. And the pancakes were nice!" (on Shrove Tuesday)

- from a February 2025 survey of Wellbeing Café guests

The weekly *Wellbeing Café* (the first of its kind in a church in Eastbourne) has also gone from strength to strength and now has between 30 and 45 guests every week (on average 35) plus 7-11 volunteers (including 3 clergy). It runs every Tuesday from 2pm-4pm throughout the year. People are often referred to it and we, in turn, can refer people on if necessary, by way of "signposting" other services. In this sense it functions very much as a hub in the centre of town. People can chat with people, including several priests, in confidence if they want to. They are also able play a wide variety of board games, eat cakes and enjoy plenty of tea and coffee. Those attending have varied needs and some want to talk about ongoing problems (e.g. health or housing issues) but the conversations vary from politics and current affairs to cooking, films and music, TV programmes, shopping and of course the weather!

A lot of the guests are single and lonely and just want the company of other people for a couple of hours. There are more men than women but no-one is violent or aggressive, so people do not feel threatened or uncomfortable; there is always a lot of laughter. There is a wide selection of food and games available, as well as jigsaws, magazines, colouring books, puzzles and other reading material. In 2025 one of our guests donated a Yamaha Clavinova - some guests enjoy playing it and others enjoy the live music – there is normally an hour of live music at the café each week from 2pm-3pm. Regular attendees greatly value what is on offer, and the conducive and safe environment in which this weekly support structure takes place. Over 2025 there has been a steadily building stream of people from the café to the church's services. This has also resulted in more people from the café community becoming involved in extra church events and outreach. This synergy is to be welcomed.

Our guests particularly enjoyed pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and our Christmas Party on 9 December when they were entertained by Marco the Magician. We are pleased to continue to be supported by a financial grant from East Sussex County Council for the café and we are grateful to Beverley Thorp, our Treasurer, for her work in continuing to secure this funding. We are also grateful to Tricia Sneath, Noel Thompson the many other volunteers for keeping this valuable weekly resource operating for the benefit of vulnerable members of the community. The café brings joy to a lot of people – including the volunteers – and we are delighted to see it flourish. We were delighted that café was the topic of an article in the May edition of the Diocesan magazine, *Faith in Sussex*, following a visit to the café from Molly Reuter (Diocesan Parish Advisor) at the end of February.

On our Feast of Title, the Solemnity of Christ the King (Sunday 23 November) we enjoyed an "in house" Patronal Festival "fizz and canapés" reception organised by our Events Group. This dynamic group comprises of enthusiastic volunteers led by Paul Fella. The group meets regularly to plan our social calendar and is responsible for the delivery of our programme of social events.

"We had a wonderful time at the Assumptiontide Garden Party yesterday. Over the years we have attended many similar events but never one that was so well planned, organised and executed as this one was… it was a total delight."

– a member of the congregation

There were also a number of other social events held throughout the year including a Burns Night Supper (which raised £780 towards on on-going refurbishment of the hall kitchen facilities), Shrove Tuesday pancakes, the Assumptiontide Vicarage Garden Party (with the very popular local Jazz band, and friends of St. Saviour's, *Con Brio* – attended by 85 people and raising £1,300), and a Harold Lloyd Silent Movie Night. Although a modest charge is made to attend most of these events to cover costs and to raise funds for the upkeep of the church, members of the congregation are encouraged to bring friends and family. They are fun events, open to members of the community and are a useful means of outreach, fellowship and networking for the people attending each event. Our thanks to Paul Fella and all the Events Group for their dynamism, enthusiasm and hard work.

Another dimension of our evangelism and outreach is via our "digital presence". We continue to improve our website which includes links to *The List* (list.co.uk - a national events listing site) *Visit Eastbourne*, *Trip Advisor* and *Google Business* to promote the church and the many events we hold. During 2025 there was a massive increase in traffic to our site (a total of over 59,000 visits, which represents an increase of over .7%). Most traffic was generated either directly although some came via search engines *Bing* or *Google.* A very large percentage of our site visitors were new and the average visitor stayed for more than five and a half minutes!

As already noted at the beginning of this Report, we also have a significant *Facebook* presence with some posts being viewed by over 1,200 people. We know, from comments received, that this has increased the number of visitors to the church many of whom join in our worship.

Contributing to, and joining in with, the life of the wider church and community

Throughout 2025 this church, and our clergy, continued to support the life and work of the wider church and community.

The Vicar continued to act as a training incumbent, and as Bishop's Surrogate for Common Licences. The Assistant Curate remained on the list as a Liturgical Chaplain to the Bishop of Chichester, which involves the planning and advance rehearsal of episcopal liturgies in the local parishes (such as Confirmation and Ordination).

At the beginning of the year our Assistant Curate was on placement with the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team.

Throughout 2025 he continued to deliver collective worship for the children at St. John's Primary School, Meads.

In February he helped deliver the Diocesan Pastoral Training Module for the laity.

On 3 February both of our Churchwardens attended the celebration of the 950th Anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Chichester at a service at St. John's, Meads.

To encourage vocations to the priesthood, and to encourage those already in formation, we again invited an ordinand from St. Stephen's House, Oxford, to preach at St. Saviour's at a Sunday Mass in March 2025. We are pleased to have developed a link with St. Stephen's House and hope that this link can be further strengthened in the future.

On 27 March our Assistant Curate delivered a Lent Quiet Day at S. Mary's, Buxted.

On 10 April the Vicar and Canon Richard Harper SSC attended Confession training and are now on the Diocesan list of public confessors (as is Canon Tom Mendel SSC).

On 1 June our Assistant Curate and members of the congregation led the Eastbourne DGH Hospital Service.

On 21 June the Vicar and Canon Tom Mendel SSC attended an event at Chichester Cathedral to welcome the Ecumenical Patriarch of the Orthodox Church.

We hosted the Chapter Mass for the brethren of the Society of the Holy Cross (SSC) – a fraternal society of priests with a common rule of life, of which the Vicar and all of our associate priests are brothers – in February and September.

The Vicar and Assistant Curate attended the residential Diocesan Clergy Conference held at the University of Kent at Canterbury from 22-26 September.

We hosted the Diocesan Walsingham Festival on 4 October which was attended by **112** people. Particular thanks are due to Canon Richard Harper SSC for his smooth and efficient organising of such a major event.

St. Saviour's clergy have continued to be deployed in helping other churches by taking services on an occasional basis, including St. John's, Crowborough, and our Assistant Curate preached at the patronal festival of All Saints', Sidley on 2 November. He also attended to represent St. Saviour's at the Licensing by the Bishop of Chichester of the new parish priest of St. John's Meads on 6 November.

On 11 November the Vicar officiated at the Sovereign Harbour Community Armistice Service.

Provision of the church building for people to enjoy

The fact that the church is open every day from 8.30am to 5pm to the public is much valued, and the church is visited extensively by people from all around the world, many who value the peacefulness and the opportunity to pray and light a candle. It is important to us that the church is available for private prayer not just to the church family but to the wider visiting community. We are very grateful to Tricia Sneath and our faithful "Open Church" volunteers who provide a valuable ministry of welcome to these many visitors on some weekdays to guide them around the church and answer any questions. This too is greatly appreciated by locals and visitors alike and the many comments we receive in person, entries in our Visitors' Book, and online reviews testify to this. Many remark not only how refreshing it is to find the church open but also the sense of peacefulness and spirituality the church pervades. Other remarks include the sense of history within, and comment on the appreciation of the architectural beauty of the building.

"My visit allowed me to find some internal peace and calmness at a very low point..."
– a 'Google' reviewer

The building is large and has a very lively (and natural) acoustic which means that it is very popular as a concert venue for local choirs, choral societies and orchestras, many of which raise funds for local charities. During 2025 we put on our usual series of free lunchtime recitals each of which attracted up to 50 visitors. Both the church and the local community should be grateful to Paul Collins, our Director of Music, for continuing to put together this popular concert series, and to the church volunteers who kindly steward and provide refreshments.

We were pleased to welcome the *Renaissance Singers* again for their Epiphany Meditation Concert in January, Lent Meditation in March, and Advent Meditation in November – these significantly high-quality choral concerts are well-supported, and we very much value the link between the church and the *Renaissance Singers.*

During the year we hosted the Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra's three annual concerts. The relationship between St. Saviour's and the ESO goes back many years and we also very much value this.

Throughout 2025 we continued to support the charitable work of *Concentus* (one of Eastbourne's largest amateur choirs) primarily by providing rehearsal time in both the church and the church hall, on-going annual storage for their staging, and in hosting their two major concerts during the Summer and at Christmas ("*Concentus sings*..").

In April we hosted the Bohemian Symphony Orchestra Prague who presented *Hollywood in Eastbourne*, "a night of world movie melodies".

In November we hosted the Hailsham Choral Society for Mozart's *Solemn Vespers* and Haydn's *Little Organ Mass.*

We are pleased that our partnership with Lumos Live has continued through 2025 with them using us regularly as a venue for their atmospheric candle-lit concerts of popular music played by string quartet.

The church has always been popular as a venue with local schools (particularly Eastbourne College and Bede's) and we hosted the Bede's School Christmas Carol Concerts on 9 and 12 December.

The church hall is very popular with local organisations, charity and community groups and individuals and is fully accessible. As already noted, it is used extensively for activities which benefit the community which included, in 2025, Eastbourne Foodbank (every Friday), the Say Aphasia Charity, as a venue for a local councillor's surgery, and acting as the venue for the AGMs of many local blocks of flats and for the AGM of the Ramblers' Society. The church hall is managed on an entirely voluntary basis by one of our Churchwardens, Pauline Fella, who is extremely busy and works hard enough as Churchwarden without this added responsibility – our immense thanks continue to go to Pauline for her "above and beyond" work both for the church but also on behalf of the many groups who use the hall. Whilst she is assisted by Noel

Thompson (to whom we are also grateful), we continue to hope that in 2026 Pauline can be relieved of this burden.

Maintenance of the church building, grounds and future projects

St. Saviour's church is a significant Grade II* listed building which requires a huge amount of ongoing daily maintenance. It is officially designated as a Church of England "Major Parish Church" (Major Parish Churches represent some of the most special, significant and well-loved places of worship in England, and are designated as such for a number of reasons including having *"a role or roles beyond those of a typical parish church, and make a considerable civic, cultural and economic contribution to their communities"*).

Our church is kept clean and tidy by a dedicated team of volunteers who spend a significant amount of time each week caring for the interior of the building. Ross Piper, our volunteer verger, spends a lot of time cleaning the building and we are very grateful to him for his dedication and hard work. Ross and the team are complemented by a small but highly dedicated team who work outside in the gardens and car park. We are most grateful to all those who give up their time to keep St Saviour's inside and out in such good condition. The cleanliness and good order of the church and the tidiness and beauty of the garden are often remarked upon by our visitors.

"Stunning, highly-decorated Victorian church, conserved and in excellent condition..."
- a 'Google' reviewer

"Red brick, blue skies, and 176 feet of pure history – St. Saviour's spire looked absolutely iconic against Eastbourne clouds… G.E. Street really knew how to build a masterpiece!"
- a 'Facebook' reviewer

On Palm Sunday we made a presentation to Peter Pritchett, our architect, on the occasion of his retirement and on 4 December appointed his successor, Jonathan Cerowski.

As well continuing this ever-ongoing general maintenance, and cleaning, of the church, hall and the gardening of the grounds – the following specific items were carried out:

15 January inner glass doors signed off

15 January CCTV annual service

17 January new PIR lights fitted outside hall door fire escape (into front Vicarage garden)

27 January new microwave/air fryer for hall kitchen, also teapots, jugs and cutting boards. Glass items removed in order to comply with Food Safety Regulations

1 February 8 volunteers receive Level 2 Food Safety Hygiene training

12 February ProPress purchased to keep vestments etc. clean and in good order

10 March WiFi routers changed in hall and church

31 March Flower Room tidied out and cleaned

29 April (and 27 May) full asbestos survey carried out

May lock fitted to Flower Room

10 June new electricity meter fitted in the hall

21 July fire & safety risk assessment carried out

August – we began to explore AV offering in the hall

11 August portable appliances tested

18 August lightning conductor inspected

10 September boilers serviced

20 October fire extinguishers serviced

November extra Gopak folding tables purchased for hall use and two trolleys

Throughout 2025 we also have continued to review the recommendations of the Quinquennial Survey of the fabric, and have carried out such works as have been possible, and planned how the other works may be viable. A lot of maintenance is carried out "in house" by volunteers and we immensely grateful to them for this.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

Members of the congregation, and indeed anybody seeking help, are regularly supported by the clergy and many of our lay people. This help can be simply a listening ear, or by praying, or of a more practical nature such as buying shopping, collecting prescriptions, or offering a lift in a car. A lot of the clergy support given is often on an individual and long-term, on-going basis and by its confidential nature it obviously "goes unseen" but is, nevertheless, both

important and valued by those supported. This support is also given to members of the public who may not be members of the congregation as such; the important factor for us is trying to respond to need when it is encountered.

During 2025 some members of the congregation have particularly valued the end-of-life care offered to their relatives by clergy at St. Saviour's. The Vicar also supports various callers, some of whom are regulars, who knock at the door of the Vicarage. During 2025, hospital visits and home communions were undertaken by the Vicar, the Assistant Curate and some of the associate clergy.

"The pastoral care I have received has been so understanding, following the death of my husband, and many other parishioners have mentioned the help they have received from the clergy during difficult times in their own lives..."

"Thank you so much for your visits during my post-operation times, giving me Communion and anointing me with Holy Oil. Thank you for your many conversations, which helped me forget my pain and count my blessings…"

– two members of the congregation

Pastoral support is also given by the clergy through funeral and bereavement ministry. The clergy officiated at a number of funerals both at St Saviour's and elsewhere, whilst also providing follow-up bereavement ministry. Both funeral services and Requiem Masses were offered over the year for members of the congregation and for those living in or near the parish. On 16 November Tory Mendel and our Assistant Curate led a half day bereavement workshop called *"Good Grief"* which those attending found positive and valuable. This will be followed up in 2026.

We are grateful for the ministry of our loyal associate clergy who support our incumbent in delivering pastoral and sacramental ministry at St. Saviour's.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

"The church feeds a lot of homeless people in its church hall next door, which is admirable."
- a 'Tripadvisor' reviewer

We continue to have a formal partnership with the Eastbourne Foodbank, meaning that as well as being a collection point for donations (which is well supported by members of the congregation and others), we host the Foodbank every Friday in the hall (free of charge). The Eastbourne Foodbank is one of the busiest Foodbanks in the UK, and our satellite of it (being in the centre of town) is in a key location and extensively used by a large number of the local community. We also offer support to the Sussex Family Support Work charity throughout the year both through the collection of Christmas toys and presents and Easter eggs for families in need, but also through providing a venue for FSW committee meetings free of charge in our Hall. At Harvest our members donated over 30 bags of non-perishable food, toiletries and other essential items to the Matthew 25 Homeless Mission, together with £250 raised from an auction of the perishable harvest gifts.

Other charitable giving and support

Three Lent lunches were held and the money raised (£720) went to the Beachy Head Chaplaincy and Family Support Work; our thanks to Paul Fella and members of the Events Group for organising them.

Over 2025 the church family has also supported The Children's Society, The Additional Curates Society, the Mission for Seafarers and Let the Children Live.

On 13 September Canon Richard Harper SSC participated in the Ride & Stride event, a sponsored walk, visiting churches in the Eastbourne area, with £711 raised going to The Sussex Historic Churches Trust.

Towards the end of the year, Andrew Geoghan (a member of the congregation) raised over £500 in sponsorship for a swimming marathon from the congregation to support the Wounded Veterans charity.

On 1 December we hosted the Eastbourne Masonic Charity Carol Service.

2025 Financial Review - forming the annual report of the Finance Committee.

It gives me great pleasure to present the financial review of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025. The accounts were reported to the PCC following examination by John Caladine FCCA, Chartered Certified Accountant.

In the report it was highlighted that the accounts for 2024 were prepared on an accruals basis. The comparative figures for 2024 have been restated to a cash receipts and payments basis and the funds brought forward represent cash funds rather than net assets.

The total cash funds as of 31/12/2024 was £504,901 and at the end of 2025 the amount was £546,495 an increase of £41,594.

At the start of 2025 cash funds in the Unrestricted Funds (general funds used by the PCC for ordinary purposes) was £37,343 and at the close the year £36,629 a deficit of £714.00.

At the start of 2025 cash funds in the Restricted Funds (income from trusts, endowments, bequests or legacies received which can only be expended on a specific object) was £467,558 and at the close of the year £509,866 of an increase of £42,308.

Income

Total income for the year ended 31st December 2025 amounted to £201,151 this includes £78,548 due to donations and grants e.g. £10,587 VAT reclaim and legacies of £51,000. We also received £5,742 in recoverable income tax.

Attendance at Sunday Mass continued to increase in 2025, with Giving/Cash amounting to £8,986 and £8,208 from the yellow Gift Aid envelopes and £31,632 from the Parish Giving Scheme. Events and fundraising raised £15,204 and Sumup (card payments) £6,872.

Hire of the Church Hall increased, and rental income raised was £20,491 we also raised £19,698 from the car parking fees and £3,365 from baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2025 amounted to £159,557 of which £113,523 was from unrestricted funds and £46,034 from restricted funds.

The Parish Ministry Costs (PMC) increased to £66,000 compared to £64,633 in 2024. Clergy costs totalled £7,951 compared with £6,175 the previous year, of which we paid £5,882 in council tax.

Church running expenses totalled £49,532 compared with £30,973 in 2024 this increase was due to a number of factors. Utilities for the church, church hall and vicarage; Gas £6,667, Electricity £4,615 and Water £1,136. Payment to Ecclesiastical for our insurance increased to £11,320 compared with £9,973 in 2024 and cost of service £5,969 compared with £4,848 in 2024. Church hall running costs decreased to £5,194 compared with £7,075 in 2024 and we paid £1,014 for our music and streaming licence. Church maintenance we paid £2,569 to Walco Electric for new spotlights, alteration to the power circuit and improvements to external lighting and £790 to Robert Firth ASS Ltd who carried out an asbestos survey.

From the restricted funds £19,848 was paid to J H Payne & Sons the final bill for the works carried out in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and for the new lighting which was money from the Jane Pinching and Barbara Drew legacies. A sum of £3,210 was also paid to Maria Stella Vestments for the “Comper Jay” purple altar frontal which is used for Lent and Advent, and which matches the ivory one we already use.

Thank You

On behalf of the PCC, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued generous donations throughout the year. We are indebted to all those who give to the Church and we do not underestimate the difference your donations make to St Saviour’s, and we are honoured that you bless us with your continued generosity and support.

Mrs Beverley Thorp
Treasurer

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll, so that they can vote for candidates for the PCC and the Deanery Synod, at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Communicant members who are 16 or over, and whose names are on the Roll, are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. This PCC does not have any sub-committees, but it does have a standing committee of four members: the Vicar, the two Churchwardens and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Throughout 2025 the PCC has complied with its duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2017, in relation to having due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding arrangements are clearly stated on the front page of the parish website: www.stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk. The Parish was last fully audited for safeguarding ("SQP") by the Diocese on 16th October 2019 and was found to be "fully compliant". St Saviour's has signed up to the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard scheme and is working towards completing Level 2.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay	*Chairman*
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pauline Fella	*Vice Chairman*
	Mr Noel Thompson	
Assistant Curate:	The Revd Fr Richard Keeble	

Elected Members

Elected Members	
Dr Simon Thorp	*PCC Secretary*
Mrs Judy Grundy	(to 9th July 2025
Mr Richard Crook	
Mrs Gill Goff	(to 25 Feb 2026)
Mrs Krystyne Breeze	
Mrs Beverley Thorp	*Hon. Treasurer*
Mrs Ruth Figgest	
Mr Alan Fairs	
Mr Keith Metcalfe	(to 25th Feb 2026)
Mr Paul Fella	
Mrs Marilyn Benzing	
Deanery Synod	
Mr Tony Sharley	

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC and
signed on their behalf by The Revd Fr Mark McAulay, PCC Chairman

M. J. S. McAULAY Date: 29 April 2026

Annual Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Saviour and St Peter, Eastbourne

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, BN21 4UT

Registered Charity no. 1131420

For the year ended 31st December 2025

CONTENTS

Page	
14	Statement of receipts and payments
15	Statement of assets and liabilities
16	Notes to the financial statements
17	Report of the independent examiner

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Statement of Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations and grants	65,404	13,144	78,548	94,111
Income tax recoverable	5,742	-	5,742	6,455
Legacies	-	51,000	51,000	115,050
Car parking fees	19,698	-	19,698	19,118
Church hall lettings etc	20,491	-	20,491	19,919
Church outings	983	5,629	6,612	6,744
Sales and events	-	15,204	15,204	-
Fees from weddings/funerals etc	-	3,365	3,365	2,281
Other income	-	-	-	642
Interest	491	-	491	925
Total receipts	112,809	88,342	201,151	265,245
Payments				
Diocesan parish contribution	66,000	-	66,000	64,633
Other clergy costs	1,541	-	1,541	6,176
Church running expenses	38,143	11,389	49,532	40,191
Church maintenance	4,605	23,046	27,651	9,967
VAT reclaim	(10,587)	-	(10,587)	-
Upkeep of services	6,235	5,570	11,805	12,863
Upkeep of churchyard	1,982	-	1,982	2,473
Church hall running costs	5,194	-	5,194	8,789
Legacy Fund Payments	-	-	-	21,897
Outings & events	-	6,029	6,029	11,601
Missionary and charitable giving	110	-	110	315
Independent examination	300	-	300	300
Total payments	113,523	46,034	159,557	179,205
Net movement in cash funds	(714)	42,308	41,594	86,040
Cash funds at 1 January 2025	37,343	467,558	504,901	418,861
Cash funds at 31 December 2025	36,629	509,866	546,495	504,901

The previous years accounts were prepared on an accruals basis. The comparative figures for 2024 have been restated to a cash receipts and payments basis. The funds brought forward and carried forward now represent cash funds rather than net assets.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
ASSETS				
Cash funds				
PCC current and savings account	18,215		17,359	
Finance committee account	522,516		481,778	
Church of England Deposit Fund	5,764		5,764	
		546,495		504,901
Other monetary assets				
Income tax recoverable		13,200		5,609
LIABILITIES				
Creditors and accruals		1,920		5,112

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 29 April 2026
and signed on their behalf by

M. J. S. McAULAY

Fr Mark McAulay (Chairman)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared as a Receipts and Payments account in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

The previous years accounts were prepared on an accruals basis. The comparative figures for 2024 have been restated to a cash receipts and payments basis and the funds brought forward represent cash funds rather than net assets.

2. Funds

Unrestricted funds represent monies received that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for applications on the general purposes of the church. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the church are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

The cash funds of the charity comprising the following funds:

		Movements in funds			
	Balance at 1 Jan 2025 £	**Cash receipts £**	**Cash payments £**	**Transfers £**	**Balance at 31 Dec 2025 £**
Unrestricted Funds					-
General fund	34,343	112,809	(113,523)	-	33,629
Contingency fund	3,000	-	-	-	3,000
	37,343	112,809	(113,523)	-	36,629
Restricted Funds				-	-
Finance Committee	467,558	88,342	(46,034)	-	509,866
	467,558	88,342	(46,034)	-	509,866
	504,901	201,151	(159,557)	-	546,495

Finance Committee Fund

The money held in the Finance Committee Account is restricted to a number of specific activities, for example, funding for the Well Being Cafe. The fund includes money which has been left to St Saviour and St Peter's Church either as a legacy, bequest or a donation - these funds are restricted and are not to be used to pay for the day-to-day running of the Church.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

I report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) on my examination of the accounts of St Saviour & St Peter, Eastbourne ("the church") for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on the foregoing pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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.

John Caladine FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Date: 14 April 2026

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER,

England & Wales - Charity number 1131420

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Saviour and St Peter, Eastbourne

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4UT

Registered Charity no. 1131420

For the year ended 31st December 2024

CONTENTS

Page	
1	Trustees annual report
12	Financial review
19	Statement of financial receipts and payments
20	Notes to the accounts
26	Report of the independent examiner

Website:	stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk
Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC The Vicarage, Spencer Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4PA
Independent examiner:	Mr B R Etheridge FCA 3 Mountney Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1RJ
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc 63 Terminus Road, Eastbourne BN21 4TD

St Saviour's Eastbourne
Trustees Annual Report for 2024

"Stunning, highly-decorated Victorian church, conserved and in excellent condition."
– a 'Google' reviewer

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC, in:

- The promotion of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical
- To know Jesus better and make Him better known
- Being more open, converted, generous and engaged as a church (Diocesan Vision for Growth 2020-2025)
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need, or ability to pay
- Providing practical support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. Our Mission Action Plan is regularly reviewed, and we also regularly ensure our activities are in sympathy with the Diocesan Vision for Growth 2020-2025.

For 2024 we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering a daily Mass (and other opportunities) of worship, teaching and prayer
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Aiding the poor and needy of the parish, and beyond, through donations of food, non-perishable goods and money to the Matthew 25 Mission, Family Support Work and Eastbourne Foodbank
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as an historic and significant venue in the centre of the town which is also used extensively as a venue for instrumental and choral recitals
- Maintaining the church hall as a venue for parish events and for use by local groups and charities (often without charge)

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Worship

We are pleased to welcome visitors from outside as well as inside the parish boundary. Mass is offered daily on every day of the year, including Bank Holidays, and the Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer are also celebrated on behalf of the entire parish. As Eastbourne is a popular holiday destination some visitors seek out St Saviour's for its traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, many of whom return to us year after year. Visitors attend by personal choice, and it is our great pleasure to welcome anyone from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that being open to all people, and voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

"The church is beautiful. But for me what draws me back is well planned liturgy and a welcoming congregation."
– a 'Tripadvisor' reviewer

Our average regular weekly attendance, counted during October 2024, was **205** adults and children (**187** in 2023 and by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **49** adults and children attending each week in 2023).

It has also been a great encouragement to welcome many new worshippers to St. Saviour's. At the time of writing this Report (March 2025), average attendance at the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am is **124** (which is an increase on the previous year and, by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total Sunday average attendance of 39 adults and children in 2023 (see p.10 at https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2024-12/statisticsformission2023.pdf). At the time of writing average attendance at the earlier said Sunday Mass at 9am is **15**.

Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and guided prayer before the noon Mass on Tuesdays continued throughout 2024 and continues to be much appreciated. The healing ministries of laying on of hands and anointing at the Mass on every 3rd Sunday continued and are well valued and used by the congregation, and those visiting for Mass. In January 2024 we introduced the recitation of the Holy Rosary after the 10.30am Mass on Wednesdays, which has been much appreciated by those who attend (this also livestreamed for those unable to attend, and for those who like to "catch up" at another time at their convenience).

The daily Mass and the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am also continued to be live streamed for the benefit of those who were housebound and/or ill, together with many people across the UK (and, indeed, beyond). We take this "online" ministry seriously and know that it is much valued and appreciated by those who engage with it. In 2024, our online 'reach' on Facebook increased almost 80% to over 21,000 people. The total number of Facebook visits (i.e., where people have deliberately sought us) was over 12,000, which was slightly down from last year but we now have a group of 1,100 dedicated followers (up 80%). The audience for our posts and videos includes people from as far afield as the US & Canada, Australia and Europe – as well as other parts of the UK besides Eastbourne. Our daily Masses were always watched live by at least some people, whilst Mass on Sundays usually had a live audience in double figures. These services also enjoyed – and continue to enjoy – substantial engagement after their broadcast and are available online to watch at a later date as well both on Facebook and YouTube.

During 2024 we continued to celebrate midweek sung Masses for Solemnities and Major Feasts. The decision to celebrate these during the day rather than in the evening continued to be popular as they were well attended with an average of **47** communicants (up on the previous year, and to put this into perspective, an "average" Church of England parish church in 2023 had a total average of **39** adults and children attending every ***Sunday***). For example, the sung Mass on All Saints' Day was attended by **55** people. This welcome trend has continued up until the time of writing this report.

Numbers attending on Ash Wednesday were slightly down on the previous year with **80** attending, although it was pleasing to see an increase in the average weekly attendance at **17** for Stations of the Cross throughout Lent. Attendances throughout Holy Week were again very encouraging (from Palm Sunday to Easter Day no less than **618** people attended our services (609 in 2023)).

"This is just a note to thank you for your leadership of the Holy Week and Easter services. It has been quite a journey, but well worth the effort and I appreciate the effort that you personally put in. In particular I found your sermons on Saturday evening and this morning especially passionate and inspiring…"

– a member of the congregation

The Easter Vigil and Easter Day Masses were attended by **278** people (**266** in 2023, and by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **67** adults and children attending Easter Services in 2023).

Christmas is obviously a very special time of celebration where many sections of the community come together to join in our services, particularly Nine Lessons & Carols – which was attended by **270** people (a significant increase on the **225** the year before). Our immensely popular Christmas Gala with local choirs, soloists and the Lewes, Glynde and Beddingham brass band was enjoyed by over **200** people on 17th December. Our immense thanks to our Director of Music, Paul Collins, for making this possible. The Midnight Mass of Christmas, and Mass of Christmas morning were attended by **202** people (a slight increase on the previous year and, by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **143** adults and children attending Christmas Services in 2023).

A greater number of our church family have been involved in leading various aspects of worship, reading the lessons, leading intercessions and serving at the altar. During 2024 three new servers were identified, trained and are now deployed at the altar. In this latter respect, our thanks go to Canon Richard Harper SSC who has done sterling work training the serving team and generally improving the standard of our liturgy. We are also grateful for the dedication and hard work of our volunteer Sacristan, Bruno Da Silva and his mother Maria Pontes who faithfully launders and irons all of our small linens.

We have continued to try to improve the quality of our welcome to, and engagement with, visiting worshippers by deliberately deploying clergy at the back of church to engage with them and guide them towards refreshments and fellowship after the main Sunday Mass, which is much appreciated. This engagement also helps the clergy to be more aware of, and responsive to, the pastoral needs of our congregation and visitors.

At St. Saviour's we take seriously our duty to *"worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness"* (Psalm 96:9), and our programme of restoration and renewal in this respect continued throughout 2024. In January the wooden Louis Grossé statue of Our Lady was removed to be sensitively cleaned and restored by professional restorers from the South East Conservation Centre in St. Leonards-on-Sea; our thanks to the generous anonymous donor who made this possible. It was good to see her back looking so splendid when she returned.

In February Genevieve Gomi of Stella Maris Vestments returned our "St. Peter's" red cope, which she had beautifully (and very reasonably) restored. She also provided two newly commissioned large, embroidered corporals for use on special occasions (such as confirmations, ordinations, and the Chrism Mass when we asked to host it). In March the PCC decided to commission matching dalmatics (other than green as we already had it) for diaconal use as it was realised that these had been overlooked in the vestments we had previously commissioned. We were delighted in this to be supported by way of a grant from the Spencer Wills trust which covers the entire cost of the commission. We were also delighted to take delivery – just in time for Christmas – of a beautiful new reversible white and red High Altar frontal which we had commissioned from Stella Maris. It is pleasing that the fabric used in these commissions, "Jay" by Comper, is a modern pressing of a fabric in which we have always had Victorian era vestments at St. Saviour's. The funding for the High Altar frontal came from the generous legacy of the late Alan Langridge; we are confident that, as a faithful servant of the sanctuary, Alan would have approved of what we have commissioned, and we continue to pray that he may rest in peace.

In preparation for Passiontide, Krys Breeze made an entire set of new veils as the old set were looking tired and needed replacement. This was no mean feat and, when asked, Krys revealed that she had spent an average of two hours' per day working on them from January – March. We are immensely grateful for this kindness and act of devotion which has made a real impact. Later in the year Krys also made a new inner tabernacle veil for us, and a new veil for the large ciborium.

Through Lent 2024 Paul Fella designed and made a splendid new processional cross which was blessed on Holy Saturday and first used at the Easter Vigil. A fascinating article as to how Paul went about this project appeared in the April edition of our parish magazine, "Logos".

In March the Vicar donated a French 19th century library table for use in the church library, which is a significant improvement on its predecessor.

At the end of April Paul Fella retouched the marble and undertook some minor restoration to the mosaic of St. Martha outside the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

On Trinity Sunday we first used a new set of Italian altar bells which had been donated to St. Saviour's through the St. Saviour's Servers' Fund – these bells are the same as those used in the Shrine Church at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Krys Breeze kindly made a new cushion for them to rest on in a deep red William Morris fabric. Our thanks to the servers and Krys for these enhancements to our worship.

In July Tony Sharley kindly cleaned and restored a brass altar crucifix which had been found abandoned in a cupboard, but which now sits in pride of place on the vestment presses in the sacristy.

During most of November we honoured our war dead through our Festival of Remembrance which included again a large carpet of hundreds of hand-knitted poppies in the porch – our thanks to those who knitted the poppies. Paul Fella also designed and produced a special, and visually effective, display for the education of parishioners and visitors on the 80th anniversary of D-Day (6th June 1944).

In December, Fr Tom Mendel SSC donated a set of oil filled Advent candles, which will be used in Advent 2025 and the Vicar donated two gothic Marian chasubles which are already in use.

Over the course of the year the beauty of the church is significantly enhanced by the wonderful flower arrangements put together by our dedicated team of arrangers. Our thanks to Judy Grundy, Krys Breeze, Pauline and Paul Fella and the rest of the team.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

"I am loving St Saviour's as I learn something every time I'm there… and I don't know if it's trying, learning and listening to things for the first time or just that my ears have been opened and I am actually hearing and/ or my heart has been opened to receive Christ or even both. But I am happy, welcomed, part of the community and enjoying it so much that I am thankful."

– a newer member of the congregation

Since becoming parish priest in 2018 Fr Mark has put a deliberate emphasis on teaching and catechesis, which is both noted and appreciated. A short teaching homily is preached at every daily Mass (sadly, an unusual practice these days in most churches), short explanations of the Sunday readings are provided in the Sunday service booklet, and daily teaching and devotional materials have been introduced for the use of the congregation in Advent and Lent.

In March the Vicar and assistant curate delivered bereavement training at a teaching lunch ("Finding Hope in Grief") at which 20 people attended. In June, one of our associate clergy, Fr Tom Mendel SSC, presented a teaching session on church history and ecclesiology to a similar number of people entitled, *"St. Saviour's – How did we get here?"*, which was followed up with a question-and-answer session on the same themes in August. In September, Brian Adams gave a very interesting illustrated lecture on the genesis and history of St. Saviour's which was followed by a short "show and tell" tour of the church. This was followed the next day by a Sunday teaching lunch presented by Fr Richard Keeble on "why we worship the way we do" which was also very well received and led in November to 25 people joining the Vicar, the Assistant Curate and Fr Richard Harper SSC for a "Sacred Show and Tell" guided tour of the church including, amongst other things, sacred vestments and the altar and its significance.

Our attractive, and high quality, parish magazine ("Logos") also has regular teaching articles in it, including the Vicar's monthly theological reflection and a similar appropriately entitled article from our assistant curate, "The Curate's Egg". Throughout 2024 via the "Art of St. Saviour's" column readers have also been educated about the meaning behind the many mosaics in the church (particularly the stained glass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, including St. Wilfrid, St. Hilda, St. Oswald, St. Colomba, St. Alban, St. Perpetua, St. Cecilia, St. Martin and St. George). From the April edition we were delighted to re-run a wonderful series on the history of St. Saviour's musical tradition by the late David Thorpe. We were also treated to an article by Paul Fella detailing how he created a new processional cross from scratch during Lent, an interesting piece on *"Pets as Therapy"* and a *"Summertime Spiritual"* (usefully signposting online spiritual resources). These articles have been highly regarded and our sincere thanks to all our contributors and particularly to Paul Fella for his hard work in editing and producing such a high-quality magazine.

During Lent there was a full programme of events, including weekly Stations of the Cross, a Lent Course, three charity Lent lunches (which raised £420 for the Beachy Head Chaplaincy, the Matthew 25 Mission and St. Wilfrid's Hospice). The *Jesus the Lord* Lent course was both well attended and incredibly well received. Those attending clearly deepened in their faith and in their sacramental lives.

> *"Thank you for an unforgettable Holy Week"*
>
> *– a member of the congregation*

Walk with Me Lent prayer booklets were made available, as was a pamphlet explaining the significance of Holy Week and the times of the services which was widely distributed.

In July we bought a tablet (together with the Universalis Daily Prayer App) for use by those who join the clergy for Morning & Evening Prayer, which has been welcomed by those who regularly use it.

During the year we were privileged to welcome guest preachers to St. Saviour's. These included: the Rt. Revd. Peter Wheatley (former Bishop of Edmonton); the Rt. Revd. John Ford (former Bishop of Plymouth); the Revd. Dr. George Westhaver (Principal of Pusey House, Oxford), and; Fr Roger Turner SSC.

23 people went on pilgrimage, led by the Vicar, the Assistant Curate & Canon Richard Harper SSC to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham from 30th September – 4th October. As well as an opportunity for prayer, quiet reflection and spiritual refreshment, there was an opportunity for fellowship with old friends from the Vicar's previous parish in North London.

> *"I feel most strongly that my faith has been strengthened by my visit..."*
>
> *– a first time pilgrim to Walsingham*

The new lectionary came into general use on Advent Sunday 2024, and the people were prepared for its use both through an informative article in *Logos* (our parish magazine) and through a scheme for them to obtain their own Sunday missals at a favourable price. In the event 55 missals were ordered. The lectern and altar versions, and a new Gospel Book, were also obtained and the (not insignificant) cost of these was met by the collection taken in memory of the late Peter Benzing. We are grateful to Marilyn Benzing for her support of this project and to Paul Fella for designing and producing "in memoriam" bookplates for each of the volumes.

Throughout Advent, our Assistant Curate successfully delivered an Advent course he had adapted from the Sycamore Course - *God in our Lives* - which was well attended and well received. *Walk with Me* Advent prayer booklets were also made available.

Building up the Body of Christ together

> *"You and the associate clergy have created a wonderfully welcoming, accepting, joyful community full of inspiring and comforting worship. A place so many of us call "home"."*
>
> *– a member of the congregation*

As well as worshipping together, we continue to be deliberate in our attempts to build up relationships and social cohesion amongst our members, our visitors and all those who wish to join us. In addition to our weekly time of fellowship together after Mass (our thanks go to Alan Fairs, Noel Thompson and the rest of the team who provide us – and, more importantly, those visiting us - with that important ministry), we were pleased to offer an extensive programme of social activities (some of which are outlined later in this Report).

We also build relationships and cohesion as a church family by supporting each other in times of difficulty and in celebrating happy occasions together. We gave thanks at the altar for the lives of Liz Tardif in January, Tom Bedding in February, Mary Delves in July, and David McLean in November. We also held a Memorial Service for Robert Milnes on 16th February. May they all rest in peace.

In May our Assistant Curate Fr Richard Keeble officiated at his first baptisms – of Lily Rose and Zoe.

We also offered a celebratory Mass for the 25th Wedding Anniversary of Professor and Mrs. Michael Davies in January, and the Vicar was delighted to officiate at the wedding of Robert Aldington-Smith and Ashley Ablitt in May. He was

also delighted to bless the civil marriage of Tory Macdonald and Fr Tom Mendel SSC (one of our associate clergy) and we were all pleased to share with them a glass of fizz to celebrate after Mass on 23rd June.

We continued our tradition of regularly celebrating the significant birthdays of our members with cake and wine after Mass on Sunday (including Steve Gilbert's 50th birthday, and the 80th birthday of Ken Mayhew).

On Pentecost Sunday (19th May) we celebrated Mary Delves' 90 years attending St. Saviour's which was a very joyous occasion marked by the choir (of which she had been a loyal member for many years) singing a specially composed "psalm" in her honour, and a cake made by Paul Collins our Director of Music. Sadly, Mary died not long later on 1st June. The PCC commissioned a bespoke Service Register in her memory, which was delivered in December 2024 and will be used when the current Register is complete.

One of the highlights of 2024 for our community was the first Mass of Fr Richard Keeble on 12th June, a Votive Mass of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest. It was wonderful to witness a new priest celebrate Mass surrounded by those who had nurtured and supported him through his journey to priesthood, and we were pleased to welcome members of Fr Richard's family and his friends. The Events Group did us proud with a wonderful reception after the Mass and our thanks go to all who made it such a special evening.

Evangelism and outreach

During 2024 we ran three primary outreach ministries: *ChatStop* (a monthly breakfast club/coffee morning for those who would benefit from companionship and conversation), *Lunch for One* (a monthly lunch club primarily for those who live alone but open to all) and the *Wellbeing Café* (a weekly café for those with mental health challenges) – all of which are greatly valued by those who use them, and the local community.

ChatStop was originally run on the model of being a "coffee morning" but developed into additionally offering breakfast, brunch, soup and mini lunches. The average number of guests served was 36. Any leftover food was offered to those who had limited cooking facilities, the homeless and those with other social needs.

Lunch for One ran between 12noon and 2pm every third Saturday of the month and the average number of guests attending was 54. A two-course lunch with a choice of meat or vegetarian food was served together with a pudding, cup of tea and a slice of cake or biscuits. Leftover food was offered to those who have limited cooking facilities, the homeless and those with other social needs.

These were significant areas of outreach and service which were much valued by those who used them in the local community. Our thanks to Yvonne & Bill Dyer and all the other volunteers and supporters who made them possible. The Dyers retired and moved on in early May 2024, and consequently for practical reasons the PCC decided to suspend *Lunch for One* and relaunch *ChatStop* in the Autumn. *ChatStop* was successfully relaunched on 12 October 2024 under the leadership of Alan and Francesca Fairs and has reverted to its previous incarnation as more of a "coffee morning". Those who attend (at the time of writing, an average attendance of 20 people) value what is offered and we are finding that there is some overlap in guests attending who are regulars at our *Wellbeing Café.*

"I believe that it's a fabulous place for people to come to, whether they're lonely or they've got issues. I would say it's incredibly friendly and welcoming and is thriving."

"Jesus said in Matthew 25 "When I was poor and sick you visited me and that whatever you did for others you did for me". The Wellbeing Café shows love and friendship. There's a welcoming atmosphere and we're filled with the Holy Spirit. It's creating a community."

"I feel like everyone accepts one another. And the pancakes were nice!" (on Shrove Tuesday)

- from a February 2025 survey of Wellbeing Café guests

The weekly *Wellbeing Café* (the first of its kind in a church in Eastbourne) has gone from strength to strength and now has between 30 and 45 guests every week plus 7-11 volunteers (including 4 clergy). It runs every Tuesday from 2pm-4pm throughout the year. People are often referred to it and we, in turn, can refer people on if necessary by way of "signposting" other services. In this sense it functions very much as a hub in the centre of town. People can chat with people, including several priests, in confidence if they want to. They are also able play a wide variety of board games, eat cakes and enjoy plenty of tea and coffee. Those attending have varied needs and some want to talk about ongoing problems (e.g. health or housing issues) but the conversations vary from politics and current affairs to cooking, films and music, TV programmes, shopping and of course the weather!

A lot of the guests are single and lonely and just want the company of other people for a couple of hours. There are more men than women but no-one is violent or aggressive, so people do not feel threatened or uncomfortable; there is always a lot of laughter. There is a wide selection of food and games available, as well as jigsaws, magazines, colouring books, puzzles and other reading material. Since the PCC bought the Yamaha Clavinova in 2023 thanks to the generosity of a private donor, some guests enjoy playing it and others enjoy the live music – there is normally an hour of live music at the café each week from 2pm-3pm. Regular attendees greatly value what is on offer, and the conducive and safe environment in which this weekly support structure takes place. Over 2024 there has been a steadily building stream of people from the café to the church's services. This has also resulted in more people from the café community becoming involved in extra church events and outreach. This synergy is to be welcomed.

Our guests particularly enjoyed the party we held on 9th January, and pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. We are pleased to continue to be supported by a financial grant from East Sussex County Council for the café and we are grateful to Beverley Thorp, our Treasurer, for her work in continuing to secure this funding. We are also grateful to Jane Ferguson (who resigned in December 2024) and the many other volunteers for keeping this valuable weekly resource operating for the benefit of vulnerable members of the community. The café brings joy to a lot of people – including the volunteers – and we are delighted to see it flourish.

On our Feast of Title, the Solemnity of Christ the King (Sunday 24th November) we enjoyed an "in house" Patronal Festival "fizz and canapés" reception organised by our Events Group. This dynamic group comprises of 12 enthusiastic volunteers led by Paul Fella. The group meets regularly to plan our social calendar and is responsible for the delivery of our programme of social events.

> *"We had a wonderful time at the Assumptiontide Garden Party yesterday. Over the years we have attended many similar events but never one that was so well planned, organised and executed as this one was… it was a total delight."*
>
> *– a member of the congregation*

There were also a number of other social events held throughout the year including a Burns Night Supper (which raised £680 towards the upgrading of the hall kitchen), Shrove Tuesday pancakes, a Gourmet Dinner, a Tea Time Quiz, an Anzac Day "Smoko", and the Assumptiontide Vicarage Garden Party (with the very popular local Jazz band, and friends of St. Saviour's, *Con Brio* – attended by over 100 people and raising £1650). Although a modest charge is made to attend most of these events to cover costs and to raise funds for the upkeep of the church, members of the congregation are encouraged to bring friends and family. They are fun events, open to members of the community and are a useful means of outreach, fellowship and networking for the people attending each event. Our thanks to Paul Fella and all the Events Group for their dynamism, enthusiasm and hard work.

We were delighted to continue our parish days out: in 2024, to Ashburnham and lunch at the King's Head, and Teapot Island. Our thanks go to Sue & Keith Metcalfe for organising these pleasurable activities which are also an opportunity for people to get to know each other better.

Post-COVID, an increasingly important means of evangelism and outreach is via our "digital presence". We continue to improve our website which includes links to *The List* (list.co.uk - a national events listing site) *Visit Eastbourne*, *Trip Advisor* and *Google Business* to promote the church and the many events we hold. During 2024 we continued to see good use made of online presence. Most traffic was generated either directly although some came via search engines *Bing* or *Google.* We continue to get new visitors, with an average visit lasting for more than five and a half minutes!

As already noted at the beginning of this Report, we also have a significant *Facebook* presence with some posts being viewed by over 1,000 people. We know, from comments received, that this has increased the number of visitors to the church many of whom join in our worship.

Contributing to, and joining in with, the life of the wider church and community

Throughout 2024 this church, and our clergy, continued to support the life and work of the wider church and community.

The Vicar continued to act as a training incumbent, as Bishop's Surrogate for Common Licences and remained on the list as a Liturgical Chaplain to the Bishop of Chichester, which involves the planning and advance rehearsal of episcopal liturgies in the local parishes (such as Confirmation and Ordination).

On 18th January we hosted the Eastbourne Deanery Clergy Chapter Meeting.

On 7th April our Assistant Curate and members of the congregation led the Eastbourne DGH Hospital Service.

We hosted the Chapter Mass for the brethren of the Society of the Holy Cross (SSC) – a fraternal society of priests with a common rule of life, of which the Vicar and most of our associate priests are brothers – in February, September and November.

On 9th June we were delighted to host the ordinations to the priesthood of our Assistant Curate and two others by the Bishop of Lewes.

We hosted the Eastbourne Deanery Synod on 19th June.

St. Saviour's clergy have continued to be deployed in helping other churches by taking services on an occasional basis, particularly at St. Mary's, Old Town, until the appointment of their new parish priest. Pauline Fella (Churchwarden) and the Vicar attended to represent St. Saviour's at the Licensing by the Bishop of Chichester of the Revd. Arwen Folkes on 29th July.

In early August the Assistant Curate assisted the DGH Chaplaincy by acting as an on-call Chaplain.

Fr. Richard Keeble assisted the Chichester Diocesan contingent at the Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage from 5th-9th August.

To encourage vocations to the priesthood, and to encourage those already in formation, we invited an ordinand from St. Stephen's House, Oxford, to preach at St. Saviour's at a Sunday Mass in September 2024. We are pleased to have developed a link with St. Stephen's House and hope that this link can be further strengthened in the future.

During December our Assistant Curate was on placement with the Beachy Head Chaplaincy team.

On 5th December we hosted the Funeral Service of the late G. Forbes Wastie, who was a well-loved and respected one time Deputy Headmaster of Eastbourne College. His service was taken by the Conduct (Chaplain) of Eton College and was attended by 250 people, including many associated with the College.

On 6th December we were delighted to open the church and offer mince pies and hot drinks to visitors to the "Little Chelsea Little Christmas" event. 72 people visited, including children, and were made most welcome (including one little boy having a play on the organ!).

On 14th December the Vicar was the guest speaker at the local Christian Men's Breakfast (which is attended by over 50 lay men and church leaders from numerous Eastbourne churches), giving a talk on the spirituality, theology and poetry of the Spanish mystic, St. John of the Cross.

Provision of the church building for people to enjoy

The fact that the church is open every day from 8.30am to 5pm to the public is much valued, and the church is visited extensively by people from all around the world, many who value the peacefulness and the opportunity to pray and light a candle. It is important to us that the church is available for private prayer not just to the church family but to the wider visiting community. We are very grateful to Tricia Sneath and our faithful "Open Church" volunteers who provide a valuable ministry of welcome to these many visitors on some weekdays to guide them around the church and answer any questions. This too is greatly appreciated by locals and visitors alike and the many comments we receive in person, entries in our Visitors' Book, and online reviews testify to this. Many remark not only how refreshing it is to find the church open but also the sense of peacefulness and spirituality the church pervades. Other remarks include the sense of history within, and comment on the appreciation of the architectural beauty of the building.

"Stunning and peaceful."
– a 'Google' reviewer

The building is large and has a very lively (and natural) acoustic which means that it is very popular as a concert venue for local choirs, choral societies and orchestras, many of which raise funds for local charities. During 2024 we put on our usual series of free lunchtime recitals each of which attracted 50 or more visitors. Both the church and the local community should be grateful to Paul Collins, our Director of Music, for continuing to put together this popular concert series, and to the church volunteers who kindly steward and provide refreshments.

The Sunday *Chamber Concerts* series (which we were able to 'rehome' and support from 2018 after the sudden closure of the Underground Theatre) continued throughout 2024, some of which attracted an audience of up to 70 or 80 people, some of whom have become regular visitors to church services.

We were pleased to welcome the *Renaissance Singers* again for their Epiphany Meditation Concert in January, Lent Meditation in March, and Advent Meditation in December – these significantly high-quality choral concerts are well-supported, and we very much value the link between the church and the *Renaissance Singers.*

During the year we hosted the Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra's two annual concerts. The relationship between St. Saviour's and the ESO goes back many years and we also very much value this.

Throughout 2024 we continued to support the charitable work of *Concentus* (one of Eastbourne's largest amateur choirs) primarily by providing rehearsal time in both the church and the church hall, on-going annual storage for their staging, and in hosting their two major concerts during the Summer and at Christmas ("*Concentus sings*..").

In February we hosted the Lewes Singers directed by Nick Houghton, who is no stranger to St. Saviour's and often deputises on the organ for our own Director of Music.

In May we hosted the Hailsham Choral Society together with the ESO for Verdi's *Requiem*.

In November we also welcomed New Sussex Opera for a performance of the little known (and indeed little performed) choral drama adapted from the Coventry mystery play, *Bethlehem*.

We are pleased that our partnership with "Lumos Live" has continued through 2024 with them using us regularly as a venue for their atmospheric candle-lit concerts of popular music played by a string quartet.

The church has always been popular as a venue with local schools (particularly Eastbourne College and Bede's) and we hosted the Bede's School Christmas Carol Concerts on 10th and 13th December.

The church hall is very popular with local organisations, charity and community groups and individuals and is fully accessible. As already noted, it is used extensively for activities which benefit the community which included, in 2024, Eastbourne Foodbank, the Say Aphasia Charity, the Company Youth Group, acting as a polling station and as a venue for a local councillor's surgery, and acting as the venue for the AGMs of many local blocks of flats and for the AGM of the local RSPCA branch. Other regular users include the Townies WI, Society of Eastbourne Artists, Line Dancers, Scottish dancers and Tango dancers. The church hall is managed on an entirely voluntary basis by one of our Churchwardens, Pauline Fella, who is extremely busy and works hard enough as Churchwarden without this added responsibility – our immense thanks continue to go to Pauline for her "above and beyond" work both for the church but also on behalf of the many groups who use the hall. Whilst she is assisted by Noel Thompson (to whom we are also grateful), we continue to hope that in 2025 Pauline can be relieved of this burden.

Maintenance of the church building, grounds and future projects

St. Saviour's church is a significant Grade II* listed building which requires a huge amount of ongoing daily maintenance. It is officially designated as a Church of England "Major Parish Church" (Major Parish Churches represent some of the most special, significant and well-loved places of worship in England, and are designated as such for a number of reasons including having *"a role or roles beyond those of a typical parish church, and make a considerable civic, cultural and economic contribution to their communities"*).

Our church is kept clean and tidy by a dedicated team of volunteers who spend a significant amount of time each week caring for the interior of the building. They are complemented by a small but highly dedicated team who work outside in the gardens and car park. We are most grateful to all those who give up their time to keep St Saviour's inside and out in such good condition. The cleanliness and good order of the church and the tidiness and beauty of the garden are often remarked upon by our visitors.

"Absolutely beautiful! A very sacred space."

- a 'Google' reviewer

Just in time for our Patronal Celebration (The Solemnity of Christ the King), new "draught proof" glass inner entrance doors were installed which are in keeping with the glass used in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Our thanks are due to Peter Pritchett, our architect, to Ion Glass and Messrs. Paynes (Builders) who successfully completed the project, to Richard Crook and Paul Fella for the design of the manifestation on the glass, and the late Alan Langridge whose generous bequest to St. Saviour's made the project possible.

As well continuing this ever-ongoing general maintenance, and cleaning, of the church, hall and the gardening of the grounds – the following specific items were carried out:

4th January - four extra CCTV cameras were installed to cover the chapel, the hallway outside the kitchen and the car parks

5th January - new hot water boiler fitted in Hall kitchen

In January the piston on the inner entrance door failed; the PCC began to look at replacement doors similar to Blessed Sacrament chapel. After architect's involvement, application for Faculty 1 May – interim Faculty granted 9 May (confirmatory 9 June). Manifestation designed by RC and PF

12th Jan – Clarke Roofing and Galenite repaired vandalised war memorial following the theft of lead 26-27 Nov 2024

29th Feb – the electrical ring main in office was replaced

13th March – the new nave lights were signed off

29th March – the hall roof was cleared of debris

16th – 17th April -a new power supply was installed in hall kitchen in readiness for two new single cookers and a new dishwasher to be installed

Throughout May – clearance of choir vestry by volunteers

June- July – Big Clear out in the hall vestibule

Mid-July – Paul Fella constructs new wooden cupboards in linkway between church and hall

3rd & 19th August - church and hall Portable Appliance Testing is carried out

19th August – Lightning Conductor serviced

11th September – church boilers serviced

25th September - new locks installed on the hall doors and in the church

21st October - fire extinguishers are checked

22nd November – new glass entrance doors fitted in time for Christ the King (as noted above).

19th December – one of the church boilers repaired following a breakdown

23th December –a Christmas working party of 22 volunteers to clean, prepare and decorate the church for Christmas – with homemade soup

During 2024 the Vicar, Churchwardens and PCC continued to consider the pressing pastoral issue of our closed Memorial Garden and what future provision we might make for the burial of ashes of departed members of the congregation and those living within the parish boundaries. We are confident that we will be able to make some practical progress on this matter in 2025.

Throughout 2024 we also have continued to review the recommendations of the Quinquennial Survey of the fabric, and have carried out such works as have been possible, and planned how the other works may be viable. A lot of maintenance is carried out "in house" by volunteers and we immensely grateful to them for this.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

Members of the congregation, and indeed anybody seeking help, are regularly supported by the clergy and many of our lay people. This help can be simply a listening ear, or by praying, or of a more practical nature such as buying shopping, collecting prescriptions, or offering a lift in a car. A lot of the clergy support given is often on an individual and long-term, on-going basis and by its confidential nature it obviously "goes unseen" but is, nevertheless, both important and valued by those supported. This support is also given to members of the public who may not be members of the congregation as such; the important factor for us is trying to respond to need when it is encountered.

"I would offer a big thank you to kind gentleman who invited me in to the church… as I was in some emotional distress at the time. My visit allowed me to find some internal peace and calmness at a very low point."

- a 'Google' review by a member of the public

During 2024 some members of the congregation have particularly valued the end-of-life care offered to their relatives by clergy at St. Saviour's. The Vicar also supports various callers, some of whom are regulars, who knock at the door of the Vicarage. During 2024, hospital visits and home communions were undertaken by the Vicar, the Assistant Curate and some of the associate clergy.

"Thank you for all your prayers and pastoral care before, during and after (my husband's) illness and death."

– a member of the congregation

Pastoral support is also given by the clergy through funeral and bereavement ministry. The clergy officiated at a number of funerals both at St Saviour's and elsewhere, whilst also providing follow-up bereavement ministry. Both funeral services and Requiem Masses were offered over the year for members of the congregation and for those living in or near the parish. Following the bereavement training the Vicar and Assistant Curate received towards the end of 2023, we delivered similar training for the laity at a bereavement teaching lunch at St. Saviour's in March 2024.

We are grateful for the ministry of our loyal associate clergy who support our incumbent in delivering pastoral and sacramental ministry at St. Saviour's.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

"The church feeds a lot of homeless people in its church hall next door, which is admirable."
- a 'Tripadvisor' reviewer

We continue to have a formal partnership with the Eastbourne Foodbank, meaning that as well as being a collection point for donations (which is well supported by members of the congregation and others), we host the Foodbank every Friday in the hall (free of charge). The Eastbourne Foodbank is currently the busiest Foodbank in the UK, and our satellite of it (being in the centre of town) is in a key location and extensively used by a large number of the local community. We also offer support to the Sussex Family Support Work charity throughout the year both through the collection of Christmas toys and presents and Easter eggs for families in need, but also through providing a venue for FSW committee meetings free of charge in our Hall. At Harvest our members donated over 20 bags of non-perishable food, toiletries and other essential items to the Matthew 25 Homeless Mission, together with £150 raised from an auction of the perishable harvest gifts.

Other charitable giving and support

Three Lent lunches were held and the money raised (£420) went to the Beachy Head Chaplaincy, the Matthew 25 Mission and St. Wilfrid's hospice; our thanks to Paul Fella and the Events Group for organising them.

Over 2024 the church family has also supported The Children's Society, The Additional Curates Society, the Mission for Seafarers and Let the Children Live.

On 28th April, an ANZAC day "smoko" raised £105 for the Fields of Remembrance Trust.

On 14th September Krystyne Breeze, Pauline Fella, Fr Richard Harper and Robert Ascott participated in the Ride & Stride event, a sponsored walk, visiting churches in the Eastbourne area, with £565 raised shared with The Sussex Historic Churches Trust.

On 2nd December we hosted the Eastbourne Masonic Charity Carol Service.

Financial Review - forming the annual report of the Finance Committee.

It gives me great pleasure to present the financial review of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 which has had a number of challenges along the way.

We started 2024 with Unrestricted Funds (general funds used by the PCC for ordinary purposes) of £402,699 and closed the year with Unrestricted Funds of £483,398 an increase of £80,699. This increase was due to a number of donations we received in 2024.

We started 2024 with Restricted Funds (income from trusts, endowments, bequests or legacies received which can only be expended on a specific object) of £15,571 and closed the year with Restricted Funds of £20,912 an increase of £5,431. During 2024 we received £33,904 in donations and our expenditure was £28,563 of which:
£7,649.06 from the Jane Pinching legacy for the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
£8,901.60 from the Barbra Drew legacy for lighting and new nave light fittings.
£4,615 commission and restoration of vestments.
£1,317.37 Lectionary book of Gospels for 2025

Income

Total income for the year ended 31st December 2024 amounted to £265,245 this includes legacies of £103,454 and £10,000 the £3,600 from the Spencer Wells Trust.

Attendance at Sunday mass continues to increase which is in no doubt due to the wonderful and uplifting services of the clergy, servers and choir which is reflected in an increase in collections and regular giving. The Parish Giving Scheme amounted to £30,864, Donations and Appeals £15,073, Giving/Cash £10,800, and Events and fundraising £8,667.

Hire of the Church Hall increased, and rental income raised was £19,370 we also raised £19,118 from the car parking fees and £4,413 from baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2024 amounted to £133,596 of which £105,033 was from unrestricted funds and £28,563 from restricted funds.

The Parish Ministry Costs (PMC) increased to £64,633 compared to £54,156 in 2023. At the start of the financial year our PMC contribution was £4,280 per month but this did not cover the full cost of a full time priest. The PCC agreed that we should pay the full costs for a full time priest and therefore from July our monthly payments increased to £6,688 of which £10,072 goes towards next generation curates.

Clergy costs totalled £6,175 compared with £6,843 the previous year, of which we paid £5,407 in council tax.

Church running expenses totalled £30,973 compared with £25,962 in 2023 this increase was due to a number of factors. Utilities for the church, church hall and vicarage; Gas £9,753, Electricity £5,009 and Water £1,274. Payment to Ecclesiastical our insurance £9,973 and cost of service £4,848 plus £540 for candles. Church hall running costs increased to £7,075 but this was due to £1,920 to JED Plumbing to remove and replace the hot water heater, £1,613 for 2 new cookers and £1,271 for a new dishwasher. Church maintenance £750 to Red Clover Roofing clearing gullies and £233 to Armoury Security to repair CCTV monitor.

Trading costs where £250 as Open Church is open.

Stewardship

Stewardship is important for the on-going life of our Church and to enable us to resource are ministry and mission. It is not simply the cost of the clergy or the day to day running costs, but the expenditure needed for us to impact on the lives of our parishioners and welcome newcomers into God's kingdom.

Stewardship is also about using the resources God has given to us, including our wealth, time and talents in order for us to sustain St Saviour's and grow our ministry. I have listed a few things you may want to consider sponsoring and if you have any other thoughts or ideas, please let me know.

1. The Sunday order of service
2. Candles for the high altar
3. Votive candles
4. Incense and charcoal
5. Altar wine
6. Communion wafers
7. Flowers
8. The monthly magazine

Thank You
On behalf of the PCC, I want to express our profound gratitude for your continued generous donations throughout the year. As a parish we are indebted to all those who give to the Church and we do not underestimate the difference your donations make to St Saviour's, and we are honoured that you bless us with your continued generosity and support.

Mrs Beverley Thorp
Treasurer

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll, so that they can vote for candidates for the PCC and the Deanery Synod, at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Communicant members who are 16 or over, and whose names are on the Roll, are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. This PCC does not have any sub-committees, but it does have a standing committee of four members: the Vicar, the two Churchwardens and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Throughout 2024 the PCC has complied with its duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2017, in relation to having due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding arrangements are clearly stated on the front page of the parish website: www.stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk. The Parish was last fully audited for safeguarding ("SQP") by the Diocese on 16th October 2019 and was found to be "fully compliant".

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay	*Chairman*
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pauline Fella	*Vice Chairman*
	Mr Noel Thompson	

Elected Members

Elected Members	
Dr Simon Thorp	*PCC Secretary*
Mrs Judy Grundy	
Mr Richard Crook	
Mrs Krystyne Breeze	
Mrs Beverley Thorp	*Hon. Treasurer*
Mr Paul Fella	
Mrs Gill Goff	
Mrs Ruth Figgist	
Mr Keith Metcalfe	
Marilyn Benzing	
Deanery Synod	
Mr Anthony Sharley	

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC and
signed on their behalf by The Revd Fr Mark McAulay, PCC Chairman

…… Date……

Annual Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Saviour and St Peter, Eastbourne

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, BN21 4UT

Registered Charity no. 1131420

For the year ended 31st December 2024

CONTENTS

Page	
18	Statement of financial activities
19	Statement of assets and liabilities
20	Notes to the accounts
26	Report of the independent examiner

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
Incoming resources						
Voluntary income	2a	189,544	27,160	0	**216,704**	418,339
Activities for generating funds	2b	19,118		0	**19,118**	19,220
Income from investments	2c	925		0	**925**	778
Church activities	2d	22,712	6,744	0	**29,456**	28,802
Other incoming resources	2e	130		0	**130**	0
Total incoming resources		232,429	33,904	0	**266,333**	467,139
Resources expended						
Costs of generating voluntary income	3a	0		0	**0**	72
Fund-raising trading costs	3b	0		0	**0**	250
Church activities	3c	150,342	28,563	0	**178,905**	237,350
Governance Costs	3d	300		0	**300**	300
Total resources expended		150,642	28,563	0	**179,205**	237,972
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		81,787	5,341	0	**87,128**	229,167
Gross transfers between funds	5	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before		81,787	5,341	0	**87,128**	229,167
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	6a	0	0	0	**0**	0
Gains/(losses) on disposal investment assets	6b	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net movement in funds		81,787	5,341	0	**87,128**	229,167
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2024		402,699	15,571	0	**418,270**	189,103
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2024		484,486	20,912	0	**505,398**	418,270

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes		2024		2023
			£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	6a		0		
Investments	6b		0		
Total fixed assets			0		
Current assets					
Debtors	8	5,609			4,521
Short term deposits		5,764			5,764
Cash at bank and in hand		499,137			413,097
		510,510			423,382
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	5,112			5,112
Net current assets			505,398		
Total assets less current liabilities			505,398		
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	9		0		
NET ASSETS			505,398		
Funds	7				
Endowment funds	10		0		
Restricted funds	10		20,912		
Unrestricted funds	10		484,486		
			505,398		

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 30th April 2025 and signed on its behalf

Chairman Fr. Mark McAulay

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and under current Church Accounting Regulations in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102), as amended in 2016.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:
Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaing unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Voluntary Income
Collections are recognised when received.
Planned giving receivable is recognised only when received.
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.
Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from investments
Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income
All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments
Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold
Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Incoming resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
a *Voluntary income*					
Planned giving	36,065			**36,065**	37,063
Collections at all services	8,349	315		**8,664**	7,596
Gift days	2,453			**2,453**	2,012
Sundry donations and appeals	20,084	26,845		**46,929**	37,115
Income tax recoverable	7,543			**7,543**	4,553
Legacies	115,050	0		**115,050**	330,000
	189,544	27,160		**216,704**	418,339
b *Activities for generating funds*					
Fetes, bazaars and other fund-raising events					
Car Parking Fees	19,118			**19,118**	19,220
	19,118	0		**19,118**	19,220
c *Investment income*					
Dividends and interest	925			**925**	778
	925	0		**925**	778
d *Income from Church Activities*					
Church hall lettings etc	19,919			**19,919**	18,758
Church Outings etc	0	6,744		**6,744**	7,714
Fees from weddings etc	2,281			**2,281**	1,774
Parish magazine	512			**512**	556
	22,712	6,744		**29,456**	28,802
e *Other other incoming resources*					
Insurance claims	130			**130**	0
	130			**130**	0
Total incoming resources	**232,429**	**33,904**	**0**	**266,333**	467,139

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

	Resources expended	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	**TOTAL FUNDS 2024**	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
3		£	£	£	**£**	£
	Costs of generating voluntary income					
a	Special appeal costs	0	0		**0**	0
	Stewardship costs	0	0		**0**	72
		0	0		**0**	72
	Fund-raising trading costs					
b	Trading costs	0	0		**0**	250
	Hire costs	0			**0**	0
		0	0		**0**	250
	Church Activities					
c	Missionary and charitable giving:					
	Direct as a tithe	0			**0**	0
	Collections and other giving	0	315		**315**	1,021
		0	315		**315**	1,021
	Outings & Events		11,601		**11,601**	8,995
	Ministry costs:					
	diocesan parish contribution paid	64,633			**64,633**	54,156
	other clergy costs	6,176			**6,176**	6,843
	Church running expenses	37,249	2,942		**40,191**	31,813
	Church maintenance	4,311	5,656		**9,967**	15,692
	Upkeep of services	4,814	8,049		**12,863**	9,798
	Upkeep of churchyard	2,473			**2,473**	2,416
	Parish magazine	0			**0**	0
	Church hall running costs	8,789	0		**8,789**	11,340
	Prior year diocesan fees	0			**0**	0
	Vicarage dilapidations		0		**0**	0
	Legacy Fund Payments	21,897	0		**21,897**	95,276
		150,342	28,563		**178,905**	237,350
	Governance costs					
d	Independent examination fee	300			**300**	300
	Cost of annual accounts					
		300	0		**300**	300
	Total resources expended					
		150,642	**28,563**	**0**	**179,205**	237,972

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4 Staff costs

		2024	2023
		£	£
a	*Wages and salaries*	**5,053**	4,485

During the year the PCC employed an organist, but no payment was large enough to attract social security costs.

b *Payments to PCC members*

There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected to them, nor other related parties.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total 2024 £**
Vicarage Dilapidations	0	0	0

6 Fixed Assets
a Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Church equipment	**TOTAL**
Cost or valuation	£	£	£
At 1 January 2024	0	7,224	**7,224**
Additions	0	0	**0**
Disposals	0	0	**0**
Revaluation	0	0	**0**
At 31 December 2024	0	7,224	**7,224**
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024		7,224	**7,224**
Provided in the year		0	**0**
Disposals		0	**0**
At 31 December 2024	0	7,224	**7,224**
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2024	**0**	**0**	**0**
At 31 December 2023	0	0	0

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7 Analysis of Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Fixed assets for church use	0			**0**
Current assets	489,598	20,912		**510,510**
Current liabilities	(5,112)			**(5,112)**
	484,486	20,912	0	**505,398**

8 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Income tax recoverable	**5,609**	4,521
Prepayments and accrued income	**-**	-
Other debtors	**-**	-
	5,609	4,521

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	**5,112**	5,112
Archdeacon's Loan	**-**	0
	5,112	5,112

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	**Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2024**
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Fund					
General fund	399,699	232,429	(150,642)		**481,486**
Designated repair fund	0		0		**0**
Contingency fund	3,000				**3,000**
	402,699	232,429	(150,642)	0	**484,486**
Restricted Fund					
Finance Committee	15,571	33,904	(28,563)		**20,912**
	15,571	33,904	(28,563)	0	**20,912**
Total funds	418,270	266,333	(179,205)	0	**505,398**

Independent examiner's report
To the PCC of St Saviour & St Peter Eastbourne

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on the foregoing pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section 144 of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has 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 act; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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..... Brian E Etheridge .....

Date: 22 May 2025

Brian R Etheridge
Retired Chartered Accountant
3 Mountney Road
Eastbourne
BN21 1RJ

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER,

England & Wales - Charity number 1131420

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Saviour and St Peter, Eastbourne

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4UT

Registered Charity no. 1131420

For the year ended 31st December 2023

CONTENTS

Page	
1	Trustees annual report
12	Financial review
16	Statement of financial receipts and payments
18	Notes to the accounts
24	Report of the independent examiner

Website:	stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk
Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC The Vicarage, Spencer Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4PA
Independent examiner:	Mr B R Etheridge FCA 3 Mountney Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1RJ
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc 63 Terminus Road, Eastbourne BN21 4TD

St Saviour's Eastbourne
Trustees Annual Report for 2023

"This church is an architectural gem, typical of the Victorian Gothic revival. Although not his design, it has echoes of Pugin. We also met the clergy and some of the members of the church, who gave us a really warm welcome. Located close to the town centre, a visit is highly recommended."

– a 'Tripadvisor' reviewer

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC, in:

- The promotion of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical
- To know Jesus better and make Him better known
- Being more open, converted, generous and engaged as a church (Diocesan Vision for Growth 2020-2025)
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need, or ability to pay
- Providing practical support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. We were also encouraged to specifically revisit our 2019 Mission Action Plan by the Diocese of Chichester as the Diocese prepared Deanery Mission Plans. Our Mission Action Plan is regularly reviewed, and we also regularly ensure our activities are in sympathy with the Diocesan Vision for Growth 2020-2025.

For 2023 we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering a daily Mass (and other opportunities) of worship, teaching and prayer
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish through donations of food, non-perishable goods and money to the Matthew 25 Mission, Family Support Work and Eastbourne Foodbank
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as an historic and significant venue in the centre of the town which is also used extensively as a venue for instrumental and choral recitals
- Maintaining the church hall as a venue for parish events and for use by local groups and charities (often without charge)

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Worship

We are pleased to welcome visitors from outside as well as inside the parish boundary. Mass is offered daily on every day of the year, including Bank Holidays, and the Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer are also celebrated on behalf of the entire parish. As Eastbourne is a popular holiday destination some visitors seek out St Saviour's for its traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, many of whom return to us year after year. Visitors attend by personal choice, and it is our great pleasure to welcome anyone from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that being open to all people, and voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

"The church is beautiful. But for me what draws me back is well planned liturgy and a welcoming congregation."
– a 'Tripadvisor' reviewer

Our average regular weekly attendance, counted during October 2023, was **187** adults and children (by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **44** adults and children attending each week in 2022).

It has also been a great encouragement to welcome new worshippers to St. Saviour's. At the time of writing this Report (April 2024), average attendance at the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am is **117** (which is an increase on the previous year and, by way of context, the figure in the previous paragraph reveals that an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of 38 adults and children attending each week – **including Sundays** - in 2022. See p.10 at statisticsformission2022.pdf (churchofengland.org)).

Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and guided prayer before the noon Mass on Tuesdays continued throughout 2023 and continues to be much appreciated. The healing ministries of laying on of hands and anointing at the Mass on every 3rd Sunday continued and are well valued and used by the congregation, and those visiting for Mass.

The daily Mass and the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am also continued to be live streamed for the benefit of those who were housebound and/or ill, together with many people across the UK (and, indeed, beyond). We take this "online" ministry seriously and know that it is much valued and appreciated by those who engage with it. In 2023, our online 'reach' on Facebook increased almost 89% to over 34,000 people. The total number of Facebook visits (i.e., where people have deliberately sought us) was 14,700, which is an increase of some 48% from the previous year and we now have a group of 229 dedicated followers (up 35%). The audience for our posts and videos includes people from as far afield as the US & Canada, Australia and Europe – as well as other parts of the UK besides Eastbourne. Our daily Masses were always watched live by at least some people, whilst Mass on Sundays usually had a live audience in double figures. These services also enjoyed – and continue to enjoy – substantial engagement after their broadcast and are available online to watch at a later date as well both on Facebook and YouTube.

During 2023 we continued to celebrate midweek sung Masses for Solemnities and Major Feasts. The decision to celebrated these during the day rather than in the evening continued to be popular as they were well attended with an average of **41** communicants (to put this into perspective, an "average" Church of England parish church in 2022 had a total average of **38** adults and children attending every ***Sunday***). For example, the sung Mass on Ascension Day was attended by **47** people. This welcome trend has continued up until the time of writing this report.

Numbers attending on Ash Wednesday were significantly up on the previous year by 80%, although it was rather disappointing to see an average weekly attendance of only 11 for Stations of the Cross. However, as against that attendances throughout Holy Week were very encouraging (from Palm Sunday to Easter Day no less than **609** people attended our services).

The Easter Vigil and Easter Day Masses were attended by **266** people (**188** in 2022, and by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **58** adults and children attending Easter Services in 2022).

Christmas is obviously a very special time of celebration where many sections of the community come together to join in our services, particularly Nine Lessons & Carols – which was attended by **225** people (**135** the year before). Our immensely popular Christmas Gala with local choirs, soloists and the Lewes, Glynde and Beddingham brass band was enjoyed by over 200 people on 19th December. Our immense thanks to our

Director of Music, Paul Collins, for making this possible. The Midnight Mass of Christmas, and Mass of Christmas morning were attended by **193** people (by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **109** adults and children attending Christmas Services in 2022).

On the joyful occasion of the Coronation of HM The King on 6th May, a Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated by the Vicar. The occasion was also marked by a full peal of our bells (using the Cambridge Surprise Royal method, comprising no less than 5,040 changes and taking 3½ hours!) and, in the evening, a fundraising Gourmet Dinner.

"A 'thank you' email for the work you have done on our behalf this year, especially so with Sunday's celebratory eucharist which for me was a profound spiritual experience of the living Christ…"
– a member of the congregation commenting on our celebration of the Solemnity of Christ the King 2023

A greater number of our church family have been involved in leading various aspects of worship, reading the lessons, leading intercessions and serving at the altar. In this latter respect, our thanks go to Canon Richard Harper SSC who has done sterling work training the serving team and generally improving the standard of our liturgy. We are also grateful for the dedication and hard work of our volunteer Sacristan, Bruno Da Silva.

We have continued to try to improve the quality of our welcome to, and engagement with, visiting worshippers by deliberately deploying clergy at the back of church to engage with them and guide them towards refreshments and fellowship after the main Sunday Mass, which is much appreciated. This engagement also helps the clergy to be more aware of, and responsive to, the pastoral needs of our congregation and visitors. We were delighted to welcome the Revd. Canon Tom Mendel SSC, former Vicar of Eastbourne (and so Patron of St. Saviour's) into the college of clergy in November.

At St. Saviour's we take seriously our duty to *"worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness"* (Psalm 96:9), and our programme of restoration and renewal in this respect continued throughout 2023. In March two new ormolu chandeliers (which were first used to great effect in front of the Maundy Thursday altar of repose) were donated by an anonymous donor; our thanks to them for their kindness. In preparation for Passiontide, Krys Breeze made some additional veils. During Holy Week, Tony Sharley refurbished and polished our Pugin crucifix and six candlesticks. In April the statue of St. Peter from his eponymous chapel was removed to be sensitively cleaned and restored by professional restorers from the South East Conservation Centre in St. Leonards-on-Sea; our thanks to the generous anonymous donor who made this possible. It was good to see St. Peter back looking so splendidly in June. On 22nd April we were horrified to find that our statue of the Risen Christ from our Easter Garden in front of the nave altar had been removed and deliberately damaged by vandals; thankfully Paul Fella was able to repair it but as a consequence we reluctantly decided that we were unable to leave the figures out when the church is unattended during the week. Paul also repaired damage to the nave altar which was inflicted by one of our visitors. On a much more positive note, through April and May 2023 Paul Fella designed and made a splendid new Exposition Throne for the monstrance which was first used to great acclaim on Corpus Christi Sunday. A fascinating article as to how Paul went about this project appeared in the July-August edition of our parish magazine, "Logos".

At the end of May Paul also regilded the finials of the Holy House gate in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. After St. Peter's reinstatement, Tony Sharley cleaned and restored the brass altar crucifix and candles in St. Peter's chapel.

During July and August Genevieve Gomi of Stella Maris Vestments returned our "All Seasons" white chasuble together with the Vicar's cloth of gold Low Mass set, which she had restored. We were also delighted that she sent our new green High Mass set in time, the dalmatic of which for use by our assistant curate in his diaconal year (as well as a new matching pulpit fall and tabernacle veil). It is pleasing that the fabric used in these commissions, "Jay" by Comper, is a modern pressing of a fabric in which we have always had Victorian era vestments at St. Saviour's. Some of the funding for these came from the generous legacy of the late Jane Pinching; we are confident that Jane would have approved of what we have commissioned as she very much appreciated the worship of God in the beauty of holiness, and we continue to pray that she may rest in peace.

After a fundraising "Songs of Praise" concert, and through the support of individual donors, towards the end of the year we were able to purchase and install brass candle holders for the choir stalls which were used to great effect over the Christmas period.

Perhaps more prosaic but nevertheless important in their impact, thanks to the very generous legacy of the late Alan Langridge we were able to commission bespoke pew seat cushions which are not only comfortable but are aesthetically pleasing and make a considerable improvement to the appearance of the pew seating.

During most of November we honoured our war dead through our Festival of Remembrance which included again a large carpet of hundreds of hand-knitted poppies in the porch – our thanks to those who knitted the poppies. Paul Fella created a poignant and powerful display in the baptistery on theme of non-combatant innocent victims of war (such as internees, POWs, and forced labour) which was much appreciated.

Having hosted the candlelight concerts of "Lumos Live" who first used them, Paul suggested that for our Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve and Midnight Mass we light the central aisle from the back of church to the crib and altar with LED candles – this was a great success both in terms of the atmosphere it created but also by drawing the eye and attention to the crib and altar.

Over the course of the year the beauty of the church is significantly enhanced by the wonderful flower arrangements put together by our dedicated team of arrangers. Our thanks to Judy Grundy, Krys Breeze and the rest of the team.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

"I've attended several Lent and Advent courses during my years at St. Saviour's, and I found this to course to be the most balanced and personally rewarding.."
– a participant on the 'Bread of Life' course

Since becoming parish priest in 2018 Fr Mark has put a deliberate emphasis on teaching and catechesis, which is both noted and appreciated. A short teaching homily is preached at every daily Mass (sadly, an unusual practice these days in most churches), short explanations of the Sunday readings are provided in the Sunday service booklet, and daily teaching and devotional materials have been introduced for the use of the congregation in Advent and Lent. Our attractive, and high quality, parish magazine ("Logos") also has regular teaching articles in it. Since the arrival of our Assistant Curate in June 2023, the Vicar's monthly theological reflection has been joined by a similar theological reflection appropriately entitled, "The Curate's Egg". Throughout 2023 via the "Art of St. Saviour's" column readers have also been educated about the meaning behind the many mosaics in the church (particularly the Beatitudes mosaics surrounding the High Altar - including Nicodemus, Cornelius, St. James, St. John the Baptist – and then the stained glass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, including St. Richard, St. Anselm and St. Bede). These articles have been highly regarded, as have been the more secular offerings from (the now sadly late) Robert Milnes who concluded his extensive series on 'Sullivan And/Or Gilbert', and Annette Smyth's new gardening tips column. Our sincere thanks to all our contributors and particularly to Paul Fella for his hard work in editing and producing such a high-quality magazine.

During Lent there was a full programme of events, including weekly Stations of the Cross, a Lent Course, and charity Lent lunches (on 2nd and 30th March). We were delighted to welcome Br. Steven Hawes CR, a monk of the Community of the Resurrection, as our Ash Wednesday and Holy Week preacher in 2023. Br. Steven's character and teaching made quite an impact and was much appreciated by those attending the liturgies. The new *Bread of Life* Lent course produced by the Church Union – based on both the Eucharist and the structure of the Mass itself - was both well attended (including people from other churches) and incredibly well received. Those attending clearly deepened in their faith and in their sacramental lives.

"I've learned so much… also much more about the small details of the Eucharist… an eye-opener and a soul-opener: it has led me to a different way of receiving communion."
– a participant on the 'Bread of Life' course

Walk with Me Lent prayer booklets were made available, as was a pamphlet explaining the significance of Holy Week and the times of the services which was widely distributed.

It was a delight to see Hector, from one of our church families, baptised on 7th May. It was also with great joy that we saw one of our younger members, Athena, baptised and confirmed by the Bishop of Lewes on 10th September when he visited St. Saviour's.

In anticipation of the restoration of the chalice at communion, on 8th June the Vicar and Canon Richard Harper SSC (one of our associate clergy) delivered training for existing and new eucharistic ministers. 12 were trained and were publicly commissioned and given their licences from the Bishop during the main Sunday Mass on 2nd July.

23 people went on pilgrimage, led by the Vicar, the Assistant Curate & Canon Richard Harper SSC to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham from 2nd – 6th October. As well as an opportunity for prayer, quiet reflection and spiritual refreshment, there was an opportunity for fellowship with other parishes (as we were joined by parishioners from St. Andrew's, Christ Church, St. Mary's Old Town and some of the Vicar's previous parishioners from North London).

Throughout Advent, our Assistant Curate successfully delivered an Advent course he had specially written on the *Four Last Things* (Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell), which was well attended and well received. These themes were also reinforced by an Advent sermon series at the Sunday Masses on the same theological themes. *Walk with Me* Advent prayer booklets were also made available.

"I wasn't looking forward to the session on death but was very pleasantly surprised at just how hopeful it was..."
– a participant on the 'Four Last Things' course

Building up the Body of Christ together

"The fellowship I have experienced at St. Saviour's has been second to none... Thank you for a really rich and nourishing first year."
– a newer member of the congregation

As well as worshipping together, we continue to be deliberate in our attempts to build up relationships and social cohesion amongst our members, our visitors and all those who wish to join us. In addition to our weekly time of fellowship together after Mass (our thanks go to Gill Goff and her team who provide us – and, more importantly, those visiting us - with that important ministry), we were pleased to offer an extensive programme of social activities (some of which are outlined later in this Report).

We also build relationships and cohesion as a church family by supporting each other in times of difficulty and in celebrating happy occasions together. We gave thanks at the altar for the lives of Fred Reeve in April, Audrey Dodsley in June, David Thorpe in August, John Hooper and Pam Mayhew in September and Peter Benzing in October. May they all rest in peace.

We continued our tradition of regularly celebrating the significant birthdays of our members with cake and wine after Mass on Sunday (including Robert Ascott's 80th birthday, the 90th birthday of Anthony Parrott and Diana Warland's 90th birthday on Easter Sunday). In June we bade farewell to our altar server Exequiel and his family as they left the UK for the United States – and we wish them all blessings for their future.

Evangelism and outreach

We have three primary outreach ministries: *ChatStop* (a monthly breakfast club/coffee morning for those who would benefit from companionship and conversation), *Lunch for One* (a monthly lunch club primarily for those who live alone but open to all), and the *Wellbeing Café* (a weekly café for those with mental health challenges) – all of which are greatly valued by those who use them, and the local community.

ChatStop was originally run on the model of being a "coffee morning" but has been developed into additionally offering breakfast, brunch, soup and mini lunches. The average number of guests served is 36. Any leftover food is offered to those who have limited cooking facilities, the homeless and those with other social needs. Highlights of the year for guests were the August "wrong time tea party" and the December Christmas tea party with a visit from Father Christmas's representative.

Lunch for One runs between 12noon and 2pm every third Saturday of the month and the average number of guests attending is 54. A two-course lunch with a choice of meat or vegetarian food is served together with a pudding, cup of tea and a slice of cake or biscuits (all of which, for logistical reasons, are pre-ordered, although "walk in" guests are always accommodated rather than turned away and there is a nominal charge of £3). Birthdays are celebrated and all are welcome, especially carers. Any leftover food is offered to those who have limited cooking facilities, the homeless and those with other social needs.

These are significant areas of outreach and service which are much valued by those who use them in the local community. Our thanks to Yvonne & Bill Dyer and all the other volunteers and supporters who make them possible.

"I like the fellowship and the food and the friendly people."

"It's one of the most friendly and pleasant places to be."

"It gives me company during the week and helps me break up the week. It's good for my wellbeing. No arguments ever break out. The atmosphere is good and friendly."

"I come here for comradeship, the general atmosphere and the friendliness."

"I like meeting people and the good food."

"I come here for the people - everyone is so friendly and I feel safe here. Plus, the tea is good!"

- from a June 2023 survey of Wellbeing Café guests

The weekly *Wellbeing Café* (the first of its kind in a church in Eastbourne) has gone from strength to strength and now has between 30 and 45 guests every week plus 7-11 volunteers (including 4 clergy). The people attending have varied needs and some want to talk about ongoing problems (e.g. health or housing issues) but the conversations vary from politics and current affairs to cooking, films and music, TV programmes, shopping and of course the weather! A lot of the guests are single and lonely and just want the company of other people for a couple of hours. There are more men than women but no-one is violent or aggressive so people do not feel threatened or uncomfortable; there is always a lot of laughter. There is a wide selection of food and games available, as well as jigsaws, magazines, colouring books, puzzles and other reading material. Since the PCC bought the Clavinova in 2023 thanks to the generosity of a private donor, some guests enjoy playing it and others enjoy the live music. Regular attendees greatly value what is on offer, and the conducive and safe environment in which this weekly support structure takes place.

Our guests particularly enjoyed the New Year Party we held on 3rd January, and pancakes and prize bingo on Shrove Tuesday. We are pleased to continue to be supported by a financial grant from East Sussex County Council for the café, and are grateful to Jane Ferguson and the other volunteers (including clergy) for keeping this valuable weekly resource operating for the benefit of vulnerable members of the community. The café brings joy to a lot of people – including the volunteers – and we are delighted to see it flourish.

On 2nd November we again enjoyed a fund-raising lunch cooked and served by our Serving Team (and friends) when we were also joined by a number of people from the local community. We thank Keith Metcalfe for organising it, and those who helped him.

On our Feast of Title, the Solemnity of Christ the King (Sunday 26th November) we enjoyed an "in house" Patronal Festival "fizz and canapés" reception organised by our new "Events Group". This dynamic group was relaunched in July and comprises of 14 enthusiastic volunteers led by Paul Fella. The group meets regularly to plan our social calendar and is responsible for the delivery of our programme of social events.

"We had a wonderful time at the Assumptiontide Garden Party yesterday. Over the years we have attended many similar events but never one that was so well planned, organised and executed as this one was… it was a total delight."

– a member of the congregation

There were also a number of other social events held throughout the year including a Burns Night Supper, Pancakes and Bingo, a "fizz and canapés" reception to celebrate St. George's Day, a Coronation Day Gourmet Dinner (which raised £1000 to fund the refurbishment of the hall lavatories), an Anzac Day "Smoko", and the Assumptiontide Vicarage Garden Party (with the very popular local Jazz band, and friends of St. Saviour's, *Con Brio* – attended by over 100 people and raising £1650). Although a modest charge is made to attend most of these events to cover costs and to raise funds for the upkeep of the church, members of the congregation are encouraged to bring friends and family. They are fun events, open to members of the community and are a useful means of outreach, fellowship and networking for the people attending each event. In addition, a Grand Christmas Raffle was held at Christmas to support . Our thanks to Paul Fella and all the Events Group for their dynamism, enthusiasm and hard work.

We were delighted to continue our parish "days out": in 2023, to see Arundel Cathedral's Corpus Christi carpet of flowers, and Boxgrove Priory. Our thanks go to Sue & Keith Metcalfe for organising these pleasurable activities which are also an opportunity for people to get to know each other better.

An increasingly important means of evangelism and outreach is via our "digital presence". We continue to improve our website which includes links to *The List* (list.co.uk - a national events listing site) *Visit Eastbourne*, *Trip Advisor* and *Google Business* to promote the church and the many events we hold. During 2023 there was a massive increase in traffic to our site (a total of 36,093 visits, which represents an increase of over 400%). Most traffic was generated either directly although some came via search engines *Bing* or *Google.* A very large percentage of our site visitors were new and the average visitor stayed for more than five and a half minutes!

As already noted at the beginning of this Report, we also have a significant *Facebook* presence with some posts being viewed by over 1,000 people. We know, from comments received, that this has increased the number of visitors to the church many of whom join in our worship.

Contributing to, and joining in with, the life of the wider church and community

Throughout 2023 this church, and our clergy, continued to support the life and work of the wider church and community.

Fr Mark continued to act as a Bishop's Surrogate for Common Licences and remained on the list as a Liturgical Chaplain to the Bishop of Chichester, which involves the planning and advance rehearsal of episcopal liturgies in the local parishes (such as Confirmation and Ordination).

On 5th April we hosted the Diocesan Chrism Mass and blessing of oils celebrated by the Bishop of Lewes with the Bishop of Chichester preaching, which was attended by 240 people (mainly clergy there to renew their ordination promises). Our thanks to all who provided hospitality and helped to make the event run as smoothly as it did.

We hosted the Chapter Mass for the brethren of the Society of the Holy Cross (SSC) – a fraternal society of priests with a common rule of life, of which the Vicar and most of our associate priests are brothers – in January, June and November.

On 25th June we were delighted to attend the ordination of our new Assistant Curate, Fr Richard Keeble, at Chichester Cathedral and to welcome him and his wife Clara into the family of the church at Mass the next day. In the short time he has been with us, Fr Richard has made a very positive impact on our community and he is a much valued member of the clergy at St. Saviour's.

We hosted the Archdeacon's Visitation and Admission of Churchwardens for the Hastings Archdeaconry on 18th July.

St. Saviour's clergy continued to be deployed in helping out both Christ Church, Seaside, and St. Andrew's, Seaside (both in interregnum) by taking services. In addition Fr Mark was actively involved in support of the Churchwardens in both parishes and in helping the hierarchy to shape a new strategic "Apostolic Partnership" between the three churches. Our regular involvement ceased in the middle of September with the appointment of the new priest to both parishes. St. Saviour's clergy were also occasionally deployed to St. Mary's, Old Town, after the retirement of Canon Tom Mendel SSC as parish priest there.

To encourage vocations to the priesthood, and also to encourage those already in formation, we invited two ordinands from St. Stephen's House, Oxford, to preach at St. Saviour's in July and September 2023.

On 4th September we hosted the Memorial Service for the late Andrew Forrest (a prominent and well-known gentleman on the Eastbourne arts scene. Sadly, on 26th July, he had been knocked down in a "hit and run" accident and subsequently died of his injuries). His service was attended by 272 people.

In November the Vicar and Assistant Curate attended bereavement training at St. John's Meads.

On 2nd December we were pleased to host the Mayor's "Inspiring Angels" Charity Carol Service, which was a joint venture between a number of churches across Eastbourne, co-ordinated by the Revd. Danny Pegg (Associate Vicar for Mission and Discipleship in the parishes of Willingdon and Hampden Park). The 120 people attending (mostly non-churchgoers) very much enjoyed this service, and so the message of the joy of Christmas was proclaimed far and wide.

Provision of the church building for people to enjoy

The fact that the church is open every day from 8.30am to 5pm to the public is much valued, and the church is visited extensively by people from all around the world, many who value the peacefulness and the opportunity to pray and light a candle. It is important to us that the church is available for private prayer not just to the church family but to the wider visiting community. We are very grateful to Tricia Sneath and our faithful "Open

"Stunning and peaceful."

– a 'Google' reviewer

Church" volunteers who provide a valuable ministry of welcome to these many visitors on some weekdays to guide them around the church and answer any questions. This too is greatly appreciated by locals and visitors alike and the many comments we receive in person, entries in our Visitors' Book, and online reviews testify to this. Many remark not only how refreshing it is to find the church open but also the sense of peacefulness and spirituality the church pervades. Other remarks include the sense of history within, and comment on the appreciation of the architectural beauty of the building.

The building is large and has a very lively (and natural) acoustic which means that it is very popular as a concert venue for local choirs, choral societies and orchestras, many of which raise funds for local charities. During 2023 we put on our usual series of free lunchtime recitals (beginning with noted pianist Simon Ballard on 29th May) each of which attracted up to 50 visitors. Both the church and the local community should be grateful to Paul Collins, our Director of Music, for continuing to put together this popular concert series.

The Sunday *Chamber Concerts* series (which we were able to 'rehome' and support from 2018 after the sudden closure of the Underground Theatre) continued throughout 2023, each attracting an audience of up to 70 or 80 people, some of whom have become regular visitors to church services.

We were pleased to welcome the *Renaissance Singers* again for their Epiphany Meditation Concert in January, Lent Meditation in March, and Advent Meditation in December – these significantly high-quality choral concerts are well-supported, and we very much value the link between the church and the *Renaissance Singers.*

During the year we hosted the Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra's two annual concerts. The relationship between St. Saviour's and the ESO goes back many years and we also very much value this.

We provided rehearsal space for our friends the Lewes, Glynde and Beddingham brass band in May and were delighted that they returned on 18th June for our "Songs of Praise" fundraising concert in aid of our new choir candle holders.

Throughout 2023 we continued to support the charitable work of *Concentus* (one of Eastbourne's largest amateur choirs) primarily by providing free rehearsal time in both the church and the church hall, on-going annual storage for their staging, and in hosting their two major concerts during the Summer and at Christmas ("*Concentus sings*..."). Given that all concert profits are donated to charity by *Concentus*, we are pleased to make no charge for this.

On 11th June we were delighted to welcome international organist Thomas Trotter as he came to give the first Marcia Collins Memorial Concert at St. Saviour's which was a great success and enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience.

Also in June we hosted the Sussex Young Ringers who came who came to ring our full peal of bells.

In July we hosted the Sussex Song Makers 'Baroque Bonanza' concert conducted by Elizabeth Muir-Lewis, with the Sussex Ensemble led by Nick Houghton, who is no stranger to St. Saviour's and often deputises on the organ for our own Director of Music.

In November we welcomed the Hailsham Choral Society singing Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* at a wonderful Armistice Day concert. We very much look forward to them returning in May 2024 together with the ESO for Verdi's *Requiem*.

In November we also welcomed New Sussex Opera for a fundraising concert hosted by notable opera singer Sir John Tomlinson CBE which was very successful.

We are pleased to have developed a partnership with "Lumos Live" who now use us regularly as a venue for their atmospheric candle-lit concerts of popular music played by a string trio.

The church has always been popular as a venue with local schools (particularly Eastbourne College and Bede's) and we hosted the Bede's School Christmas Carol Concerts on 15th December.

The church hall is very popular with local organisations, charity and community groups and individuals and is fully accessible. As already noted, it is used extensively for activities which benefit the community which included, in 2023, Eastbourne Foodbank, the Say Aphasia Charity, the Company Youth Group, acting as a polling station and as a venue for a local councillor's surgery, and acting as the venue for the AGMs of many local blocks of flats and for the AGM of the local RSPCA branch. The church hall is managed on an entirely voluntary basis by one of our Churchwardens, Pauline Fella, who is busy and works hard enough as Churchwarden without this added responsibility – our immense thanks must go to Pauline for her "above and beyond" work both for the church but also on behalf of the many groups who use the hall. Whilst she is assisted by Noel Thompson (to whom we are also grateful), we hope that in 2024 Pauline can be relieved of this burden.

Maintenance of the church building, grounds and future projects

St. Saviour's church is a significant Grade II* listed building which requires a huge amount of ongoing daily maintenance. It is officially designated as a Church of England "Major Parish Church" (Major Parish Churches represent some of the most special, significant and well-loved places of worship in England, and are designated as such for a number of reasons including having *"a role or roles beyond those of a typical parish church, and make a considerable civic, cultural and economic contribution to their communities"*).

Our church is kept clean and tidy by a dedicated team of volunteers who spend a significant amount of time each week caring for the interior of the building. They are complemented by a small but highly dedicated team who work outside in the gardens and car park. We are most grateful to all those who give up their time to keep St Saviour's inside and out in such good condition.

"The church is so beautiful, clean and well-kept. It is clear that it is much loved and cared for…"
- from an email from a visitor in 2023

As well as continuing this ever-ongoing general maintenance, and cleaning, of the church, hall and the gardening of the grounds – the following specific items were carried out:

Following the survey in November and December 2022 our outdated internal CCTV system was replaced in January.

In February all the hall chairs were replaced. The old chairs were showing their age with stained and worn seat fabric and scratched frames. Our thanks to those who donated towards the cost of the new seats.

On 28th March we took delivery of a new photocopier, the old copier having come to the end of its hire contract. Paul Fella was able to negotiate a new copier with greater functionality for almost the same cost as the old machine, which was becoming unreliable.

Following a DAC visit the previous year, and the drawing up of plans by our architect, we started the period of public consultation on our two major fabric projects (the replacement of the light fittings in the nave of the church, and the "glassing in" of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel) in March. Following this, and there being no objection, we received Faculty approval from the Diocesan Chancellor on 11th April.

In Lent four additional floor level power points were installed in the chancel which not only make hoovering the area around the altar much easier but also mean that we could light the Christmas crib more effectively.

Prior to Holy Week the chandelier in St. Peter's chapel was raised to remedy the issue of it obscuring the statue of St. Peter, the notice board lights in the porch were fixed by Paul Fella, and the external entrance light was fixed.

In April we were pleased to receive new funeral trestles which were kindly donated by local Funeral Directors, Payne & Co. of Seaside.

At the end of July and early August all portable electrical appliances were PAT tested.

In early to mid-August the Hall was taken out of use for the floor to be sanded and refinished. During this period Pauline & Paul Fella, Tony Sharley and Graham Smith painted the hall and the lavatories were renewed (using the profits from the Coronation Day Gourmet Dinner). We express our utmost thanks to these dedicated volunteers for their hard work in improving our facilities both for our own use but also for the use of our lets and visitors.

In September we purchased two Bravilor Mondo coffee machines for use on Sunday mornings which have made a huge difference to the efficiency of the serving and also to the quality of the coffee served! Our sincere thanks to the donors who made this improvement possible.

On 25th September work began to fit the glazed screen and glass doors in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, with the final inspection of the completed project towards the end of October. To say that we are delighted is perhaps an understatement – whilst "modern", the screen and doors do not look remotely out of place and the effect in terms of insulation has been remarkable – it was wonderful that the project was finished in time for the winter. Our thanks to Peter Pritchett, our Architect, for realising our idea and to Ion Glass and Messrs. Paynes (Builders) who successfully completed the project. We are also grateful to Richard Crook FRSA (one of our PCC members who is also a Quinquennial Architect and a specialist in Victorian and Church architecture) for his input and guidance. We also remember with gratitude the generosity of the late Jane Pinching whose financial legacy enabled us to bring this project to fruition for the benefit of our congregation, our visitors, and indeed future generations of both.

On 20th October the fire extinguishers in the church and hall were inspected and, where necessary, renewed.

Once the Chapel project had finished, on 24th October work began on the nave lighting project.

Regrettably we were again targeted by lead thieves/vandals when, overnight on 26th-27th November lead was stolen from the War Memorial.

Following the unfortunate deliberate vandalism of the Easter Garden mentioned above, at Christmas Paul Fella enclosed the crib with clear perspex to act as a deterrent to it being interfered with.

In 2023 the Vicar, Churchwardens and PCC continued to consider the pressing pastoral issue of our closed Memorial Garden and what future provision we might make for the burial of ashes of departed members of the congregation and those living within the parish boundaries.

Throughout 2023 we have continued to review the recommendations of the Quinquennial Survey of the fabric, and have carried out such works as have been possible, and planned how the other works may be viable. A lot of maintenance is carried out "in house" by volunteers and we immensely grateful to them for this.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

"…Thank you at St. Saviour's for all your support to me whilst my daughter was having treatment for cancer…"
- a member of the congregation

Members of the congregation, and indeed anybody seeking help, are regularly supported by the clergy and many of our lay people. This help can be simply a listening ear, or by praying, or of a more practical nature such as buying shopping, collecting prescriptions, or offering a lift in a car. A lot of the clergy support given is often on an individual and long-term, on-going basis and by its confidential nature it obviously "goes unseen" but is, nevertheless, both important and valued by those supported. This support is also given to members of the public who may not be members of the congregation as such; the important factor for us is trying to respond to need when it is encountered. During 2023 some members of the congregation have particularly valued the end-of-life care offered to their relatives by clergy at St. Saviour's. The Vicar also supports various callers, some of whom are regulars, who knock at the door of the Vicarage. During 2023, hospital visits and home communions were undertaken by the Vicar, the Assistant Curate and some of the associate clergy.

"Thank you so very much for being so kind, caring and understanding. Your prayers and kindness mean so much to me at this difficult time."
– a member of the congregation

Pastoral support is also given by the clergy through funeral and bereavement ministry. The clergy officiated at a number of funerals both at St Saviour's and elsewhere, whilst also providing follow-up bereavement ministry. Both funeral services and Requiem Masses were offered over the year for members of the congregation and for those living in or near the parish. Following the bereavement training the Vicar and Assistant Curate received towards the end of the year, plans were formulated to provide similar training for the laity at St. Saviour's in early 2024.

We are grateful for the ministry of our loyal associate clergy who support our incumbent in delivering pastoral and sacramental ministry at St. Saviour's.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

"The church feeds a lot of homeless people in its church hall next door, which is admirable."
- a 'Tripadvisor' reviewer

We continue to have a formal partnership with the Eastbourne Foodbank, meaning that as well as being a collection point for donations (which is well supported by members of the congregation and others), we host the Foodbank every Friday in the hall (free of charge). The Eastbourne Foodbank is currently the busiest Foodbank in the UK, and our satellite of it (being in the centre of town) is in a key location and extensively used by a large number of the local community. We also offer support to the Sussex Family Support Work charity throughout the year both through the collection of Christmas toys and presents and Easter eggs for families in need, but also through providing a venue for FSW committee meetings free of charge in our Hall. At Harvest our members donated over 20 bags of non-perishable food, toiletries and other essential items to the Matthew 25 Homeless Mission, together with £150 raised from an auction of the perishable harvest gifts.

Other charitable giving and support

Two Lent lunches were held and the money raised went to Ivy House Dementia Care and Chestnut Tree House; our thanks to Yvonne & Bill Dyer for organising them.

Over 2023 the church family has also supported The Children's Society, The Additional Curates Society, the Mission for Seafarers and Let the Children Live.

On 23rd July Professor Terence Ryan was welcomed as our guest preacher and this raised £516 for The Leprosy Mission.

On 9th September Krystyne Breeze and Pauline Fella participated in the Ride & stride event, a sponsored walk, visiting churches in the Eastbourne area, with half the money raised going to The Sussex Historic Churches Trust.

On 4th December we hosted the Eastbourne Masonic Charity Carol Service.

Financial Review - forming the annual report of the Finance Committee.

I am pleased to present the financial review of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023.

We started 2023 with Unrestricted Funds (general funds used by the PCC for ordinary purposes) of £65,271 and closed the year with Unrestricted Funds of £402,699 an increase of £337,428. This increase was due to a donation we received of £330,000.

We started 2023 with Restricted Funds (income from trusts, endowments, bequests or legacies received which can only be expended on a specific object) of £123,832 and closed the year with Restricted Funds of £15,571 a reduction of £108,261. This reduction in income was due to a number of major projects carried out in 2023:
£37,278 from the Jane Pinching legacy for the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
£29,701 from the Barbra Drew legacy for lighting and new nave light fittings.
£17,060 church cushions.
£9,694 commission and restoration of vestments.
£7,920 hall chairs

Income

Total income for the year ended 31st December 2023 amounted to £137,139 against a budget set of £134,900 an increase of £2,239 this excludes the legacy we received of £330,000.

Attendance and appreciation of the excellent services the clergy, servers and choir provide are reflected in an impressive increase for collections and regular giving. The Parish Giving Scheme amounted to £30,430, Gift Aid yellow envelopes £12,446, Giving/Cash £9,374 and SUMUP (the card reader) £4,732.

During the year we held a number of social events and fundraising which amounted to £10,581. We raised £1,635 towards the new hall chairs, £1,182 at the Christmas Gala Concert and £361 from the Christmas raffle. Our thanks go to Paul Fella for a wonderful gourmet dinner in May which raised £1,000 and for organising the Vicarage Garden Party which raised £1,240 and the Burns Night supper which raised £460.

Hire of the Church Hall increased significantly in 2023 and rental income raised was £18,758 compared to £9,673 in 2022. We also raised £19,220 from the car parking fees and £1,774 from baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2023 amounted to £105,033 against a budget set of £131,865 an underspend of £26,832 but this excludes expenditure from restricted funds detailed above.

Although we underspent against our budget, we did see a number of increases in cost in 2023. The Parish Ministry Costs (PMC) increased to £54,156 compared to £44,900 in 2022. At the start of the financial year our PMC contribution was only 50% of what the Diocese had set for 2023 but this was reviewed by the PCC in November, and they once again decided to give a one-off additional payment of £10,000.

Other clergy costs totalled £6,843 compared with £4,115 the previous year, we paid an additional £1,676 in council tax for Christ Church Vicarage.

Church running expenses totalled £25,962 compared with £22,621 in 2022 this increase was due to a number of factors. Utilities for the church, church hall and vicarage; Gas £4,740, Electricity £4,320 and Water £980. Cost of service £4,080 and church hall running costs £5,141. Church maintenance £1,710 Red Clover Roofing clearing gullies to church roof and cleaning and repair to the roof, £1,073 porch lights and sockets, and £495 repair to car park.

Trading costs where £250 as Open Church is now open.

Church Legacies

Legacies are a lifeline for parishes. Church of England parishes receive over 4,000 legacies each year – gifts to finance mission projects, maintain beautiful church buildings and grow faithful communities. Leaving a gift in your Will to your local church is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can help to keep your local church alive and help transform its future.

Legacies left to Church of England churches are also exempt from Inheritance Tax (IHT) as all PCC's are charities. Since 6th April 2012, if you leave 10% or more of your estate to charity, the tax due may be paid at a reduced rate of 36% instead of 40%.

Legacy gifts can make a real difference to the future work of the Church as regular giving often concentrates on paying the parish share, insuring and heating the building, repairing the roof etc.

A gift from your estate is different. At St Saviour's we have a separate bank account for restricted funds, and we will not use legacy gifts for everyday expenditure; the PCC will spend your gift on a special project to make a difference. No matter how large or small, each gift can make a significant impact on our ministry and mission. If anyone would like any additional information or information about the Church of England free will writing service, please don't hesitate to speak to me.

Thank You

As a parish we are indebted to all those who give to the Church; no matter what your contribution all gifts together ensure we are able to keep our beautiful Church open and to serve our community. We do not underestimate the difference your donations make to St Saviour's, and we are honoured that you bless us with your continued generosity and support. Sincere thanks to you all from the PCC.

Mrs Beverley Thorp
Treasurer

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll, so that they can vote for candidates for the PCC and the Deanery Synod, at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Communicant members who are 16 or over, and whose names are on the Roll, are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. This PCC does not have any sub-committees, but it does have a standing committee of four members: the Vicar, the two Churchwardens and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Throughout 2023 the PCC has complied with its duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2017, in relation to having due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding arrangements are clearly stated on the front page of the parish website: www.stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk. The Parish was last fully audited for safeguarding ("SQP") by the Diocese on 16th October 2019 and was found to be "fully compliant".

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay	*Chairman*
Assistant Curate	The Revd Fr Richard Keeble	
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pauline Fella	*Vice Chairman*
	Mr Keith Metcalfe	

Elected Members

Elected Members	
Dr Simon Thorp	*PCC Secretary*
Mrs Judy Grundy	
Mr Richard Crook	
Mrs Krystyne Breeze	
Mrs Beverley Thorp	*Hon. Treasurer*
Mr Paul Fella	
Mrs Gill Goff	
Mr Noel Thompson	
Ms Ruth Figgest	

Deanery Synod
Vacant

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC and
signed on their behalf by The Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC, PCC Chairman

…… Date……

Annual Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Saviour and St Peter, Eastbourne

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, BN21 4UT

Registered Charity no. 1131420

For the year ended 31st December 2023

CONTENTS

Page	
16	Statement of financial activities
17	Statement of assets and liabilities
18	Notes to the accounts
24	Report of the independent examiner

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
Incoming resources						
Voluntary income	2a	401,375	16,964	0	**418,339**	85,256
Activities for generating funds	2b	19,220		0	**19,220**	19,528
Income from investments	2c	778		0	**778**	87
Church activities	2d	21,088	7,714	0	**28,802**	21,215
Other incoming resources	2e	0		0	**0**	0
Total incoming resources		442,461	24,678	0	**467,139**	126,086
Resources expended						
Costs of generating voluntary income	3a	72		0	**72**	64
Fund-raising trading costs	3b	250		0	**250**	264
Church activities	3c	104,411	132,939	0	**237,350**	129,193
Governance Costs	3d	300		0	**300**	300
Total resources expended		105,033	132,939	0	**237,972**	129,821
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		337,428	(108,261)	0	**229,167**	(3,735)
Gross transfers between funds	5	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before		337,428	(108,261)	0	**229,167**	(3,735)
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	6a	0	0	0	**0**	0
Gains/(losses) on disposal investment assets	6b	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net movement in funds		337,428	(108,261)	0	**229,167**	(3,735)
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2023		65,271	123,832	0	**189,103**	192,838
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2023		402,699	15,571	0	**418,270**	189,103

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes		**2023**	2022
			£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	6a		**0**	0
Investments	6b		**0**	0
Total fixed assets			**0**	0
Current assets				
Debtors	8	**4,521**		6,802
Short term deposits		**5,764**		5,764
Cash at bank and in hand		**413,097**		181,649
		423,382		194,215
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	**5,112**		5,112
Net current assets			**418,270**	189,103
Total assets less current liabilities			**418,270**	189,103
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	9		**0**	0
NET ASSETS			**418,270**	189,103
Funds	7			
Endowment funds	10		**0**	0
Restricted funds	10		**15,571**	123,832
Unrestricted funds	10		**402,699**	65,271
			418,270	189,103

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 1 May 2024 and signed on its behalf

Chairman Fr. Mark Mccaulay

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and under current Church Accounting Regulations in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102), as amended in 2016.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:
Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaing unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Voluntary Income
Collections are recognised when received.
Planned giving receivable is recognised only when received.
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.
Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from investments
Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income
All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments
Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold
Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Incoming resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
a *Voluntary income*					
Planned giving	37,063			**37,063**	37,117
Collections at all services	7,596			**7,596**	5,102
Gift days	2,012			**2,012**	3,707
Sundry donations and appeals	20,151	16,964		**37,115**	30,111
Income tax recoverable	4,553			**4,553**	8,512
Legacies	330,000	0		**330,000**	0
	401,375	16,964		**418,339**	84,549
b *Activities for generating funds*					
Fetes, bazaars and other fund-raising events					707
Car Parking Fees	19,220			**19,220**	19,528
	19,220	0		**19,220**	20,235
c *Investment income*					
Dividends and interest	778			**778**	87
	778	0		**778**	87
d *Income from Church Activities*					
Church hall lettings etc	18,758			**18,758**	9,673
Church Outings etc	0	7,714		**7,714**	10,430
Fees from weddings etc	1,774			**1,774**	559
Parish magazine	556			**556**	553
	21,088	7,714		**28,802**	21,215
e *Other other incoming resources*					
Insurance claims				**0**	0
				0	0
Total incoming resources	**442,461**	**24,678**	**0**	**467,139**	126,086

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

	Resources expended	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	**TOTAL FUNDS 2023**	TOTAL FUNDS 2022
3		£	£	£	**£**	£
	Costs of generating voluntary income					
a	Special appeal costs	0	0		**0**	0
	Stewardship costs	72	0		**72**	64
		72	0		**72**	64
	Fund-raising trading costs					
b	Trading costs	250	0		**250**	264
	Hire costs	0			**0**	0
		250	0		**250**	264
	Church Activities					
c	Missionary and charitable giving:					
	Direct as a tithe	0			**0**	0
	Collections and other giving	0	1,021		**1,021**	1,250
		0	1,021		**1,021**	1,250
	Outings & Events		8,995		**8,995**	9,767
	Ministry costs:					
	diocesan parish contribution paid	54,156			**54,156**	44,900
	other clergy costs	6,843			**6,843**	4,115
	Church running expenses	28,448	3,365		**25,962**	26,284
	Church maintenance	3,336	12,356		**15,692**	2,028
	Upkeep of services	4,071	5,727		**9,798**	3,135
	Upkeep of churchyard	2,416			**2,416**	2,402
	Parish magazine	0			**0**	400
	Church hall running costs	5,141	6,199		**11,340**	3,383
	Prior year diocesan fees	0			**0**	0
	Vicarage dilapidations		0		**0**	301
	Legacy Fund Payments		95,276		**95,276**	31,228
		104,411	132,939		**237,350**	129,193
	Governance costs					
d	Independent examination fee	300			**300**	300
	Cost of annual accounts					
		300	0		**300**	300
	Total resources expended					
		105,033	**132,939**	**0**	**237,972**	129,821

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4 Staff costs

		2023	2022
		£	£
a	*Wages and salaries*	**4,485**	4,080

During the year the PCC employed an organist, but no payment was large enough to attract social security costs.

b *Payments to PCC members*

There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected to them, nor other related parties.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total 2023**
	£	£	**£**
Vicarage Dilapidations	0	0	0

6 Fixed Assets

a Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Church equipment	**TOTAL**
Cost or valuation	£	£	£
At 1 January 2023	0	7,224	**7,224**
Additions	0	0	**0**
Disposals	0	0	**0**
Revaluation	0	0	**0**
At 31 December 2023	0	7,224	**7,224**
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023		7,224	**7,224**
Provided in the year		0	**0**
Disposals		0	**0**
At 31 December 2023	0	7,224	**7,224**
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2023	**0**	**0**	**0**
At 31 December 2022	0	0	0

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7 Analysis of Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**Total Funds 2023 £**
Fixed assets for church use	0			**0**
Current assets	407,811	15,571		**423,382**
Current liabilities	-5,112			**-5,112**
	402,699	15,571	0	**418,270**

8 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Income tax recoverable	**4,521**	6,802
Prepayments and accrued income	**-**	-
Other debtors	**-**	-
	4,521	6,802

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	**5,112**	5,112
Archdeacon's Loan	**-**	0
	5,112	5,112

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	**Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2023**
	£	£	£	£	**£**
Unrestricted Fund					
General fund	62,271	442,461	-105,033		**399,699**
Designated repair fund	0		0		**0**
Contingency fund	3,000				**3,000**
	65,271	442,461	-105,033	0	**402,699**
Restricted Fund					
Finance Committee	123,832	24,678	-132,939		**15,571**
	123,832	24,678	-132,939	0	**15,571**
Total funds	189,103	467,139	-237,972	0	**418,270**

Independent examiner's report
To the PCC of St Saviour & St Peter Eastbourne

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on the foregoing pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section 144 of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has 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 act; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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..... Brian E Etheridge.....

Date 8 March 2024

Brian R Etheridge
Retired Chartered Accountant
3 Mountney Road
Eastbourne
BN21 1RJ

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER,

England & Wales - Charity number 1131420

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Saviour and St Peter, Eastbourne

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4UT
Registered Charity no. 1131420

For the year ended 31st December 2022

Website:	stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk
Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC The Vicarage, Spencer Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4PA
Independent examiner:	Mr B R Etheridge FCA 3 Mountney Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1RJ
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc 63 Terminus Road, Eastbourne BN21 4TD

Contents

Page	
1	Trustees annual report
11	Financial review
15	Statement of financial receipts and payments
19	Notes to the accounts
25	Report of the independent examiner

St Saviour's Eastbourne
Trustees Annual Report for 2022

Our aims and purposes as a charity

> "*"Wonderful Church. Kind, helpful staff. Lovely warm welcome! Perfect!" – Bob Newton MBE (via 'Google')*

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC, in the promotion of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England

- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical
- To know Jesus better and make Him better known
- Being more open, converted, generous and engaged as a church (Diocesan Vision for Growth 2020-2025)
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need, or ability to pay
- Providing practical support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. We were also encouraged to specifically revisit our 2019 Mission Action Plan by the Diocese of Chichester as the Diocese prepared Deanery Mission Plans. Our Mission Action Plan is regularly reviewed, and we also regularly ensure our activities are in sympathy with the Diocesan Vision for Growth 2020-2025.

For 2022 we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church
- Enabling as many people as possible to become part of our parish community
- Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers
- Maintaining an overview of worship throughout the parish
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament
- Offering a daily Mass (and other opportunities) of worship, teaching and prayer
- Considering how provision could be made to nurture the faith of our children
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish through donations of food, non-perishable goods and money to Family Support Work and Eastbourne Foodbank
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as an historic and significant venue in the centre of the town which is also used extensively as a venue for instrumental and choral recitals
- Maintaining the church hall as a venue for parish events and for use by local groups and charities (often without charge)

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Worship

We are pleased to welcome visitors from outside as well as inside the parish boundary. Mass is offered daily on every day of the year, including Bank Holidays, and the Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer are also celebrated on behalf of the entire parish. As Eastbourne is a popular holiday destination some visitors seek out St Saviour's for its traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, many of whom return to us year after year. Visitors attend by personal choice and it is our great pleasure to welcome anyone from all walks of life to take part in the life of the church. We contend that being open to all people, and voluntary attendance to worship the Lord Jesus Christ is a major demonstration of the public benefit of our activities.

"Friendly people there and so peaceful."
"A haven of tranquillity."
- 'Google' reviewers

Whilst, in common with other churches, attendances were deleteriously affected as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic and its attendant restrictions, once these restrictions were finally relaxed with the end of "Plan B" on 25th January 2022, we were pleased to see numbers gradually increasing again as the year progressed. The average regular weekly attendance, counted during October 2022, was **176** adults and children (by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **41** adults and children attending each week in 2021).

"This time of quietness feeds the soul and the mind and brings a sense of peace and calmness which we all need in our lives, along with a clarity to focus on the blessings the Lord has bestowed on us."
– a regular worshipper at weekly Exposition

It has also been a great encouragement to welcome new worshippers to St. Saviour's. At the time of writing this Report (April 2023), average attendance at the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am is **110** (by way of context, the figure in the previous paragraph reveals that an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of 41 adults and children attending each week – **including Sundays** - in 2021).

Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and guided prayer before the noon Mass continued throughout 2022, and continues to be much appreciated. Other opportunities for worship outside of the eucharist included Taizé Evening Prayer on 6th March, musically assisted by Robert Ascott and members of the choir. We were delighted to re-introduce the healing ministries of laying on of hands and anointing from Sunday 17th July (these having been suspended because of the restrictions in place because of the pandemic). The healing ministries are part of the Mass on every 3rd Sunday and are well valued and used by the congregation, and those visiting for Mass.

Despite the end of the restrictions imposed as a consequence of the pandemic, we took the decision to continue to live-stream the vast majority of our public worship (in particular, the daily Mass and the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am). These services continued to be live-streamed for the benefit of those who were housebound, ill, shielding or uncomfortable with attending in person, together with a large number of people across the UK (and, indeed, beyond) who had started to join us online at the beginning of the pandemic. We take this "online" ministry seriously and know that it is much valued and appreciated by those who engage with it. In 2022, although our online 'reach' on Facebook was reduced by 16% we still reached over 5,500 people, whilst the audience for our posts and videos includes people from as far afield as the US & Canada, Australia and Europe – as well as other parts of the UK besides Eastbourne. Our daily Masses were always watched live by at least some people, whilst Mass on Sundays usually had a live audience in double figures. These services also enjoyed – and continue to enjoy – substantial engagement after their broadcast, and are available online to watch at a later date as well both on Facebook and YouTube.

During 2022 we continued to celebrate midweek sung Masses for Solemnities and Major Feasts. The decision to celebrated these during the day rather than in the evening continued to be popular as they were well attended with an average of **40** communicants (to put this into perspective, an "average" Church of England parish church *pre-pandemic* had a total average of **49** adults and children attending every ***Sunday***). For example, the sung Mass on Ascension Day was attended by **45** people. This welcome trend has continued up until the time of writing this report.

Young Church continued to meet when circumstances, personnel, and children attending allowed. Our thanks go to Rachel Hobden, Lydia Verity and Brenda Wright for their ministry in this work with the children. Easter gardens made by the children were blessed by the Vicar on Easter Sunday. It was also very good to again have the children accompany the procession of the Blessed Sacrament and scatter rose petals on Corpus Christi Sunday.

Numbers attending on Ash Wednesday were up on the previous year by 35%, and it was good to see an average weekly attendance of 20 for Stations of the Cross, held after the noon Mass every Friday in Lent, although clearly that figure could be improved upon. Attendances throughout Holy Week were also very encouraging (and showed increases on the previous year – Palm Sunday, for example, had an increase in attendance of 43 people).

The Easter Vigil and Easter Day Masses were attended by **177** people (**138** in 2021, and by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **34** adults and children attending Easter Services in 2021).

Christmas is obviously a very special time of celebration where many sections of the community come together to join in our services, particularly Nine Lessons & Carols – which was attended by **225** people (up from **135** the previous year). We were absolutely delighted to be able to hold our immensely popular Christmas Gala concert again for the first time since the pandemic struck with local choirs, soloists and the Lewes, Glynde and Beddingham brass band was enjoyed by over 180 people on 20th December. Our immense thanks to our Director of Music, Paul Collins, for making this possible. The Midnight Mass of Christmas, and Mass of Christmas morning were attended by **184** people (by way of context, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of **65** adults and children attending Christmas Services in 2021).

On the immensely sad occasion of the death of HM The Queen on 8th September, we set up a memorial in church for the public to pray and to sign a book of condolence (which was extensively used) and, on the following day the Vicar celebrated a Requiem Mass for the eternal repose of her soul.

On 18th September we were pleased to again host the RAFA Battle of Britain Service, attended by HM Deputy Lieutenant, Brigadier Anthony Lamb MBE, DL, and Caroline Ansell, MP for Eastbourne. The Vicar officiated and The Revd. Daniel Merceron (Chaplain of Eastbourne College) preached, and the service was attended by **78** people.

A greater number of our church family have been involved in leading various aspects of worship, reading the lessons, leading intercessions and serving at the altar. In this latter respect, our thanks go to Canon Richard Harper SSC who has done sterling work training the serving team and generally improving the standard of our liturgy.

We have continued to try to improve the quality of our welcome to, and engagement with, visiting worshippers by deliberately deploying clergy at the back of church to engage with them and guide them towards refreshments and fellowship after the main Sunday Mass, which is much appreciated. This engagement also helps the clergy to be more aware of, and responsive to, the pastoral needs of our congregation and visitors. We were delighted to welcome the Revd. Canon Anthony Delves SSC, who has extensive Eastbourne connections (as an "Eastbourne boy") into the college of clergy on 1st June. In a short time Fr Anthony has already significantly enhanced our provision of pastoral and spiritual care.

At St. Saviour's we take seriously our duty to *"worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness"* (Psalm 96:9), and our programme of restoration and renewal in this respect continued throughout 2022. In early January, Tony Sharley refurbished and polished the benediction candelabra and brass display jardinieres and in March he also refurbished the St. Peter "plain" processional cross, and later refurbished the staff of the same cross in May. During Lent, Paul Fella undertook the major restoration project of repairing and refurbishing the crucifix outside St. Peter's Chapel which, partly because it is such a focus of popular devotion, was in a sorry and parlous state. This was paid for by a generous private donor, to whom we are most grateful, and it was wonderful that Paul finished the project by Easter Sunday: the results are impressive, and a fascinating article as to how Paul went about the restoration appeared in the May edition of our parish magazine, "Logos". The crucifix was blessed and rededicated at the conclusion of the Sung Mass for the Solemnity of St. George on 26th April.

The new 4-sided altar frontal (designed by the Vicar and commissioned by the PCC using Jane Pinching RIP's generous bequest) arrived from Genevieve Gomi of Stella Maris Vestments and was used for the first time on Passion Sunday (as well as a new purple chasuble, lectern fall and banner for the BVM statue in the nave). It is pleasing that the fabric used in these commissions, "Jay" by Comper, is a modern pressing of a fabric in which we have always had Victorian era vestments at St. Saviour's. Just in time for Christmas, Genevieve delivered most of the outstanding commissions, so we now have Low Mass sets and lectern falls in the 4 most used liturgical colours

in Comper "Jay", new altar linen and matching covers. We are confident that Jane would have approved, and continue to pray that she may rest in peace.

During the year, our own Krys Breeze kindly made a new reservation ciborium veil and a new monstrance veil to replace tired and worn predecessors; and we are grateful to Krys for this, and for other help with church needlework.

In May, Paul Fella repaired the damaged bowl of one of our best "big six" Pugin candlesticks, restored the ornate St. Saviour's processional cross and also restored and deep cleaned a pair of Edwardian silver candlesticks.

Profits from our Platinum Jubilee Tea in June were used to buy and engrave two commemorative brass collection plates in honour of Her Majesty's life of service, which were blessed and dedicated by the Rt. Revd. The Bishop of Lewes when he visited us on Sunday 9th October.

In July, Paul Fella extensively (and sympathetically) restored the Paschal Candlestick and another fascinating article as to how he went about the restoration appeared in the September edition of our parish magazine, "Logos". Thanks to the generosity of a donor, a large damaged (but dignified) Edwardian ciborium was restored and brought back into use in July, having been forgotten and left in the church safe for many years. In August Paul fella restored the damage on Station no.3 of our Stations of the Cross.

During most of November we honoured our war dead through our Festival of Remembrance which included again large carpets of many hundreds of hand-knitted poppies in the porch, baptistery and under the pulpit – our thanks to those who knitted the poppies and to Yvonne Dyer for organising it. As 2022 marked 40 years' since the conclusion of the Falklands' War, Paul Fella created a poignant display in the north aisle which was much appreciated.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

"I have attended a number of churches over the years but have learned so much in such a short time at St. Saviour's" – a newer member of the congregation

Since becoming parish priest Fr Mark has put a deliberate emphasis on teaching and catechesis, which is both noted and appreciated. A short teaching homily is preached at every daily Mass (sadly, an unusual practice these days in most churches), short explanations of the Sunday readings are provided in the Sunday service booklet, and daily teaching and devotional materials have been introduced for the use of the congregation in Advent and Lent. Our attractive, and high quality, parish magazine ("Logos") also has regular teaching articles in it. As well as the Vicar's monthly theological reflection, throughout 2022 via the "Art of St. Saviour's" column, readers have been educated about the meaning behind the many mosaics in the church (including Dorcas, St. Andrew, St. Augustine preaching, King (St.) Oswald, King Solomon's Temple, and then pieces on the Sanctuary Banners, the stained glass of the Synoptic evangelists, concluding the year with the Beatitudes mosaics surrounding the High Altar. These articles have been highly regarded, as have been the more secular offerings from our great friend and leading figure on the Eastbourne classical music scene, Robert Milnes, on Gloriana, Pianos, Religious Music in Opera, Music for The Queen, and an extensive series on 'Sullivan and/or Gilbert'. Our sincere thanks to all our contributors and particularly to Paul Fella for his hard work in editing and producing the magazine.

During Lent there was a full programme of events, including weekly Stations of the Cross, a Lent Course, and charity Lent lunches (on 10th March and 7th April). The *Comfort Ye My People* Diocesan Lent course – based on reflection upon works of art and sculpture - was very well received. *Walk with Me* Lent prayer booklets were made available, as was a pamphlet explaining the significance of Holy Week and the times of the services.

"The love and support from the congregation, the clergy and the servers… and the blessed presence of the Bishop made it an unforgettable day…" – Sarah, baptised and confirmed in 2022

It was with great joy that we saw one of our adult members, Sarah, baptised and confirmed by the Bishop of Lewes on 9th October when he visited St. Saviour's.

Thirty people went on pilgrimage, led by the Vicar & Canon Richard Harper SSC (one of our associate clergy), to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham from 3rd – 7th October. As well as an opportunity for prayer, quiet reflection and spiritual refreshment, there was an opportunity for fellowship with other parishes (as we were joined by parishioners from St. Andrew's, Christ Church, St. Mary's Old Town and some of the Vicar's old parishioners from North London).

Throughout Advent, we successfully undertook the *Travelling Light* Advent course, which originated in the Diocese of Sheffield and was well attended. *Walk with Me* Advent prayer booklets were also made available.

Building up the Body of Christ together

As well as worshipping together, we have been deliberate in our attempts to build up relationships and social cohesion amongst our members, our visitors and all those who wish to join us: particularly as we emerged from the restrictions imposed because of the pandemic. In addition to our weekly time of fellowship together after Mass (our thanks go to Gill Goff and her team who provide us – and, more importantly, those visiting us - with that important ministry), we were pleased to offer an extensive programme of social activities again (some of which are outlined below).

We also build relationships and cohesion as a church family by supporting each other in times of difficulty and in celebrating happy occasions together. We gave thanks for the lives of Pat James in February, Joan Sandys in March, Victor Chandler in June, George (Alan) Langridge in August, Richard Pitwell in November (our "brass man" – i.e. the man who kindly cleaned our small brass) and Janet Reeve in December. May they all rest in peace. We were all very saddened to receive the news that Fr Paul Christian SSC, a well-loved and respected member of our college of associate clergy at St. Saviour's, had died peacefully at St. Wilfrid's hospice on 29th September. Fr. Paul was known for his friendliness, his gentle manner and his pastoral warmth. May he too rest in peace.

We continued our tradition of regularly celebrating the significant birthdays of our members with cake and wine after Mass on Sunday (including Sue Metcalfe's 70th birthday, and the 80th birthday of Fred Reeve). On Sunday 13th February we celebrated together with Pam & Tony Sharley as they celebrated their 60th (Diamond) Wedding Anniversary, and on Sunday 2nd October we celebrated David Horne's 20 year's membership of St. Saviour's Choir. It was wonderful to be able to celebrate with Ashleigh Bremer and Aaron Weston in August as they "tied the knot" here – our first wedding for some years – and we wish them all blessings for their future together.

A real highlight of our year was seeing Mary Delves invested into the Order of St. Richard by the Lord Bishop of Chichester at a special Mass here at St. Saviour's on 28th June. The Order of St. Richard is an annual award for lay people which recognises and celebrates exceptional contributions to the parish, its congregations and local community, and the Diocese. This was to recognise that Mary had devoted most of her life to St. Saviour's in many capacities, notably that of Treasurer for 35 years. We were delighted that her dedication was formally acknowledged and that she was honoured with this award.

Evangelism and outreach

We have three primary outreach ministries: *ChatStop* (a monthly breakfast club/coffee morning for those who would benefit from companionship and conversation), *Lunch for One* (a monthly lunch club primarily for those who live alone but open to all), and the *Wellbeing Café* (a weekly café for those with mental health challenges) – all of which are greatly valued by those who use them, and the local community.

ChatStop was originally run on the model of being a "coffee morning" but since re-opening after the pandemic this has been developed into additionally offering breakfast. The hours of opening have been extended (now 9am-12.30pm), as has the menu, and the average number of guests served is 55. A highlight of the year for guests was the Christmas Breakfast on 17th December.

Lunch for One runs between 12noon and 2.30pm every third Saturday of the month and, since re-opening, the average number of guests attending is 55. A choice of meat or vegetarian meals are served together with a pudding, cup of tea and a slice of cake or biscuits (all of which, for logistical reasons, are pre-ordered, although "walk in" guests are always accommodated, rather than turned away). These are significant areas of outreach and service which are much valued by those who use them in the local community. A highlight of the year for guests was the Christmas Lunch on 10th December. Our thanks to Yvonne and Bill Dyer and all the other volunteers and supporters who make them possible.

A surprise inspection on 9th July from an inspector from Eastbourne Food Safety and Hygiene resulted in a 5 star food hygiene rating – our congratulations go to Yvonne and Bill for maintaining this standard on our behalf.

"It's great to see clergy who 'walk the walk' as well as 'talk the talk'" – a Wellbeing Café visitor from overseas

The weekly *Wellbeing Café* (the first of its kind in a church in Eastbourne) has between 10 and 35 guests every week plus 4-8 volunteers (including 3 clergy). The people attending have varied needs and some want to talk about ongoing problems (e.g. health or housing issues) but the conversations vary from politics and current affairs to cooking,

films and music, TV programmes, shopping and of course the weather! A lot of the guests are single and lonely and just want the company of other people for a couple of hours. There are more men than women but no-one is violent or aggressive so people do not feel threatened or uncomfortable; there is always a lot of laughter. There is a wide selection of food and games available, as well as jigsaws, magazines, colouring books, puzzles and other reading material. Regular attendees greatly value what is on offer, and the conducive and safe environment in which this weekly support structure takes place.

We are pleased to continue to be supported by a financial grant from East Sussex County Council for the café, and are grateful to Jane Ferguson and the other volunteers (including clergy) for keeping this valuable resource operating for the benefit of vulnerable members of the community.

On 30th July 30 we held the St. Saviour's "Bake Off with a Difference" competition which included entries from Mencap, the Step-by-Step Nursery and Ivy Dementia Care, as well as members of the congregation.

On 3rd November we again enjoyed a fund-raising lunch cooked and served by our Serving Team. We thank them, and Keith Metcalfe, for organising it.

On our Feast of Title, the Solemnity of Christ the King (Sunday 20th November) we enjoyed an "in house" Patronal Festival Lunch and our thanks go to Yvonne and Bill Dyer and those who helped them.

On the evening of 1st December we opened the church for members of the community who were visiting the "Little Chelsea Little Christmas" event and provided welcome, warmth, and hot refreshments - all of which were much appreciated by the 62 visitors who came through the doors.

During most of Advent we again held our Christmas Tree Festival. We enjoyed a wide range of displays from wooden trees, to those created of wire, and this event involved a significant amount of outreach to local businesses and charities (who participated) and was visited and enjoyed by a large number of local people.

There were also a number of other social events held throughout the year including a Burns Night Supper, an Anzac Day "Smoko", a St George's Day Tea Party, the Assumption-tide Vicarage Garden Party (with the very popular local Jazz band, and friends of St. Saviour's, *Con Brio*) and Christmas Dinner. Although a modest charge is made to attend these events to cover costs and to raise funds for the upkeep of the church, members of the congregation are encouraged to bring friends and family. They are fun events, open to members of the community and are a useful means of outreach, fellowship and networking for the people attending each event. In addition, a spirit of healthy competition was engendered by the sunflower growing competition in Lent, and a chocolate hamper raffle was held at Easter.

Following the relaxation of pandemic restrictions, we were delighted to resume our parish "days out": in 2022, to Ashburnham Place (our first day out since the pandemic), and the "Sistine Chapel" (Goring, not Rome!). Our thanks go to Sue & Keith Metcalfe for organising these pleasurable activities which are also an opportunity for people to get to know each other better.

We continue to improve our website and now have included links to *The List* (list.co.uk - a national events listing site) *Visit Eastbourne*, *Trip Advisor* and *Google Business* to promote the church and the many events we hold. We also have a significant *Facebook* presence with some posts being viewed by over 1,000 people. We know, from comments received, that this has increased the number of visitors to the church many of whom join in our worship.

Contributing to, and joining in with, the life of the wider church and community

Throughout 2022 this church, and our clergy, continued to support the life and work of the wider church and community.

Fr Mark continued to act as a Bishop's Surrogate for Common Licences and remained on the list as a Liturgical Chaplain to the Bishop of Chichester, which involves the planning and advance rehearsal of episcopal liturgies in the local parishes (such as Confirmation and Ordination).

We hosted the Chapter Mass for the brethren of the Society of the Holy Cross (SSC) – a fraternal society of priests with a common rule of life, of which the Vicar and most of our associate priests are brothers – on Holy Cross Day (14th September).

We hosted the Archdeacon's Visitation and Admission of Churchwardens for the Hastings Archdeaconry on 14th June.

On 27th July the local Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary met at St. Saviour's for Mass, celebrated by the Vicar and served by members of our own serving team.

In August Fr Mark was appointed Honorary Chaplain ("Padre") of the local Royal Air Force Association Branch.

During the latter stages of his illness and following the sad death of Fr Paul Christian SSC, St. Saviour's clergy were deployed in helping out Christ Church, Seaside, in interregnum. Following the departure of Fr David King SSC to another parish, St. Saviour's clergy were additionally deployed in providing cover for St. Andrew's, Seaside in the interregnum (including the provision of a Sung Patronal Mass on their Feast of Title in November). Fr Mark has also been actively involved in support of the Churchwardens in both parishes and in helping the hierarchy to shape a new strategic "Apostolic Partnership" between the three churches.

On 22nd October we were delighted to attend the Institution & Induction of our erstwhile Assistant Curate, Fr Thomas Crowley SSC, as Rector of Christ Church, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

On 3rd December we were privileged to host the Order of St. John (Sussex) Carol Service at St. Saviour's in the presence of H.M. Lords Lieutenant of East and West Sussex, the High Sheriff of East Sussex, and numerous other distinguished guests. It was excellent that the collection taken at the service was enough to pay for a life-changing eye operation at the Jerusalem Hospital. We very much hope that our connection with the Order will continue into 2023 and beyond.

On 10th December we were pleased to host the Mayor's "Inspiring Angels" Charity Carol Service, which was a joint venture between a number of churches across Eastbourne, co-ordinated by the Revd. Danny Pegg (Associate Vicar for Mission and Discipleship in the parishes of Willingdon and Hampden Park). The 120 people attending (mostly non-churchgoers) very much enjoyed this service, and so the message of the joy of Christmas was proclaimed far and wide.

Provision of the church building for people to enjoy

The fact that the church is open every day from 8.30am to 5pm to the public is much valued, and the church is visited extensively by people from all around the world, many who value the peacefulness and the opportunity to pray and light a candle. It is important to us that the church is available for private prayer not just to the church family but to the wider visiting community. Following suspension due to the pandemic, we were pleased that our "Open Church" volunteers were again able operate on some weekdays to welcome our visitors, guide them around the church and answer any questions. This too is greatly appreciated by locals and visitors alike and the many entries in the Visitors' Book testify to this. Many remark not only how refreshing it is to find the church open but also the sense of peacefulness and spirituality the church pervades. Other remarks include the sense of history within; and comment on the appreciation of the architectural beauty of the building.

"Beautiful church and lovely acoustics" – a 'Google' Reviewer

The building is large and has a very lively acoustic which means that it is very popular as a concert venue for local choirs, choral societies and orchestras, many of which raise funds for local charities. During 2022 we put on our usual series of free lunchtime recitals (beginning with noted pianist Simon Ballard on 2nd May) each of which attracted up to 70 visitors. Both the church and the local community should be grateful to Paul Collins, our Director of Music, for continuing to put together this popular concert series.

The Sunday *Chamber Concerts* series (which we were able to 'rehome' and support from 2018 after the sudden closure of the Underground Theatre) continued throughout 2022, each attracting an audience of up to 70 or 80 people, some of whom have become regular visitors to church services.

We were pleased to welcome the return of the *Renaissance Singers* for their Epiphany Meditation Concert in January, Lent Meditation in March, and Advent Meditation in November – these significantly high quality choral concerts are well-supported, and we cherish the link between the church and the *Renaissance Singers.*

In March we hosted local choral group *Noteworthy Voices* as they performed the Howells' Requiem.

Throughout 2022 we continued to support the charitable work of *Concentus* (one of Eastbourne's largest amateur choirs) primarily by providing free rehearsal time in both the church and the church hall, on-going annual storage for their staging, and in hosting their two major concerts ("*Concentus sings..*") – the summer concert was particularly poignant as, due to the pandemic, it was their first public concert in two and a half years.

In April we had a visit from the Guild of Clerical Ringers who came to ring our full peal of bells as part of their post-pandemic UK tour.

In July we hosted the Mayfield Singers who came and sang the Duruflé Requiem at a Solemn Requiem Mass for the late Edward Pinkney RIP, celebrated by the Rt. Revd. Nicholas Reade.

In September we hosted members of The Society for the Arts and Crafts Movement (Surrey) who had come to see the church building. Our PCC Member and Trustee of the Eastbourne Society, Richard Crook FRSA, gave them a talk and a tour of our wonderful church.

The church is always popular as a venue with local schools (particularly Eastbourne College and Bede's) and we hosted the Bede's Preparatory School Christmas Carol Concerts on 16th December.

The church hall is popular with local organisations, charity and community groups and individuals and is fully accessible. As already noted, it is used extensively for activities which benefit the community which included, in 2022, Eastbourne Foodbank, the Say Aphasia Charity, and acting as a polling station and as a venue for local councillors' surgery. We have also provided space in our car park for charitable causes, such as for those attending the Civic Platinum Jubilee Service at Eastbourne Town Hall.

Maintenance of the church building, grounds and future projects

St. Saviour's church is a significant Grade II* listed building which requires a huge amount of ongoing daily maintenance. It is officially designated as a Church of England "Major Parish Church" (Major Parish Churches represent some of the most special, significant and well-loved places of worship in England, and are designated as such for a number of reasons including having *"a role or roles beyond those of a typical parish church, and make a considerable civic, cultural and economic contribution to their communities"*).

Our church is kept clean and tidy by a dedicated team of volunteers who spend a significant amount of time each week caring for the interior of the building. They are complemented by a team who work outside in the gardens and car park.

"Stunning church with amazing mosaics"
"I loved the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement in this amazing church"
(comments from the Visitors' Book)

We are most grateful to all those who give up their time to keep St Saviour's inside and out in such good condition. As well continuing this ever-ongoing general maintenance, and cleaning, of the church, hall and the gardening of the grounds – the following specific items were carried out.

The lighting over the choir stalls and in the Baptistery was improved by the addition of further LED lighting in November 2021

To improve visibility in "working areas", the lighting in the very dark "smoke room" off the choir vestry was significantly improved in February and new chandeliers were fitted in the sacristy and servers' vestry in April which has made these areas safer for users.

In June Ashdown Heating renewed both of our boilers and made the Blessed Sacrament Chapel able to be independently heated – which has already made a difference, but will make more of a difference when the major project to "glass in" the Chapel is completed.

In August Messrs. Paynes (Builders) undertook remedial work to the brickwork surrounding the gate of the Holy House in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel which was causing the gate itself to drop, causing difficulties with it being closed and locked.

In November and December our outdated internal CCTV system was surveyed and replaced with new cameras giving us full colour, infra-red night vision and remote access.

On 24th February members of the Diocesan Advisory Committee on the Care of Churches visited with a view to giving us informal advice on two major fabric projects: the replacement of the light fittings in the nave of the church, and; the "glassing in" of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. This visit went well and the DAC were in broad general agreement with what, and how, we wanted to achieve by these projects and gave us some advice. Taking this advice into account, plans were fully completed and were pleased to be able to apply for Faculty permission in December 2022, with the hope that we can complete both these projects by the end of 2023.

Our thanks must be noted to Richard Crook FRSA (one of our PCC members who is also a Quinquennial Architect and a specialist in Victorian and Church architecture) for all his hard work on this in guiding us. We also remember with gratitude the generosity of the late Jane Pinching and the late Barbara Drew whose financial legacies have enabled us to bring these projects to fruition for the benefit of our congregation, our visitors, and indeed future generations of both.

In 2022 the Vicar, Churchwardens and PCC began to actively consider the pressing pastoral issue of our closed Memorial Garden and what future provision we might make for the burial of ashes of departed members of the congregation and

those living within the parish boundaries. We had informal site visits with Richard Crook, our own architect and members of the Diocesan Advisory Committee on the Care of Churches at their visit mentioned above.

Throughout 2022 we have continued to review the recommendations of the Quinquennial Survey of the fabric, and have carried out such works as have been possible, and planned how the other works may be viable. We have also explored improving, and are examining the viability of replacing the existing lighting in the nave; our thanks to Richard Crook for his help and advice in respect of this.

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

"…Most of all I would like to thank you for helping me get through this year. Talking with you and knowing that you (and the other clergy, and the church) were praying for me have helped me get through all my treatments… this has also played a large part in my recovery journey…"
– a person supported through cancer diagnosis and treatment

Members of the congregation, and indeed anybody seeking help, are regularly supported by the clergy and many of our lay people. This help can be simply a listening ear, or by praying, or of a more practical nature such as buying shopping, collecting prescriptions, or offering a lift in a car. A lot of the clergy support given is often on an individual and long-term basis (such as the example of the person directly supported by the Vicar whose comment appears at the beginning of this section of this Report), and by its confidential nature it obviously "goes unseen" but is, nevertheless, both important and valued by those supported. This support is also given to members of the public who may not be members of the congregation as such; the important factor for us is trying to respond to need when it is encountered. The Vicar also supports various callers, some of whom are regulars, who knock at the door of the Vicarage. During 2022, hospital visits and home communions were undertaken by the Vicar, some of the associate clergy and Sue Black. Now that the restrictions imposed as a consequence of the pandemic have been removed, we plan to establish a pastoral visiting team in the near future.

Pastoral support is also given by the clergy through funeral and bereavement ministry. The clergy officiated at a number of funerals both at St Saviour's and elsewhere, whilst also providing follow-up bereavement ministry. Both funeral services and Requiem Masses were offered over the year members of the congregation and for those living in or near the parish.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

"Extremely helpful and non-judgemental when visiting for using the community food bank"
– a 'Google' Reviewer

We continue to have a formal partnership with the Eastbourne Foodbank, meaning that as well as being a collection point for donations (which is well supported by members of the congregation and others), we host the Foodbank every Friday in the hall (free of charge). The Eastbourne Foodbank is currently the busiest Foodbank in the UK, and our satellite of it (being in the centre of town) is in a key location and extensively used by a large number of the local community (on 11th June our satellite was the subject of a television report on "Sky News"). We also offer support to the Sussex Family Support Work charity throughout the year both through the collection of Christmas toys and presents and Easter eggs for families in need, but also through providing a venue for FSW meetings free of charge in our Hall. At Harvest our members donated gifts of non-perishable food, toiletries and other essential items to the Matthew 25 Homeless Mission. The profit from the harvest lunch and money raised by raffling off the perishable harvest gifts was donated to Family Support Work.

Other charitable giving and support

Two Lent lunches were held and the money raised went to the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team and the Matthew 25 Project. The church family has also supported The Children's Society, The Additional Curates Society, the Mission for Seafarers and Let the Children Live.

In July, we were immensely proud that one of our younger members, Athena Sadafi, raised £400 from the congregation and others by growing her hair to donate to the Little Princess Trust Cancer Charity who make wigs for children with cancer.

On 3rd September we were delighted to partner with the Eastbourne Rotary Club's "Homes for the Homeless" project in hosting a concert in our church by the world-renowned Treorchy Choir which was both much appreciated by the large audience attending, but also raised £3540 for the project.

On the 10th September two members of the congregation joined Fr Richard Harper, one of the associate priests in a sponsored walk visiting churches in Eastbourne as part of the Ride & Stride event to raise money for the Sussex Historic Churches Trust. Between them they raised £382.

On 5th December we hosted the Eastbourne Masonic Charity Carol Service.

Financial Review - forming the annual report of the Finance Committee.

1. The Finance Committee

A) The Finance Committee comprises of the Chairman (Mrs Beverley Thorp) who is also the Treasurer, the Vicar (Fr Mark McAulay), the Churchwardens (Mrs Pauline Fella and Mr Keith Metcalfe) and the Gift Aid Manager (Mrs Krys Breeze).

B) The Finance Committee meets four times during the year and the meetings are held prior to The Parochial Church Council (PCC) so that up-to-date finance reports can be provided to the PCC.

C) We started 2022 with Unrestricted Funds (general funds used by the PCC for ordinary purposes) of £40,491.00 and closed the year with Unrestricted Funds of £65,271.00 an increase of £24,780.00. This increase was mainly due to a reduction in expenditure in 2022 as we started to resume activities after COVID.

D) We started 2022 with Restricted Funds (income from trusts, endowments, bequests or donations received which can only be expended on a specific object) of £152,347.00 and closed the year with Restricted Funds of £123,832.00 a reduction of £28,515.00. This reduction in income was due to the installation of the new boiler which cost £24,460.21.

2. INCOME

E) The annual accounts show total Unrestricted receipts of £74.933.00. Planned Giving reduced to £37,117.00 but collections at services increased to £5,102.00 and income tax recoverable from Gift Aid increased to £8,512.00.

F) Income from the Church Hall lettings increased significantly to £9,673.00 compared to £2,000.00 in 2021. Thanks are due to Mr Steve Gilbert who manages the car parking and as a result income increased to £19,528.00 compared with £17,722.00 in 2021.

G) The Annual Gift Day on 20th November (The Solemnity of Christ the King) raised £3,707.00 a slight increase compared with £3,255.00 in 2021. However, it should be noted that £20,555.00 was raised in sundry donations and appeals throughout the year.

H) The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) started the year with 30 members and closed with 29 members. Donations received during the year were £23,745.61 with Gift Aid of £5,765.38 making a total of £29,510.99.

3. EXPENSES

I) The annual accounts show total Unrestricted expenditure of £81,320.00 (increased from £72,145.00 in 2021). This increase was due to our Parish Ministry Costs (PMC) which increased to £44,900.00 compared with £30,564.00 in 2021. At the start of the financial year our PMC contribution was only 50% of what the Diocese had set for 2022 but this was reviewed by the PCC in November, and they decided to give a one-off additional payment of £10,000.00.

J) Other clergy costs totalled £4,115.00 compared with £6,555.00 the previous year.

K) Church running expenses reduced slightly to £22,621.00 compared with £23,434.00 in 2021. Upkeep of the churchyard reduced to £2,402.00 compared with £3,426.00 in 2021. Church Hall running costs increased to £3,383.00 compared to £600.00 in 2021. This increase was due to the increase in utilities in line with the increase in hall bookings.

L) Trading costs remained at zero the same as 2021 as Open Church remains closed.

4. THANK YOU

M) The PCC wishes to record their sincere thanks for the continued generous donations received via the Parish Giving Scheme, Planned Giving (white pledge envelopes), Gift Aid donations (yellow envelopes) and to all those people who make generous weekly and ad-hoc donations throughout the year. We are very honoured that you bless us with your continued generosity and support, and this is particularly remarkable in the face of the financial challenges many people are facing. We do not underestimate the difference your donation makes to St Saviour's and in the work our church is doing for the local community.

Mrs Beverley Thorp
Treasurer

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll, so that they can vote for candidates for the PCC and the Deanery Synod, at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Communicant members who are 16 or over, and whose names are on the Roll, are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. This PCC does not have any sub-committees, but it does have a standing committee of four members: the Vicar, the two Churchwardens and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Throughout 2022 the PCC has complied with its duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2017, in relation to having due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding arrangements are clearly stated on the front page of the parish website: www.stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk. The Parish was last fully audited for safeguarding ("SQP") by the Diocese on 16th October 2019 and was found to be "fully compliant".

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay	*Chairman*
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pauline Fella	*Vice Chairman*
	Mr Keith Metcalfe	

Elected Members

	Elected Members	
	Dr Simon Thorp	*PCC Secretary*
	Mrs Judy Grundy	
	Mr Richard Crook	
	Mr Roger Emery	
	Mr Neil Clarke	(*Until 23/2/22*)
	Mrs Rosemarie Emery	
	Mrs Yvonne Dyer	
	Mrs Krystyne Breeze	
	Mrs Beverley Thorp	*Hon. Treasurer*
	Mrs Brenda Wright	
	Mr Noel Thompson	
	Deanery Synod	(*Until 13/7/22)*
	Miss Mary Delves	(*Until 16/11/22*)
	Mr Tony Sharley	
	Mrs Isobel Nugent	
	Mr John Vernon	

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC and
signed on their behalf by The Revd Fr Mark McAulay, PCC Chairman

…… Date: 3rd May 2023

Annual Financial Report

of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

St Saviour and St Peter, Eastbourne

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4UT
Registered Charity no. 1131420

For the year ended 31st December 2022

CONTENTS

Page

17 **Statement of financial activities**

18 **Statement of assets and liabilities**

19 **Notes to the accounts**

25 **Report of the independent examiner**

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £
Incoming resources						
Voluntary income	2a	75,700	9,556	0	**85,256**	120,257
Activities for generating funds	2b	19,528		0	**19,528**	18,645
Income from investments	2c	87		0	**87**	9
Church activities	2d	10,785	10,430	0	**21,215**	7,443
Other incoming resources	2e	0		0	**0**	0
Total incoming resources		106,100	19,986	0	**126,086**	146,354
Resources expended						
Costs of generating voluntary income	3a	64		0	**64**	129
Fund-raising trading costs	3b	0		0	**0**	0
Church activities	3c	80,956	48,501	0	**129,457**	90,422
Governance Costs	3d	300		0	**300**	300
Total resources expended		81,320	48,501	0	**129,821**	90,851
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		24,780	(28,515)	0	**(3,735)**	55,503
Gross transfers between funds	5	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/losses		24,780	(28,515)	0	**(3,735)**	55,503
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	6a	0	0	0	**0**	0
Gains/(losses) on disposal investment assets	6b	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net movement in funds		24,780	(28,515)	0	**(3,735)**	55,503
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2022		40,491	152,347	0	**192,838**	137,335
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2022		65,271	123,832	0	**189,103**	192,838

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes		**2022**	2021
			£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	6a		**0**	0
Investments	6b		**0**	0
Total fixed assets			**0**	0
Current assets				
Debtors	8	**6,802**		6,500
Short term deposits		**5,764**		5,764
Cash at bank and in hand		**181,649**		185,686
		194,215		197,950
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	**5,112**		5,112
Net current assets			**189,103**	192,838
Total assets less current liabilities			**189,103**	192,838
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	9		**0**	0
NET ASSETS			**189,103**	192,838
Funds	7			
Endowment funds	10		**0**	0
Restricted funds	10		**123,832**	152,347
Unrestricted funds	10		**65,271**	40,491
			189,103	192,838

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on April 2023 and signed on its behalf

Chairman Fr. Mark McAulay

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and under current Church Accounting Regulations in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP 2005.
current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102), as amended in 2016.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:
Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaing unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.
Planned giving receivable is recognised only when received.
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.
Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold
Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

2 Incoming resources

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £
a	*Voluntary income*					
	Planned giving	37,117			**37,117**	40,655
	Collections at all services	5,102			**5,102**	3,810
	Gift days	3,707			**3,707**	3,255
	Sundry donations and appeals	20,555	9,556		**30,111**	35,302
	Income tax recoverable	8,512			**8,512**	6,508
	Legacies		0		**0**	30,727
		74,993	9,556		**84,549**	120,257
b	*Activities for generating funds*					
	Fetes, bazaars and other fund-raising events	707			**707**	923
	Car Parking Fees	19,528			**19,528**	17,722
		20,235	0		**20,235**	18,645
c	*Investment income*					
	Dividends and interest	87			**87**	9
		87	0		**87**	9
d	*Income from Church Activities*					
	Church hall lettings etc	9,673			**9,673**	2,000
	Church Outings etc	0	10,430		**10,430**	2,591
	Fees from weddings etc	559			**559**	2,195
	Parish magazine	553			**553**	657
		10,785	10,430		**21,215**	7,443
e	*Other other incoming resources*					
	Insurance claims				**0**	0
					0	0
	Total incoming resources	**106,100**	**19,986**	**0**	**126,086**	146,354

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER, EASTBOURNE.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (cont)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022

	Resources expended	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	**TOTAL FUNDS 2022**	TOTAL FUNDS 2021
3		£	£	£	**£**	£
	Costs of generating voluntary income					
a	Special appeal costs	0	0		**0**	0
	Stewardship costs	64	0		**64**	129
		64	0		**64**	129
	Fund-raising trading costs					
b	Trading costs	0	264		**264**	0
	Hire costs	0			**0**	0
		0	264		**264**	0
	Church Activities					
c	Missionary and charitable giving:					
	Direct as a tithe	0			**0**	0
	Collections and other giving	0	1,250		**1,250**	275
		0	1,250		**1,250**	275
	Outings & Events		9,767		**9,767**	2,338
	Ministry costs:					
	diocesan parish contribution paid	44,900			**44,900**	30,564
	other clergy costs	4,115			**4,115**	6,555
	Church running expenses	22,621	3,663		**26,284**	30,407
	Church maintenance	0	2,028		**2,028**	9,120
	Upkeep of services	3,135			**3,135**	3,433
	Upkeep of churchyard	2,402			**2,402**	3,426
	Parish magazine	400			**400**	600
	Church hall running costs	3,383			**3,383**	600
	Prior year diocesan fees	0			**0**	3,104
	Vicarage dilapidations		301		**301**	0
	Legacy Fund Payments		31,228		**31,228**	0
		80,956	48,237		**129,193**	90,422
	Governance costs					
d	Independent examination fee	300			**300**	300
	Cost of annual accounts					
		300	0		**300**	300
	Total resources expended					
		81,320	**48,501**	**0**	**129,821**	90,851

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4 Staff costs

		2022	2021
		£	£
a	*Wages and salaries*	**4,080**	1,360

During the year the PCC employed an organist, but no payment was large enough to attract social security costs.

b *Payments to PCC members*

There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected to them, nor other related parties.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total 2022**
	£	£	**£**
Vicarage Dilapidations	0	0	0

6 Fixed Assets

a Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Church equipment	**TOTAL**
Cost or valuation	£	£	£
At 1 January 2022	0	7,224	**7,224**
Additions	0	0	**0**
Disposals	0	0	**0**
Revaluation	0	0	**0**
At 31 December 2022	0	7,224	**7,224**
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022		7,224	**7,224**
Provided in the year		0	**0**
Disposals		0	**0**
At 31 December 2022	0	7,224	**7,224**
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2022	**0**	**0**	**0**
At 31 December 2021	0	0	0

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

7 Analysis of Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**Total Funds 2022 £**
Fixed assets for church use	0			**0**
Current assets	70,383	123,832		**194,215**
Current liabilities	(5,112)			**(5,112)**
	65,271	123,832	0	**189,103**

8 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	**6,802**	6,500
Prepayments and accrued income	**-**	-
Other debtors	**-**	-
	6,802	6,500

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	**5,112**	5,112
Archdeacon's Loan	**-**	0
	5,112	5,112

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	**Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2022**
	£	£	£	£	**£**
Unrestricted Fund					
General fund	37,491	106,100	-81,320		**62,271**
Designated repair fund	0		0		**0**
Contingency fund	3,000				**3,000**
	40,491	106,100	-81,320	0	**65,271**
Restricted Fund					
Finance Committee	152,347	19,986	-48,501		**123,832**
	152,347	19,986	-48,501	0	**123,832**
Total funds	192,838	126,086	-129,821	0	**189,103**

Independent examiner's report
To the PCC of St Saviour & St Peter Eastbourne

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on the foregoing pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section 144 of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has 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 act; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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……

Date 20 March 2023

Brian R Etheridge
Retired Chartered Accountant
3 Mountney Road
Eastbourne
BN21 1RJ

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER,

England & Wales - Charity number 1131420

Accounts

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Saviour and St Peter Eastbourne

For the year ended 31st December 2021

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4UT.
Registered Charity No. 1131420

stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk
facebook.com/stsaviourseastbourne

Incumbent:	The Revd Fr Mark McAulay SSC The Vicarage, Spencer Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4PA.
Independent examiner:	B R Etheridge Esq. FCA 3 Mountney Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1RJ.
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc 63 Terminus Road, Eastbourne BN21 4TD.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT	2
FINANCIAL REVIEW	22
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS	24
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	27
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	33

ST SAVIOUR'S EASTBOURNE
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

OUR AIMS AND PURPOSES AS A CHARITY

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, the Revd. Fr Mark McAulay SSC, in:

- The promotion of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical;
- To know Jesus better and make Him better known;
- Being more open, converted, generous and engaged as a church;
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need, or ability to pay, and;
- Providing practical support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives.

WHAT WE PLANNED TO DO TO ACHIEVE OUR CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

As many will inevitably remember, the previous year (2020) was characterised by change and uncertainty as the rules and regulations from state and Church were continually updated and altered, against the backdrop of the ongoing spread of the COVID19 virus and national lockdowns. A glimmer of hope was given at the end of 2020, when we were finally able to reopen for public worship (and in time for Christmas), but this step forward was soon marked by a step backwards as the Prime Minister announced another national "lockdown" (the third) which began on 6th January 2021. Whilst we were able to (and emphatically did) remain open for "communal worship", this was characterised by social

distancing, the wearing of masks, a prohibition on choir and congregational singing, and the cessation of fellowship, and other social, activities. It also meant a further period where our parish hall was not being let, giving rise to obvious consequences relating to our overall revenue.

On 8th March 2021, England began a phased exit from lockdown. A four-step plan, known as the "roadmap" out of lockdown, was intended to "cautiously but irreversibly" ease lockdown restrictions. Instead of a return to the tiered system, the Government said it planned to lift restrictions in all areas at the same time. England moved through the roadmap as planned but step four (due to take place in June) was delayed by four weeks to allow more people to receive their first dose of a coronavirus vaccine. Most restrictions were lifted on 19th July, which meant that the summer period felt slightly more like "normal", and we were able to resume some of our usual activities. However, on 10th December, face masks became compulsory again under "Plan B" and the year ended with the prospect of further restrictions being imposed, and possibly a further "lockdown".

These were again considerable challenges, which continued to have a major impact on the momentum for growth and engagement which had built before the pandemic, and a significantly deleterious effect on our finances. It must also be noted that, for those charged with the pastoral administration of the parish, the evolving and changing nature of the detail of legal restrictions and our compliance with it was little less than exhausting. However, despite these frustrations and obstacles the Vicar, with the full agreement of the PCC and Clergy, decided that our worship and pastoral care would – as we had resolved throughout the pandemic - continue to the fullest extent possible, thus fulfilling our charitable objectives and our duty as Christians.

Full details are outlined below in the body of this Annual Report, but it must be noted that none of this would have been possible without the help and hard work of the clergy and committed volunteers – not least in the vital but mundane work of daily cleaning and sanitising of the church after all services. We deliberately continued live-streaming all daily services online, to reach those unable to leave their homes as well as those living further afield who wouldn't usually be able to worship with us.

Despite all the challenges, a spirit of prayerful optimism flourished as new faces joined our congregation and wider church family – both in person and online – and new volunteers continued to come forward to provide help and support.

The Vicar and PCC began the year with the same approach as we had taken in 2020 – i.e., despite the pandemic, insofar as it was possible, we would carry on with "business as usual" in the following broad areas of our life and mission as a parish church and as a charity:

I. Worship
II. Teaching, baptising, and nurturing new and existing believers
III. Building up the Body of Christ together
IV. Outreach and Evangelism
V. Contributing to, and joining in with, the life of the wider church
VI. Provision of the church building for people to enjoy
VII. Maintenance of the church building, ground and future projects
VIII. Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
IX. Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

WHAT WE ACHIEVED AND HOW WE AFFECTED BENEFICIARIES' LIVES

I.Worship

"I have been to one service at this church which was a few weeks ago. I will definitely be going again this coming Sunday the priest and the other members of the church are very friendly welcoming people and the service is beautiful. I have tried a few churches in Eastbourne & this is by far the best service I've been to. I highly recommend this church…" **(Google Reviewer)**

Offering worship to God – particularly through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - is at the heart of our life at St Saviour's - and a vital part of that worshipping life is providing both regular congregants and occasional visitors alike with the chance to participate in that worship.

Accordingly, this continued on a daily basis despite national "Lockdown 3" from 4th January 2021. Whilst Lockdown 3 did not require us as a place of worship to close to the public (although people were not allowed at first to gather for worship, and only attend for private prayer), in mid-January we were invited to close the church on a "voluntary basis" by both the County Environmental Health lead and by the church authorities but decided against it, given the strict care and precautions we were already taking and the importance of an open, worshipping church to the spiritual and mental health of our congregation and other members of the public. This was appreciated by both, and it was interesting that after a clear dip in numbers attending services, numbers began to increase and included both new faces and people from other churches which had decided to voluntarily close.

"Just to say how much many people appreciate the stand you have taken, in keeping the church open and having the services…" **(via email)**

As well as continuing the daily offering of the Divine Office and Mass, these services continued to be live-streamed for the benefit of those who were housebound, ill, shielding or uncomfortable with attending in person, together with a large number of people across the U.K. who had started to join us online at the beginning of the pandemic.

"I wanted to express my thanks to the Team for access to the online services, which have kept me in touch with our church at a distance…" **(via email)**

"I just watched Fr Thomas' presentation of the Stations of the Cross, using Walsingham images. The imagery and commentary were totally relevant and so meaningful for Good Friday. Even 300 miles away from you all, it was really very moving and thought-provoking…" **(via email)**

The ongoing importance and value of the live-streaming informed the Vicar's decision to maintain the online broadcasting even once the Coronavirus restrictions were lifted (and, indeed, broadcasting – which is much appreciated - continues to this day).

Although metrics for social media are notoriously difficult to quantify, nevertheless regular informal feedback confirmed that the service was used and appreciated by many.

"So many thanks go to you and colleagues at St Saviour's for making this happen…" **(via email)**

In 2021, our online 'reach'[1] on Facebook was maintained with almost 1,000 engagements each month, whilst the audience for our posts and videos includes people from as far afield as the US & Canada, Australia and Europe – as well as other parts of the UK besides Eastbourne. Our daily Masses were always watched live by at least some people, whilst Mass on Sundays usually had a live audience in double figures. These services also enjoyed – and continue to enjoy – substantial engagement after their broadcast, and are available online to watch at a later date as well both on Facebook and YouTube.

The restrictions from 6th January meant that the choir needed to be stood down, which was both sad and frustrating, as music is a significant component in our worship. However, we were allowed to have some limited music to begin with to accompany the Sunday Mass, and our thanks go to Paul Collins, our Director of Music, for his patience and forbearance playing hymns in full which nobody was allowed to sing, and to Charlotte Gilbert who carried the liturgy as solo cantor week after week, and who made such a significant personal contribution in Holy Week, again as a solo cantor. As time went on, and the restrictions were lessened in June 2021, we were able to have a small choir (with a maximum of six socially-distanced, masked singers) and we are grateful to the members of the choir for their keeping the faith, their good humour and their faithfulness during this difficult period.

[1] The number of people who saw any content from your Page or about your Page, including posts, stories, ads, social information from people who interact with your Page and more.

Equally, our team of dedicated and faithful altar servers showed similar forbearance initially in not being able to assist at the altar at all, and latterly in assisting in compliance with the restrictions once we were able to have servers at Mass again.

Because of the restrictions on contact and the requirements of social distancing, for the first time in living memory ashes were sprinkled on the heads of the faithful and not imposed as they would normally be on Ash Wednesday. Equally, the veneration of the cross on Good Friday necessarily could not involve physical contact with the cross such as kissing or touching, and this was very difficult for many of us on this most holy of days. Our thanks go to Tony Sharley who repaired and restored the veneration cross in readiness for the liturgy of Good Friday.

Understandably, given the restrictions in place, numbers attending on Ash Wednesday were down significantly at only 35. Whilst the attendance on Palm Sunday continued in line with this trend (attended by 69 people when in 2019, pre-pandemic, there had been 138), the rest of Holy Week was not as bad as we were anticipating (interestingly, the attendances on the three days of the Triduum were virtually the same as the pre-pandemic 2019 figures). Easter Sunday was attended by 96 people (a good number in the circumstances, but understandably and significantly down on the pre-pandemic figure of 179 in 2019). Overall attendance over Easter was 149 (2019 – 231) but interestingly even this disappointing figure for St. Saviour's is still significantly more than the national pre-pandemic average attendance – as an "average" Church of England parish church has a total average of 87 adults and children attending Easter services.

The Vicar invited the Assistant Curate to preach through, and preside, at the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter in preparation and training for the time when Fr Thomas would be an incumbent in his own right. Despite the fact that the liturgies needed to be amended and truncated in order to satisfy the restrictions in place, he executed the task well, and our thanks go to Fr Richard Harper SSC for all his work with the serving team in this respect.

On the sad occasion of the death of HRH Philip, Duke of Edinburgh on 9th April 2021, we set up a memorial in church for the public to pray and to sign a book of condolence and, on the day of his funeral (17th April) the Vicar celebrated a Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul. It was a shame that an unknown individual or individuals thought it appropriate to steal the Duke's portrait from our memorial on the morning of the funeral.

After the restrictions were mostly lifted, we were able to celebrate midweek sung Masses for Solemnities and Major Feasts. Unlike the pre-pandemic practice, they were celebrated during the day rather than in the evening and this decision was obviously popular as they were well attended with an average of 30 communicants (to put this into perspective, an "average" Church of England parish church *pre-pandemic* had a total average of 49 adults and children attending every *Sunday*). For example, the sung Mass on St. George's Day was attended by 28 people. This trend has continued up until the time of writing this report.

On August 24th we held a special service of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for the people of Afghanistan, followed the withdrawal of US forces, which was attended by 25 people. On September 19th we hosted for the first time the RAFA Battle of Britain Service, attended by HM Deputy Lieutenant, Colonel Anthony Lamb MBE, DL, the Worshipful Mayor of Eastbourne, Cllr Pat Rodohan, and Caroline Ansell, MP for Eastbourne. The Vicar officiated and preached, and the service was attended by 75 people.

By Advent and Christmas, we were able to resume (with few restrictions) the traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols which was attended by 135 people (a refreshing increase from the 62 the previous year, but still not as many as we were used to pre-pandemic), and the usual Midnight Mass of Christmas, and Mass of Christmas morning attended by an overall total of 141 people (up on the previous year's 94, and interestingly not too far off the *pre-pandemic* average of 188 for an "average" Church of England parish church). By 10th December, the Prime Minister had announced "Plan B", which meant – *inter alia* – the resumption of the wearing of face coverings in church. Unfortunately, it was decided that it was not sensible to hold our usual very well attended Christmas Gala concert, as well as the use of the church by local schools for their carol services, as a matter of public safety. Given the increases in cases of the virus and the imposition of further restrictions at the beginning of 2022, these were clearly the correct decisions to take.

The average regular weekly attendance, counted during October, was 66 adults and 3 children (*pre-pandemic*, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of 62 adults and children attending each week). Average attendance at the main Sunday Mass at 10.30am was, understandably, lower than before at 87 (but, as pointed out above, *pre-pandemic*, an "average" Church of England parish church had a total average of 49 adults and children attending on Sundays). Young Church continued to meet when restrictions, circumstances, personnel, and children attending allow. Our thanks go to Rachel Hobden, Lydia Verity and Brenda Wright for their ministry in this work with the children.

In 2021 two children were baptised and welcomed into the church family, one of whom (Imogen) is a member of one of our younger church families.

It was with great joy that we saw one of our members, Katie Terry, confirmed by the Bishop of Chichester on 6th July.

A greater number of the church family have been involved in leading various aspects of worship, reading the lessons, leading intercessions and serving at the altar. In this latter respect, our thanks go to Fr Richard Harper SSC who has done sterling work training the serving team and improving the liturgy.

18 people went on pilgrimage (including members of the Vicar's previous parish in North London), led by the Vicar & Fr Richard, to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in October. It was a real tonic to return to Our Lady's Shrine after an enforced absence due to the pandemic. As well as an opportunity for prayer, quiet reflection and spiritual refreshment, there was an opportunity for fellowship with other parishes, and meeting up with old friends. Our thanks go to Mary Delves who, after many years of organising our pilgrimage to Walsingham, handed over the baton in April and was presented with an image of Our Lady of Walsingham following our pilgrimage.

It seems appropriate at this stage to mention that, in readiness for the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, the plaster statue of Our Lady was extensively and sympathetically restored by the conservators at the South East Conservation Centre. This was paid for by a generous private donor, to whom we are most grateful. Our own wonderfully creative and talented Paul Fella made a new pelmet to carry the banner behind the statue, picking up on the iconography of the nave altar and, just in time for Christmas, Genevieve Gomi of Stella Maris Vestments sent the banner we had commissioned in ivory Comper Jay fabric. The ensemble is wonderful and fitting, and acts as a real focus of devotion. Paul Fella also designed, and made in his mother's memory, a new shrine to house the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham (originally given to St. Saviour's by Fr Derek Allen) in the north aisle. This shrine again picks up details in the church, most notably the niches of the saints in the sanctuary and was dedicated by the Vicar on Trinity Sunday.

Our worship at the nave altar was also significantly enhanced by the donation of a new set of six candlesticks, oil-filled candles, and a matching crucifix – and we are very grateful to the donors. In April and May Tony Sharley and Paul Fella extensively renovated and restored the Pugin High Altar set of candlesticks and crucifix – this took many hours and made a huge difference. Our thanks to them for their hard work again to enhance our worship. Bespoke oil-filled candles were

commissioned for these candlesticks and we thank the donors who made this possible.

In readiness for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, John Burford, Keith Metcalfe and Paul Fella made and ornamented a monstrance throne (or "tabor") and (in readiness for reusing the chapel from September 2021), John and Keith made a new, larger, altar top for the altar in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Also in September, Paul Fella repaired and restored the pair of angel statues in St. Peter's Chapel. Our thanks to all of them for helping to "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness".

II. Teaching, baptising, and nurturing new and existing believers

The restrictions meant that for a large part of the year it was simply not possible to carry out much "in person" teaching outside of the context of the Mass. Nevertheless, much teaching was still able to continue: teaching sermons continued to be preached at every Mass, whilst on the memorials and feasts of saints, a relevant reading or extract of their writings was read out at Morning Prayer to positive feedback. Whilst people were forbidden from attending worship in person, copies of the Sunday sermon were again distributed both via the internet and by way of hard copy by post for those without access.

"Thank you for sending the sermon from last Sunday. It is great to have the opportunity to reflect on the thoughts that you express, especially as these are some of the things that I find difficult to understand. Your words are a help. My faith is fragile but your sermon helps me to lean towards more certainty. I will keep this and reflect upon it when I am troubled by circumstances in the future." **(via email)**

Devotional and educational material continued to be provided via the online newsletter first introduced in July 2020. This offered reflections on the Gospel for that Sunday using material from the St. Beuno's Jesuit Spirituality Centre – as well as a new teaching feature, 'The Lives of the Saints' providing information about the saints commemorated that week along with appropriate prayers. This was initially using material from the Church Union, shifting to another in-house production once it was discontinued. These 'lives' were also posted on the noticeboard each week. Both the Vicar and the Assistant Curate's contributions to the parish magazine, *Logos*, were also of a didactic nature and the magazine also ran a series of very informative articles on the topic of prayer ("How I Pray").

Although the Lent course was completely curtailed after the second session in the previous year (when the very first "lockdown" occurred), in 2021 we were pleased to

be able to offer the Diocesan Lent Course (*Cracked Wide Open*) to our members remotely via Zoom and 'phoning in, which was appreciated by those who participated. All on the Electoral Roll (and those attending church on the Sundays prior to Ash Wednesday) were provided with a Lent pack by post, comprising of a pastoral letter and a *Walk with Me* daily prayer booklet for every day in Lent. Additionally, a Holy Week devotional booklet was emailed to all members, and posted out to those without access to the internet; this was very well received.

We were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Chichester, the Rt. Revd. Dr. Martin Warner SSC, and host the Archdeaconry of Hastings Confirmation Mass, at which one of our congregation Katie Terry (having been prepared by the Vicar) was confirmed and admitted to Holy Communion. We celebrated with Katie on the following Sunday with drinks and a cake in her honour after Mass. In August, the Assistant Curate baptised the baby daughter of the *maitre d'hotel* of a local restaurant, and in November the Vicar baptised another baby daughter of new members of the congregation. On that occasion – given restrictions had been lifted - we were overjoyed to see the church full (with 181 present) and were able to enjoy pre-pandemic worship again.

By the time Advent came, restrictions had been lifted, so we were able to meet in person for our very apposite Advent course, "Light in the Darkness", which was based around the very relevant pandemic concepts of "distance, safe, trust and normal". Devotional daily Advent *Walk with Me* booklets were again made available.

III. Building up the Body of Christ together

As well as worshipping together, we try to be deliberate in our attempts to build up relationships and social cohesion amongst our members, our visitors and all those who wish to join us. Inevitably, restrictions meant that for a large part of the year we were not able to do as much as we would normally (including, painfully, not being able to meet after the Sunday Mass for refreshments and fellowship).

Once restrictions were lessened, we were delighted to resume meeting after Mass, and our thanks go to Gill Goff and her team who provide us – and, more importantly, those visiting us - with that important ministry.

After the lifting of most of the restrictions in July 2021 we were also able to undertake some social and fundraising events detailed below. There was also a spirit of healthy rivalry engendered amongst many members of the congregation, and fun enjoyed, by a much-contested Sunflower Competition over the summer.

We also build relationships and cohesion as a church family by supporting each other in times of difficulty and in celebrating happy occasions together. We gave thanks for the lives of Fr Nick MacNeill (who had been an immensely popular, and much loved, associate priest at St. Saviour's) in January (as a mark of their love, the congregation were immensely generous in donating to a collection in his memory); Sylvia Dwyer (a much-loved member of the congregation) and Michael Gaze (another member of the congregation and a well-known Eastbourne character) in April; Richard Elliott (a long-standing member of the congregation and Eucharistic Minister visiting Eastbourne DGH) in June, and; David Burston (another long-standing member of the congregation), Dr Tony Thorp, and Isabel Baker (with long-standing St. Saviour's connections, and the sister of Mary Delves) in November. We were also made aware in February of the death of The Revd. Deacon Beryl Rundle, who had been Parish Deacon at St. Saviour's from 1992-1998. May they all rest in peace.

Although Barbara Drew had died the previous year, restrictions meant that we were only able to hold her Memorial Service and bury her ashes in the Memorial Garden on 1st June, and it was good to have Bishop Nicholas Reade (with whom Barbara had long-standing connections) with us for that. On 20th November we also hosted the wonderful musical Memorial Service for the late Robert Munns, organist and teacher (and erstwhile tutor of our own Director of Music, Paul Collins). 150 people attended, and we hosted the reception afterwards in our Hall.

As well as continuing to regularly celebrate the significant birthdays of our members with cake and wine after Mass on Sunday, in March we celebrated together with Beverley & Simon Thorp as they celebrated their 30th Wedding Anniversary. The Vicar celebrated with Liz & Martin Tardif on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary with Holy Communion at home. On 15th August (the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady), we said *au revoir* to Fr Thomas and Will at a very enjoyable garden party held on the Vicarage lawn during which we were entertained by the wonderful Jazz sounds of *Con Brio* (a local group). As well as honouring Our Lady and saying "goodbye" to our Assistant Curate, this was also very much a celebration of being able to do something nice and normal again after months and months of restrictions. On 5th September we were delighted to celebrate 50 years of marriage of Sue & Keith Metcalfe, and it was wonderful to witness them renew their vows during the Sunday Mass.

On November 4th we again enjoyed lunch cooked and served by our Serving Team in aid of a project to re-silver one of our incense boats. We thank them, and Keith Metcalfe, for organising it.

On our Feast of Title, the Solemnity of Christ the King (Sunday 21st November) we presented Mary Delves with a Tissot watch, a bouquet, a promise of lunch, and a vote of thanks to thank her for her sterling work over 35 years as the Treasurer of St. Saviour's.

The weekly online newsletter, which aimed to keep the wider family of St Saviour's (who are online) connected and updated with what is happening, continued up until Fr Thomas left in August. It included the devotional material mentioned above in II, as well as a short update on the week, details of upcoming services and events, and our parish prayer list. It grew out of the regular pastoral letter and emails that were sent out during the first months of the pandemic and lockdown in 2020.

IV. Outreach and Evangelism

One of the most difficult aspects of the various restrictions was that we were unable to engage in our three outreach ministries: ChatStop (a monthly breakfast club/coffee morning for those who would benefit from companionship and conversation), Lunch for One (a monthly lunch club primarily for those who live alone but open to all), and the Wellbeing Café (a weekly café for those with mental health challenges) – all of which are greatly valued by those who use them, and the local community. So we were delighted to be able to resume these three ministries in August 2021 and, in the case of the Wellbeing Café were pleased to undergo some training provided by another local charity and service provider, Eastbourne Samaritans.

"I'm happy to come and meet new people" **(a ChatStop guest)**
"I'm made to feel welcome and it's good food!" **(a ChatStop guest)**

Before the pandemic ChatStop was essentially run on the model of being a "coffee morning" but since re-opening, this has been developed into additionally offering breakfast. The hours of opening have been extended (now 9am-12.30pm), as has the menu, and the average number of guests served is 45.

"Lunch for one is like a restaurant" **(a Lunch for One guest)**
"I like being served" **(another Lunch for One guest)**

Lunch for One runs between 12noon and 2.30pm every third Saturday of the month and, since re-opening, the average number of guests attending is 55. A choice of meat or vegetarian meals are served together with a pudding, cup of tea and a slice of cake or biscuits (all of which, for logistical reasons, are pre-ordered, although "walk in" guests are always accommodated, rather than turned away).

A very enjoyable Christmas Lunch for One, held on 11th December, concluded the year.

These are significant areas of outreach and service which are much valued by those who use them in the local community. Our thanks to Yvonne & Bill Dyer and all the other volunteers and supporters who make them possible.

"Thank you for providing this safe space for us" **(a Wellbeing Café guest)**

The Wellbeing Café has between 5 and 20 guests every week plus 4-8 volunteers (including 3 clergy). The people attending have varied needs and some want to talk about ongoing problems (e.g. health or housing issues) but the conversations vary from politics and current affairs to cooking, films and music, TV programmes, shopping and of course the weather! A lot of the guests are single and lonely and just want the company of other people for a couple of hours. There are more men than women but no-one is violent or aggressive so people do not feel threatened or uncomfortable; there is always a lot of laughter. There is a wide selection of food and games available, as well as jigsaws, magazines, colouring books, puzzles and other reading material. Regular attendees greatly value what is on offer, and the conducive and safe environment in which this weekly support structure takes place.

A highlight was the Christmas afternoon tea (and bingo) which was well attended and the guests were well fed with sandwiches, scones and an assortment of cakes plus a Christmas cake to take home and a chocolate selection box.

Again, this is a significant area of outreach, particularly to some of the most vulnerable members of the community and our thanks go particularly to Jane Ferguson and the other volunteers who enable it to happen on a weekly basis, and to the Vicar and associate clergy who support it.

Last – but by no means least - as noted below (at IX), the Reach Out team (including volunteers from the congregation and wider town and community), under the supervision and guidance of Ruth Figgest, engaged in a number of different projects, including significant support of the Matthew 25 Homeless Mission. Our thanks to Ruth and the volunteers for undertaking this work on our behalf.

During Lent there was a specific project to knit Easter chicks for distribution. In the event, 256 such chicks were knitted by members of St. Saviour's congregation, which were distributed between the Matthew 25 Homeless Mission, the DEEP dementia project, Sussex Women's Refuges and St. Elizabeth's Church children's group.

On July 31st we held our first "Flower Show with a difference" (or Alternative Flower Festival). The difference was that the flowers could not be natural, but needed to be made of wood, paper, material (fabric), wool, recycled material, paint, or cooked. There was also a prize for the "best dressed vegetable" (which again was not a natural vegetable). Not only was this fun and interesting to see the ingenuity of those who competed, it involved many outside the congregation (including local businesses).

On October 9th it was great to be able to hold an Autumn "Mini Fair" which got people together and raised – somewhat surprisingly - £740. Our thanks to all who were involved.

We were delighted to be able to share our Poppy Display of 3068 knitted poppies (over double the previous year's amount of 1327) for Remembrance Sunday. Again a significant number of people came to see the display, and to remember and pray for those who died, many of them after having seen a report on the display shared on our Facebook page.

"My daughter just loves all these Christmas trees!" **(a visitor)**

In the week of December 4th we held our first Christmas Tree Festival which again had a theme of creativity. We enjoyed a wide range of displays from wooden trees, to those created of wire, and this event involved a significant amount of outreach to local businesses (who participated) and was visited and enjoyed by a large number of local people. We hope to repeat it again, for a longer period, in 2022.

In terms of more direct evangelism, as noted at II above, sermons were posted online and emailed out to the entire congregation. Over Lent and Holy Week, a bespoke booklet of devotional material was produced and distributed online and in print to all on our electoral roll and wider networks. We decided to restart the production of our monthly parish magazine, *Logos*, under the creative production and editorship of Paul Fella – and it was very good to see wider contributions (including *The Art of St. Saviour's* by Aslan, Margaret Baron's various travelogues, and Robert Milnes' regular music column).

The significance of our online presence has been demonstrated throughout the pandemic period. We have a significant *Facebook* and *YouTube* presence (this has increased the number of visitors to the church many of whom join in our worship, but also enabled those near and far who are unable to physically attend a church to worship and be taught). We continue to improve our website and now have included links to *The List* (list.co.uk - a national events listing site) *Visit Eastbourne*,

Trip Advisor and *Google Business* to promote the church, our outreach, and the events we hold.

V. Contributing to, and joining in with, the life of the wider church

Throughout 2021, despite the restrictions under which we operated, St. Saviour's and our clergy, continued to support the life and work of the wider church.

A major way that we achieved this was in the ongoing training of our Assistant Curate. Perhaps we should not have been as successful in this as we were as, on 30th May, it was announced that Fr Thomas was being seconded (a year early, as his curacy at St. Saviour's was to finish in the summer of 2022), to the parish of Christ Church St. Leonards. *"You have done a great job on nurturing a gifted priest for the future ministry of the Church,"* the Bishop of Chichester said. Accordingly (as noted at III above) Fr Thomas left us on 15th August, and many of us attended his Licensing at Christ Church on 14th September. We enjoyed having him with us, and wish him well in his future ministry.

The Vicar, as a Patronage Trustee, was extensively involved in the recruitment process and appointment of an incumbent for the vacancy at our neighbouring parish of All Saints'. In June he attended the Guild of All Souls' *Living with Dementia* conference.

As noted seriatim above, on 9th July, we hosted the Archdeaconry of Hastings Confirmation Mass at which the Bishop of Chichester presided.

St. Saviour's hosted the Chapter Mass for the brethren of the Society of the Holy Cross (SSC) – a fraternal society of priests with a common rule of life, of which the Vicar and some of our associate priests are brothers – on 14th September.

The Vicar continued in his role as a Bishop's Surrogate (a legal role which involves advising clergy and marriage candidates on marriage legislation and the issuing of Bishop's Common Licences for marriages) and undertook further training on 13th September.

On various occasions throughout 2021, St. Saviour's clergy have been deployed to assist and cover in other churches in the absence of their priests (either because of holiday or vacancy) and we have been delighted to be able to assist in this way.

One of our associate clergy, Canon Richard Harper SSC, assists the national work of the Catholic Societies of the Church of England by acting as Chair of the Trustees of the Anglo-Catholic Ordination Candidates' Fund, and he also lectures in spirituality at the University of Bournemouth.

VI. Provision of the church building for people to enjoy

"Wonderful Church. Kind, helpful staff. Lovely warm welcome! Perfect!" **(Google Reviewer)**

"People there are so helpful and amazing" **(another Google Reviewer)**

The fact that, outside of restrictions, the church is open every day from 8.30am to 5pm to the public is much valued, and the church is visited extensively by people from all around the world, many who value the peacefulness and the opportunity to pray and/or light a candle. It is important to us that the church is available for private prayer not just to the church family but to the wider visiting community: this is partly why we declined to close voluntarily, and kept the church as open as possible (see I *supra*).

"This place is breathtaking!" **(a visitor)**

Many remark not only how refreshing it is to find the church open but also the sense of peacefulness and spirituality the church pervades. Other remarks include the sense of history within; and comment on the appreciation of the architectural beauty of the building.

The building is large and has a very lively acoustic which means that it is very popular as a concert venue for local choirs, choral societies and orchestras, many of which raise funds for local charities. During 2021 we were delighted to resume our usual series of free lunchtime recitals, the previous series in 2020 having been suspended after only one concert as a consequence of "lockdown". On May 17th the talented bass-baritone Lawrence Gillians started the season, with 120 "socially-distanced" visitors attending. Both the church and the local community should be grateful to Paul Collins, our Director of Music, for putting together this popular concert series.

On 11th September we joined in the "Ride & Stride" event organised by Sussex Historic Churches Trust where participants are sponsored to walk, cycle or ride to as many participating churches in and around Eastbourne as possible in one day. Our volunteers welcomed the ride and striders, stamped their sponsor forms and offered refreshments. We were very grateful to Canon Richard Harper SSC who walked on our behalf and raised a total of £401, which was shared between the church and the SHCT.

Before the pandemic, the church hall was very popular with local organisations, community groups and individuals and is fully accessible. As already noted, it is

used extensively for activities which benefit the community including Eastbourne Foodbank and on 6th May as a Polling Station. Inevitably, the restrictions meant a significant decline in the community (and indeed church) use of the hall but – at the time of writing this Annual Report - we are beginning to see this reverse.

VII. Maintenance of the church building, ground, and future projects

St. Saviour's church is a significant Grade II* listed building which requires a huge amount of ongoing daily maintenance. It is officially designated as a Church of England "Major Parish Church" (Major Parish Churches represent some of the most special, significant and well-loved places of worship in England, and are designated as such for a number of reasons including having *"a role or roles beyond those of a typical parish church, and make a considerable civic, cultural and economic contribution to their communities"*).

In ordinary times, our church is kept clean and tidy by a dedicated team of volunteers led by Pam & Tony Sharley who spend a significant amount of time each week caring for the interior of the building. They are complemented by a team who work outside in the gardens and car park under the stewardship of Mike Brennan. We are most grateful to all those who give up their time to keep St Saviour's inside and out in such good condition. These volunteers have been boosted for much of the year by those who have come in daily, after each service, to sanitise and clean the building in order to keep everyone safe and provide reassurance to worshippers and visitors. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has worked so hard to keep our beautiful building open for all.

There were a number of specific projects, and works undertaken over 2021:
In mid February there was extensive tree work carried out in South Street car park to pollard the large poplar and reduce the crown of the holm oak. In March, Clarke Roofing dealt with water ingress above the servers' vestry caused by debris in the gully; also in March, Walco Electrical replaced three light bulbs in the nave and discussed a new lighting system to replace the existing 'bin' light fittings, installing a temporary sample "Crook crown" in September. In May Ashdown Heating carried out a major service and repairs to the three gas boilers and one of the engineers very kindly assisted in encouraging the two gulls that had flown into the church looking for a nesting site two days before, to walk out again. Also in May, Keith Metcalfe fixed a baton under the heating grille near the altar steps as it had become a trip hazard.

In July a large working party of volunteers put in a significant amount of work and effort to return the church to 'normal' following the lifting of restrictions, replacing all books, leaflets, kneelers etc. and returning the choir stalls to their original position. And in September the Blessed Sacrament chapel was once again able to be used for the week-day Masses.

Thanks to the skill and generosity of some of our members, we were again able to save some not insignificant maintenance costs through the hard work of John Burford, Richard Crook, Bill Dyer, Paul Fella, Keith Metcalfe, and Tony Sharley. Our grateful thanks go to them.

In relation to future projects, the PCC (Parochial Church Council) approved the commissioning of a new multi-use altar frontal in Comper Jay fabric, with matching vestments, and also new altar linen in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at a cost of £6,480 (using funding from the immensely generous legacy of the late Jane Pinching which was left for the benefit of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel).

In 2021 the PCC also began to look at feasibility of "glassing in" the Blessed Sacrament Chapel again using funds from the Pinching legacy, and our Quinquennial Architect was formally instructed to draw up plans for this in June. As detailed immediately above, the PCC also further considered the possibility of replacing the lighting in the nave of the church with more sympathetic light fittings, to be funded by the generous legacy of the late Barbara Drew.

Towards the end of the year the attention of the PCC further turned to the feasibility of extending the (now closed) Memorial Garden in some way.

Throughout 2021 we have continued to review the recommendations of the last Quinquennial Survey of the fabric, and have carried out such works as have been possible, and planned how the other works may be viable.

VIII. Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

"Thank you so much for all you and the team are doing. It is wonderful…"
(via email)

Members of the congregation, and indeed anybody seeking help, are regularly supported by the clergy and many of our lay people. This help can be simply a listening ear, or by praying, or of a more practical nature such as visiting, buying shopping, collecting prescriptions, or offering a lift in a car. The Vicar supports

various callers, some of whom are regulars, who knock at the door of the Vicarage. During 2021, hospital visits and home communions were undertaken by the Vicar and the Assistant Curate, some of the associate clergy and Sue Black.

'Many thanks - I'm sure I am not alone in appreciating these regular check-ups' **(via email)**

The regular, and much appreciated, clergy 'phone calls to the entire electoral roll established in the first lockdown became a regularised ministry, 'Keeping in Touch', and was staffed by volunteers from the congregation: our thanks go to Elaine Savins for her work in co-ordinating this. Once the church was allowed to re-open, this was targeted specifically at those who remained at home and isolating, and complemented by the pastoral letters and emails that are detailed above.

Pastoral support is also given by the clergy through funeral and bereavement ministry. The clergy officiated at a number of funerals both at St Saviour's and elsewhere, whilst also providing follow-up bereavement ministry. Both funeral services and Requiem Masses were offered over the year members of the congregation (detailed at III above) and for those living in or near the parish.

IX. Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

Despite the many restrictions in place this year, we continued to provide tangible support to those in need. We have a formal partnership with the Eastbourne Foodbank, meaning that as well as being a collection point for donations (which is well supported by members of the congregation and others), we host the Foodbank every Friday in the hall (free of charge) – and indeed were one of the few points to stay open over the lockdowns in Eastbourne (and the only central location in Eastbourne).

"Went here to learn about the Foodbank. Wonderful work for those in difficult circumstances…" **(Google Reviewer)**

For most of the year we had a donation point for Surviving the Streets, which collects and distributes bedding and warm clothes for rough sleepers: this was extremely well supported and comes on top of our existing collections for the Hygiene Bank and Family Support Work. This latter group are a major partner for St Saviour's, and we were delighted with the level of response to the appeal for Easter eggs, the November appeal for groceries for families in need, and our Christmas

appeal on their behalf for toys and gifts for families otherwise unable to provide them to their children.

The Reach Out team made up over 700 “snack packs” for clients of the Matthew 25 Homeless Mission, and financial support was also provided via donations through the year, the proceeds from the Harvest fruit and vegetable auction (together with a significant amount of non-perishable food donated at Harvest), and the proceeds from a table-top sale. The Reach Out team also made up a significant amount of “refugee packs” for local asylum seekers.

FINANCIAL REVIEW - FORMING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

1. The Finance Committee met remotely for most of the year to comply with COVID requirements to monitor and manage the Church's finances and report to, and advise, the PCC.

2. The Finance Committee comprises the Chairman (Mrs Beverley Thorp), the Treasurer (Miss Mary Delves), the Vicar (Fr Mark McAulay), the Curate (Fr Thomas Crowley to the 15th August) and the Churchwardens (Mr Keith Metcalfe and Mrs Pauline Fella).

3. We started the year with Unrestricted Funds of £27,606 and closed the year with Unrestricted Funds increased to £40,491 at 31st December 2021. Restricted funds managed by the Finance Committee increased from £109,729 to close the year at £152,347 as a result of donations and appeals.

Income

4. The annual accounts show total general Unrestricted receipts of £85,030. Planned Giving increased to £40,655 and income tax recoverable from Gift Aid reduced to £6,508. However, we saw an increase in sundry donations to £35,302.

5. Income from Church hall lettings reduced significantly to £2,000 as we were unable to take bookings for most of the year. Fees from Funerals and Baptisms were also reduced to £2,195 compared with £3,165 in 2020. Thanks are due to Mr Steve Gilbert who managed to achieve increased income from car parking with income of £17,722, up from £14,413 in 2020, which was especially pleasing during lockdown when other avenues of income had been restricted.

6. The Gift Day on 28th November (Christ the King) was not as well supported this year, achieving just £3,255 compared with £5,636 raised in 2020, although most of the donations made were gift aided which was a further benefit.

7. The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is an excellent and simple tax-efficient scheme which is of great benefit to St Saviour's. During 2021 31 donors had donated £27,663.30, including gift aid.

Expenses

8. The annual accounts show total Unrestricted expenditure of £72,145 (reduced from £107,776 in 2020). As ever, the dominant cost is that of our Parish Ministry

Costs (PMC) which had reduced to £30,564 compared to £40,752 in 2020. This unusual situation reflects the decision taken by the Finance Committee in May 2020 to reduce our parish share contribution by 50% as a result of the significant fall in income experienced by St Saviour's following the closure of the Hall and other fund-raising events. The Diocese originally had an expectation that parishes will be paying 100% of their PMC by 2020, but this will be reviewed once the financial impact of the Pandemic is understood.

9. Other clergy costs in 2021 totalled £6,555 compared with £8,796 the previous year.

10. The annual accounts show Church Hall running costs at £600 compared to £2,910 in 2020. Church running expenses increased to £30,407, up from £23,770 and there was a significant decrease in Church maintenance expenses to £9,120 compared with £32,964 last year.

11. There were no trading costs as the church shop was closed for the year due to the Covid restrictions.

Thank You

12. The Finance Committee wishes to record grateful thanks to all those members of the congregation who give regularly through the Parish Giving Scheme, Planned Giving (white pledge envelopes) and Gift Aid schemes (yellow envelopes) and to those people who have made generous ad-hoc donations through the year. This sustained and regular giving is not only greatly appreciated but is also a great encouragement and huge help in budgeting.

13. Whilst St Saviour's has not been able to arrange as many concerts, social and fund- raising events as we have in previous years due to the restrictions placed on the Church and congregation by the COVID pandemic with a consequent reduction in income, the Finance Committee is most appreciative of all those people who have supported St Saviour's financially through ad hoc donations during the year.

14. The Finance Committee wishes to record special thanks to our Treasurer Miss Mary Delves for so ably keeping the books and paying the bills and to Mrs Rosemarie Emery (and to Mrs Pauline Fella and Mrs Margaret Baron) for their essential work in counting, recording and banking the various monies each week upon which these Annual Accounts are based. Thanks also to Mrs Krys Breeze for all her work in recording and managing gift aid donations and with Mrs Pauline Fella for submitting our claim to HMRC.

Future Outlook

15. Although St Saviour's financial position appears healthier at the end of 2021 this is misleading. Firstly, like many parishes St Saviour's has faced a sharp drop in our income (with greatly reduced income from hall lettings, fundraising activities, concerts etc) and this has been masked by the decision by the Finance Committee to reduce our parish share by £2547 per month since May 2020. Once the Government's COVID restrictions are lifted we should be able to increase our income, but there will also be an expectation from the Diocese that our PMC contribution will resume at its agreed level. Secondly, St Saviour's has benefited from two generous bequests during 2020, but the majority of these funds are restricted in use and can only be used in expenditure related to the chapel. Finally, the Church is still facing expenditure to meet the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection report. So it is clear that 2022 will continue to present challenges to St Saviour's financial viability.

Reserves Policy

16. It is the PCC's policy to maintain a balance on the general unrestricted funds (excluding property) which equates to approximately 3 months- worth of unrestricted payments against unforeseen situations.

It is PCC policy to invest fund balances with the CBF Church of England deposit fund.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. SAVIOUR & ST. PETER, EASTBOURNE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £
Incoming resources						
Voluntary income	2a	61,524	58,733	0	**120,257**	155,772
Activities for generating funds	2b	18,645		0	**18,645**	15,585
Income from investments	2c	9		0	**9**	43
Church activities	2d	4,852	2,591	0	**7,443**	7,912
Other incoming resources	2e	0		0	**0**	9,157
Total incoming resources		85,030	61,324	0	**146,354**	188,469
Resources expended						
Costs of generating voluntary income	3a	129		0	**129**	0
Fund-raising trading costs	3b	0		0	**0**	188
Church activities	3c	71,716	18,706	0	**90,422**	111,549
Governance Costs	3d	300		0	**300**	300
Total resources expended		72,145	18,706	0	**90,851**	112,037
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		12,885	42,618	0	**55,503**	76,432
Gross transfers between funds	5	0	0	0	**0**	0
		12,885	42,618	0	**55,503**	76,432
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	6a	0	0	0	**0**	0
Gains/(losses) on disposal investment assets	6b	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net movement in funds		12,885	42,618	0	**55,503**	76,432
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2021		27,606	109,729	0	**137,335**	60,903
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2021		40,491	152,347	0	**192,838**	137,335

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. SAVIOUR & ST. PETER, EASTBOURNE

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes		**2021**		2020
		£		£	
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	6a			**0**	0
Investments	6b			**0**	0
Total fixed assets				**0**	0
Current assets					
Debtors	8		**6,500**		8,205
Short term deposits			**5,764**		5,764
Cash at bank and in hand			**185,686**		128,778
			197,950		142,747
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9		**5,112**		5,412
Net current assets				**192,838**	137,335
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	9				
Total assets less current liabilities				**192,838**	137,335
				0	0
NET ASSETS				**192,838**	137,335
Endowment funds	10				
Funds	7				
Restricted funds	10				
				0	0
				152,347	109,729
Unrestricted funds	10			**40,491**	27,606
				192,838	137,335

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on April 2022 and signed on its behalf

Fr. Mark McAulay (Chairman)

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. SAVIOUR & ST. PETER, EASTBOURNE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and under current Church Accounting Regulations in accordance with applicable accounting current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102), as amended in 2016.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:
Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.
Planned giving receivable is recognised only when received.
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.
Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.
Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

2 Incoming resources

	TOTAL FUNDS 2021				
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	£	TOTAL FUNDS 2020
	£	£	£		£
a *Voluntary income*					
Planned giving	40,655			**40,655**	39,996
Collections at all services	3,810			**3,810**	2,463
Gift days	3,255			**3,255**	5,636
Sundry donations and appeals	7,296	28,006		**35,302**	24,178
Income tax recoverable	6,508			**6,508**	7,299
Legacies		30,727		**30,727**	76,200
Grant	0	0		**0**	0
	61,524	58,733		**120,257**	155,772
b *Activities for generating funds*					
Fetes, bazaars and other fund-raising events	923			**923**	1,172
Car Parking Fees	17,722			**17,722**	14,413
	18,645	0		**18,645**	15,585
c *Investment income*					
Dividends and interest	9			**9**	43
	9	0		**9**	43
d *Income from Church Activities*					
Church hall lettings etc	2,000			**2,000**	4,518
Church Lettings	0			**0**	0
Church Outings etc	0	2,591		**2,591**	0
Fees from weddings etc	2,195			**2,195**	3,165
Parish magazine	657			**657**	229
	4,852	2,591		**7,443**	7,912
e *Other incoming resources*					
Insurance claims				**0**	9,157
				0	9,157
Total incoming resources	**85,030**	**61,324**	**0**	**146,354**	188,469

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

Resources expended 3		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £
Costs of generating voluntary income						
a	Special appeal	0	0		**0**	0
costs	Stewardship costs	129	0		**129**	0
		129	0		**129**	0
	Fund-raising trading costs					
b	Trading costs	0	0		**0**	188
	Hire costs	0	0		**0**	
		0	0		**0**	188
	Church Activities					
c	Missionary and charitable giving:					
	Direct as a tithe	0			**0**	0
	Collections and other giving	0	275		**275**	386
		0	275		**275**	386
Outings & Events			2,338		**2,338**	0
Ministry costs:						
Diocesan parish contribution paid		30,564			**30,564**	40,752
Other clergy costs		6,555			**6,555**	8,796
Church running expenses		23,434	6,973		**30,407**	23,770
Church maintenance		0	9,120		**9,120**	32,964
Upkeep of services		3,433			**3,433**	1,771
Upkeep of churchyard		3,426			**3,426**	200
Parish magazine		600			**600**	0
Church hall running costs		600			**600**	2,910
Prior year diocesan fees		3,104			**3,104**	0
		71,716	18,706		**90,422**	111,549
Governance costs						
d	Independent examination fee		300		**300**	300
	Cost of annual accounts					
			300	0	**300**	300
	Total resources expended	**72,145**	**18,706**	**0**	**90,851**	112,037

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

4 Staff costs

		2021	2020
		£	£
a	*Wages and salaries*	**1,360**	1,020

During the year the PCC employed an organist, but no payment was large enough to attract social security costs.

b *Payments to PCC members*

There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected to them, nor other related parties.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total 2021**
	£	£	**£**
Vicarage Dilapidations	0	0	0

6 Fixed Assets

a Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Church equipment	**TOTAL**
Cost or valuation	£	£	£
At 1 January 2021	0	7,224	**7,224**
Additions	0	0	**0**
Disposals	0	0	**0**
Revaluation	0	0	**0**
At 31 December 2021	0	7,224	**7,224**
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021		7,224	**7,224**
Provided in the year		0	**0**
Disposals		0	**0**
At 31 December 2021	0	7,224	**7,224**
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2021	**0**	**0**	**0**
At 31 December 2020	0	0	0

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

7 Analysis of Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**Total Funds 2021 £**
Fixed assets for church use	0			**0**
Current assets	45,603	152,347		**197,950**
Current liabilities	(5,112)			**(5,112)**
	40,491	152,347	0	**192,838**

8 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Income tax recoverable	**6,500**	8,205
Prepayments and accrued income	**-**	-
Other debtors	**-**	-
	6,500	8,205

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other creditors	**5,112**	5,412
Archdeacon's Loan	**-**	0
	5,112	5,412

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	**Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2021**
	£	£	£	£	**£**
Unrestricted Fund					
General fund	24,606	85,030	(72,145)		**37,491**
Designated repair fund	0		0		**0**
Contingency fund	3,000				**3,000**
	27,606	85,030	(72,145)	0	**40,491**
Restricted Fund					
Finance Committee	109,729	61,324	(18,706)		**152,347**
	109,729	61,324	(18,706)	0	**152,347**
Total funds	137,335	146,354	(90,851)	0	**192,838**

Independent examiner's report
to the PCC of St. Saviour & St. Peter, Eastbourne

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on the foregoing pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section 144 of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has 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 act; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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 B R ETHERIDGE Date 4 April 2022

Brian R Etheridge
Retired Chartered Accountant
3 Mountney Road
Eastbourne BN21 1RJ

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CHARITY

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll, so that they can vote for candidates for the PCC and the Deanery Synod, at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Communicant members who are 16 or over, and whose names are on the Roll, are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. This PCC does not have any sub-committees, but it does have a standing committee of four members: the Vicar, the two Churchwardens and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Throughout 2021 the PCC has complied with its duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2017, in relation to having due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding arrangements are clearly stated on the front page of the parish website: www.stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Incumbent:	The Revd Mark McAulay	*Chairman*
Assistant Curate:	The Revd Thomas Crowley	*Until 15.08.21*
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pauline Fella	*Vice Chairman*
	Mr Keith Metcalfe	
Elected Members		
	Mrs Judy Grundy	*PCC Secretary until 16.05.21*
	Mr Carl Hodgkinson	*Until 16.05.21*
	Mr Richard Crook	
	Mrs Sylvia Dwyer	*Until 05.03.21*
	Mr Roger Emery	
	Mrs Rosemarie Emery	*Deputy Churchwarden*
	Mrs Yvonne Dyer	
	Mrs Krystyne Breeze	
	Mrs Beverley Thorp	
	Dr Simon Thorp	*PCC Secretary from 16.05.21*
	Mrs Brenda Wright	
Deanery Synod		
	Miss Mary Delves	*Hon. Treasurer*
	Mrs Isobel Nugent	
	Mr Tony Sharley	*Deputy Churchwarden*

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC
and signed on their behalf by The Revd. Fr Mark McAulay SSC, PCC Chairman

M. J. S. McAULAY April 2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST SAVIOUR & ST PETER,

England & Wales - Charity number 1131420

Accounts

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Saviour and St Peter Eastbourne

For the year ended 31st December 2020

St Saviour's Church, South Street, Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 4UT
Registered Charity no. 1131420

stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk
facebook.com/stsaviourseastbourne

Incumbent:	The Revd Mark McAulay SSC The Vicarage, Spencer Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4PA
Independent examiner:	Mr B R Etheridge FCA 3 Mountney Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1RJ
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc 63 Terminus Road, Eastbourne BN21 4TD

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT	2
FINANCIAL REVIEW	8
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS	13
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	15
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	21

ST SAVIOUR'S EASTBOURNE TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

OUR AIMS AND PURPOSES AS A CHARITY

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Mark McAulay, in:

- The promotion of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical
- To know Jesus better and make Him better known
- Being more open, converted, generous and engaged as a church
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need, or ability to pay
- Providing practical support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives

WHAT WE PLANNED TO DO TO ACHIEVE OUR CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The PCC and incumbent began the year with plans that would build on the foundations of the previous year's Mission Action Plan (MAP), which was drawn up and adopted by the PCC in 2019. It included a timetable to begin and continue implementation of our agreed steps to fulfil the above aims in 2020. Our plans can be broken down into the following broad areas:

I. Worship
II. Teaching, baptising, and nurturing new and existing believers
III. Building up the Body of Christ together
IV. Evangelism and Outreach
V. Contributing to, and joining in with, the life of the wider church
VI. Provision of the church building for people to enjoy
VII. Maintenance of the church building, ground and future projects
VIII. Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
IX. Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

However, the Coronavirus pandemic and its enormous (and ongoing) repercussions in our parish and town, and of course the wider Church and world, meant that much that was planned had to be abandoned as our focus shifted onto continuing our core tasks of offering worship and providing practical and spiritual support to those in need, with the additional complications of complying with new COVID restrictions and ensuring the safety of all. No aspect of our church life was untouched: for example, after a single recital in February, our concert series were all suspended, whilst plans for regular social, teaching and evangelistic events were similarly postponed. Efforts and plans made jointly with the wider Church also suffered in this way, as did things like hall bookings and planned pilgrimages.

The year was then one very much characterised by change and uncertainty, as the rules and regulations from state and church were continually updated and altered, against the backdrop of the ongoing spread of the virus. Prominent amongst these regulations were a series of national and local lockdowns, of varying degrees of severity, which are outlined here for clarity and context:

Lockdown I

- First Suspension of Public Worship and Total Closure of Churches: 18th March 2020
- Re-opening of churches for Private Prayer: 15th June 2020
- Re-opening of church for Public Worship: 5th July 2020

Lockdown II

- Second Suspension of Public Worship: 5th November 2020 (private prayer permitted)
- Re-opening for Public Worship 2nd December 2020.

These were considerable challenges, which had a major impact on the momentum for growth and engagement which had built over the previous year and start of this one, as well as a significantly deleterious effect on our finances. However, despite these obstacles the Vicar with the full agreement of the PCC and Clergy, decided that our worship and pastoral care would continue to the fullest extent possible, thus fulfilling our charitable objectives and our duty as Christians. Full details are outlined below, but it must be noted that none of this would have been possible without the help and hard work of the clergy and committed volunteers – not least in the vital but mundane work of daily cleaning and sanitising of the church whenever open. A major innovation was in the provision of services livestreamed online, used initially when the churches were required by law to be closed entirely, and continuing subsequently to reach those unable to leave their homes as well as those living further afield who wouldn't usually be able to worship with us.

Although it was a year unlike any other, a spirit of prayerful optimism flourished as new faces joined our congregation and wider church family – both in person and online – and new volunteers continued to come forward to provide help and support.

WHAT WE ACHIEVED AND HOW WE AFFECTED BENEFICIARIES' LIVES

I. Worship

Offering worship to God is at the heart of our life at St Saviour's, and a vital part of that worshipping life is providing both regular congregants and occasional visitors alike with the chance to participate in that worship. Following on from the previous year, Sunday Evensong both Choral and simply Sung continued to be offered with a good response and attendance, both from the choir and volunteers to read as well as attendees – including those who didn't usually attend our other Sunday or daily services.

With the enforced closure for public worship in March, we immediately began live-streaming all of our times of worship – Morning & Evening Prayer, as well as the Daily and Sunday Mass. We feel that is important to state, and record here, that the daily worship offered here has deliberately proceeded uninterrupted throughout the entire pandemic. Initially this was a slightly ad-hoc affair, using whatever equipment we could whilst – like many – on a steep learning curve; our online offering included both the Vicar and Curate, as well as the Associate Clergy providing a mixture of live and pre-recorded services from home and St Saviour's itself. As it became clear that this was not a short-term situation, there was an incredibly generous response to our appeal for the funds to set-up a more reliable system, with over £1500 raised from the congregation. We are also very grateful to Paul Fella for his work in improving the internet connection and facilities in the church.

'The livestreaming has literally been a lifeline' – feedback via email

Between March and July, these offerings of worship continued without the presence of a congregation, but once this was permitted the decision was taken to maintain the livestreaming option for those who were still unable to leave their homes due to an order to shield, as well as to build on our engagement with those who wouldn't usually have encountered St Saviour's via Facebook. Although metrics for social media are notoriously difficult to quantify, nevertheless regular informal feedback confirmed that the service was used and appreciated by many. In the year of 2020, our online 'reach'[1] on Facebook increased almost 200% to over 44,000 people, whilst the audience for our posts and videos includes people from as far afield as the US & Canada, Australia and Europe – as well as other parts of

[1] The number of people who saw any content from your Page or about your Page, including posts, stories, ads, social information from people who interact with your Page and more.

the UK besides Eastbourne. Our daily masses were always watched live by at least some people, whilst Mass on Sundays and the Daily Offices usually had a live audience in double figures. These services also enjoyed – and continue to enjoy – substantial engagement after their broadcast, and are available online to watch at a later date as well.

Holy Week and Easter were especially unusual, with the first lockdown coming mid-way through Lent: this most holy time of the Christian year was celebrated entirely without a congregation, whilst all being offered online. The duties of the Mass and Daily Offices – as well as a well 'attended' online Rosary – were shared out between the clergy, and the Triduum itself was necessarily celebrated by the Vicar alone. All these services had good levels of engagement, aided by earlier advertising both online and via regular pastoral letters and a special booklet of Holy Week devotions which were sent to all on the electoral roll (See IV for further details.)

By Advent and Christmas, worship in person and with a congregation was able to resume including a simplified service of Nine Lessons and Carols and the usual Midnight Mass and Christmas programme. Unfortunately, our usual Christmas Gala concert, as well as the use of the church by local schools for their carol services, wasn't possible due to the various restrictions in place.

II. Teaching, baptising, and nurturing new and existing believers

A very limited amount of our planned programme of teaching was able to happen in January, February and early March: our newly instituted 'Bring & Share' teaching lunches were a success in January and February on the topics of 'Prayer' and on 'Lenten Disciplines.' There was both good attendance (c.20-25 people) as well as good engagement in the topics, before the remainder of the year's programme was suspended in March. Likewise our Lent course, based on the Beatitudes and using the *Pilgrim* material, began well but were similarly curtailed after only two sessions. It was also a great joy to welcome Bishop Peter Wheatley in January for the baptism and confirmation of one of our congregation, Ross Piper, as well as Brandon Heather from St Michael's Church.

Nevertheless, much was still able to continue: teaching sermons continued to be preached at every Mass, whilst on the memorials and feasts of saints, a relevant reading or extract of their writings was read out at Morning Prayer to positive feedback. Whilst people were forbidden from attending worship in person, a copy of the Sunday sermon was distributed to those without access to the internet (which was well received) whilst a 'phoneline was set-up for those offline to dial in and listen to a recording (however this was discontinued after a trial period due to lack of uptake.) Similarly, a regular offering from one of the clergy writing a response to a difficult theological question was trialled, 'Ask the Clergy', with the first looking at 'Why did Jesus die?'. However, this too was discontinued for lack of interest.

Other more successful innovations adapted to the time of pandemic included devotional and educational material in the new online newsletter that began in July (see more in III below). This offered reflections on the Gospel for that Sunday – at first an in-house production, and later using material from St Beuno's Jesuit Spirituality Centre – as well as a new teaching feature, 'The Lives of the Saints' providing information about the saints commemorated that week along with appropriate prayers. This was initially using material from the Church Union, shifting to another in-house production once it was discontinued. These 'lives' are also posted on the noticeboard each week.

Although the Lent course was curtailed, a suggested programme of '40 Ideas for Lent' was also publicised alongside in our parish magazine and online, with a new post each day which was well received. By the time Advent came around, we were in a stronger position to make use of online options, and so hosted a course based on 'O Radiant Dawn' from the Church Union and Society of St Wilfrid and St Hilda. This was devised and run by the Assistant Curate, with a good attendance of 10-15 people at each of the six sessions via Zoom.

III. Building up the Body of Christ together

Our newly formed 'Events and Social Committee' established at the January PCC meeting was unfortunately scarcely able to meet before it was mothballed due to COVID. Nevertheless, even during the strictest parts of the lockdowns, constant efforts were made to build up the Body of Christ in St Saviour's and our wider family: details of those things which are more explicitly pastoral and evangelistic in nature are found in IV and VII below. Other efforts included the establishment of a weekly newsletter online which aims to keep the wider family of St Saviour's (who are online) connected and updated with what is happening. This includes the devotional material mentioned above in II, as well as a short update on the week, details of upcoming services and events, and our parish prayer list. It grew out of the regular pastoral letter and emails that were sent out during the first months of the pandemic and lockdown, and remains active with the subscriber count currently at 167.

At the start of the year, Isobel Nugent and Mary Delves, who had been stalwarts of post-Mass refreshments, went into retirement with our grateful thanks for all their hard work. A new rota was drawn up to cover the year, to which many people contributed generously - although it may yet be some time until these can resume. We were also grateful to Rita Orchard who stepped down from flower arranging duties this year; a number of people have now volunteered for the new flower rota which has made a marvellous contribution to enhancing the beauty of the church over the past year – all the more appreciated in these difficult and trying times.

Finally we were able to host a couple of actual in person events during the gaps between lockdowns, including a Christmas Sale and an October Table-Top sale raising funds for one of

our partner charities, the Matthew 25 Mission. These were extremely popular and successful, thanks to the efforts of those involved – including our new Reach Out group, and we hope to be able to build on these successes in 2021.

IV. Evangelism and Outreach

At the start of the year, we had an extensive programme of outreach events in place and planned for the year, building on the success of established and newly launched initiatives in 2019. ChatStop – our free monthly drop-in for coffee, cake and conversation – continued to grow, and was complemented by the new Wellbeing Café aimed specifically at those struggling with their mental health. January also saw the launch of "Lunch for One", which provided a free sit-down three course meal to those who might otherwise be eating alone: it was a huge success with over 40 attendees, and supported financially by donations from guests and the wider congregation. Although this too was suspended from March onwards, we are immensely grateful to Yvonne and Bill Dyer for their efforts and look forward to its resumption – and that of ChatStop and the Wellbeing Café – as soon as possible.

Outreach and evangelism was able to continue in different, unplanned forms during the various stages of lockdown: as mentioned above, from March until July, a weekly pastoral letter and sermon was posted and emailed out to the entire congregation ensuring those both online and offline were in regular contact. Over Lent and Holy Week, a bespoke booklet of devotional material was produced and distributed online and in print to all on our electoral roll and wider networks, as well as Lent and Easter reflections from the college of clergy.

From the moment that it was possible, St Saviour's was re-opened to the public initially for private prayer and later for public worship too: this was advertised not just in regular online adverts which reached up to 8000 people in the local area, but also in a new banner that was produced and displayed outside listing our opening times (from 8.30am daily). It was clear both from direct feedback and from seeing a regular stream of visitors to pray and worship throughout the day that these were effective.

Finally, an area of significant growth has been the establishment and development of our new Reach Out team, under the supervision and guidance of Ruth Figgest who has worked extremely hard to co-ordinate volunteers from the congregation and wider town and community for a number of different projects, including running the table-top sales and fundraising events.

V. Contributing to, and joining in with, the life of the wider church

Naturally, given the nature of the past year, this has not been an area where we have been able to be especially active: as noted above, in January we hosted Bishop Peter Wheatley, and welcomed Brandon Heather and guests from St Michael's for his confirmation, and we were also involved in a Cross-Parish Partnership Quiz Night in February, which was enjoyed by those who attended. But since then opportunities for links with the wider life of the church have been limited and mainly confined to online activities. Amongst these, the Vicar and Assistant Curate recorded an interview on ministry during the pandemic for the Diocese of Chichester, whilst we also participated in and promoted 'Prayer for the Nation' over Lockdown II at the invitation of the Church of England and Bishops of The Society.

We were also pleased to welcome the new Bishop of Lewes in October for the delayed ordination to the priesthood of our Assistant Curate: although this was by necessity a much scaled-back service it was still a joyful occasion of interaction with the wider diocese and Church. The Assistant Curate has also written a number of articles for catholic Anglican publications in the church based on his time and ministry at St Saviour's, giving a wider audience to our efforts and ministries here.

VI. Provision of the church building for people to enjoy

As noted in the introduction, following a single recital our concert series were all suspended for the rest of the year, along with all of the rest of our musical offerings. The restrictions in place for much 2020 also precluded visitors who might ordinarily come to appreciate the art and architecture of St Saviour's. Nevertheless, as soon as it was possible to do so, St Saviour's reopened to the public, thanks in no small part to the volunteers who ensured the building was cleaned and sanitised several times a day. It was also fantastic to be able to share our Poppy Display of 1327 knitted poppies for Remembrance Sunday: fortunately, this was during a period without lockdown and a significant number of people came to see the display, and to remember and pray for those who died, many of them after having seen a report on the display in the local media or shared on our Facebook page.

VII. Maintenance of the church building, ground, and future projects

In ordinary times, our church is kept clean and tidy by a dedicated team of volunteers who spend a significant amount of time each week caring for the building's interior. They are complemented by a team who work outside in the gardens and car park. Both of these teams have grown over the past year with new members, some of them from outside of our worshipping community but still wanting to be involved and we are most grateful to all those who give up their time to keep St Saviour's inside and out in such good condition. These

volunteers have been boosted for much of the year by those who have come in daily, after each service, to sanitise and clean the building in order to keep everyone safe and provide reassurance to worshippers and visitors. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has worked so hard to keep our beautiful building open for all.

There were also a number of specific projects undertaken over 2020: the work to replace the lead on the roof with a lead substitute – to discourage further thefts - was completed in January, however in November we also had to have the lead covering on the War Memorial replaced following the theft of the original. Special thanks must go to Frank Gammon and Nick of Galenite (lead specialists) in partnership with Paul Strudwick and the Directors of Clarke Roofing Southern Limited, thanks to whose generosity this work was completed in time for Remembrance Sunday, funded by an anonymous donor. We also had to replace the glass panel on one of the doors in the entrance, after it was damaged by vandals.

Other projects included the clearing of the roof gullies over the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in the autumn, to stop flooding and water damage and the removal of a dead ash tree in the garden of the South Street car park. Our sound system was also upgraded – once again fully funded by donations from the congregation – to allow significantly improved live-streaming of services from September onwards.

Aside from these, there was also a significant amount of work and effort put into preparations for re-opening the church in June and July in a COVID-safe way: this involved removing all books, leaflets, kneelers etc. and producing guidance and notices as well as installing hand sanitiser stations at the entrance to the church and hall and organising a track and trace system and cleaners after every service.

VIII. Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

From the start of Lockdown I, regular weekly 'phone calls were made to the entire electoral roll (c.151 at the time) from the clergy in order to assess the various needs of our parishioners, provide them with support and more generally keep in touch. This was appreciated, especially by those who were otherwise alone and isolated. (Following Lockdown III this is now a regularised ministry, 'Keeping in Touch', and is staffed by volunteers from the congregation: our thanks go to Elaine Savins for her work in co-ordinating this.) Once the church was allowed to re-open, this was targeted specifically at those who remained at home and isolating, and complemented by the pastoral letters and emails that are detailed in III and IV. Clergy and others also provided – and continue to do so – help with shopping, collecting prescriptions and other assistance on an ad-hoc basis to those on the ER, and others resident in the parish.

'Many thanks ... I'm sure I am not alone in appreciating these regular check-ups'

As far as is possible, 'normal' pastoral care continues from both clergy and laity including lifts to church, shopping, pastoral calls and visits, although the scope for these has been strictly limited over the past year. Sue Black has continued her ministry of pastoral visiting mainly via the 'phone, as have the clergy. On re-opening for private prayer, clergy were available from 2pm every day for a number of weeks for anyone who wanted prayer, pastoral advice or just a chat.

Funeral ministry of course continued, albeit in a far more restricted way, as the clergy officiated at a number of funerals both at St Saviour's and elsewhere, whilst also providing follow-up bereavement ministry. Both funeral services and requiem masses were offered over the year for those living in or near the parish, and a number of our own congregation were among those who died: Barbara Drew in March, Graham Harwood in July and Nicola Chittenden in November. May they all rest in peace.

IX. Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy

Despite the many restrictions in place this year, there have been significant steps in improving our provision of tangible support to those in need at St Saviour's: we now have a formal partnership with the Eastbourne Foodbank, meaning that as well as being a collection point for donations, we host the Foodbank every Friday in the hall (free of charge) – and indeed were one of the few points to stay open over the lockdowns in Eastbourne. We also have a new donation point for Surviving the Streets, which collects and distributes bedding and warm clothes for rough sleepers: this has been extremely well supported and comes on top of our existing collections for the Hyglene Bank and Family Support Work. This latter group are a major partner for St Saviour's, and we were delighted with the level of response to our Christmas appeal on their behalf for donations and also toys for families otherwise unable to provide them to their children. Funds were also raised at one of the table-top sales we were able to hold in October, organised by the Reach Out group.

> ***This year the support we received was fantastic ... over 160 families received hampers containing both essentials and the "goodies" that are needed to make Christmas special [as well as] over 90 free range turkeys and a further 30 vouchers [for families] to buy their own turkey from a local supermarket. In terms of toys and games we received so many beautiful presents that we could give something to every child we work with. – Family Support Work***

Other fundraising for specific causes has included one of our servers enduring Sober October in aid of the Additional Curates Society, and over £250 raised via the Smarties Tube fundraiser organised by Keith and Sue Metcalfe.

FINANCIAL REVIEW - FORMING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

1. The Finance Committee met remotely for most of the year to comply with COVID requirements to monitor and manage the Church's finances and report to, and advise, the PCC.

2. The Finance Committee comprises the Chairman (Mr Carl Hodgkinson), the Treasurer (Miss Mary Delves), the Vicar (Fr Mark McAulay), the Curate (Fr Thomas Crowley) and the Churchwardens (initially Mr John Vernon, then Mr Keith Metcalfe and Mrs Pauline Fella). The new Chair of Finance designate, Mrs Beverley Thorp, joined the November FC meeting.

3. We started the year with Unrestricted Funds of £21,459 and closed the year with Unrestricted Funds increased to £27,606 at 31st December 2020. Restricted funds managed by the Finance Committee increased from £39,444 to close the year at £109,729 as a result of the significant bequest from Jane Pinching.

Income

4. The annual accounts show total general Unrestricted receipts of £113,923. Planned Giving increased to £39,996 and income tax recoverable from Gift Aid reduced to £7,299. However, we saw a further reduction in sundry donations to £24,178 mainly a result of the lockdown restrictions.

5. Income from Church hall lettings reduced significantly to £4,518 as we were unable to take bookings for most of the year. Fees from Funerals increased to £3,165 compared with £1,812 in 2019. Thanks are due to Mr Steve Gilbert who managed to achieve increased income from car parking with income of £14,413, up from £13,875 in 2019, which was especially pleasing during lockdown when other avenues of income had been restricted.

6. The Gift Day on 29th November (Christ the King) under the auspices of Mr Carl Hodgkinson was well supported, achieving £6,014 compared with £5,468 raised in 2019, which was an excellent achievement during the Pandemic. Most of the donations made were gift aided which was a further benefit.

7. The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) grew during the year with further members of the congregation switching their giving to this excellent and simple tax-efficient scheme which is of great benefit to St Saviour's. During 2020 33 donors had donated £29,560 , including gift aid, and the PGS contributes an increasing % of our total unrestricted income (more than 25% in 2020).

Expenses

8. The annual accounts show total Unrestricted expenditure of £107,776 (reduced from £111,157 in 2019). As ever, the dominant cost is that of our Parish Ministry Costs (PMC) which had reduced to £40,752 compared to £55,572 in 2019. This unusual situation reflects the decision taken by the Finance Committee in May to reduce our parish share contribution by 50% as a result of the significant fall in income experienced by St Saviour's following the closure of the Hall and other fund-raising events. The Diocese originally had an expectation that parishes will be paying 100% of their PMC by 2020, but this will be reviewed once the financial impact of the Pandemic is understood.

9. Other clergy costs in 2020 totalled £8,796 compared with £10,144 the previous year.

10. The annual accounts show Church Hall running costs at £2,910 compared to £3,438 in 2019. Church running expenses reduced to £23,770, down from £36,814 and there was a significant increase in Church maintenance expenses to £32,964 compared with £9,020 last year mainly to pay for the repair of the flat roofs following the theft of lead.

11. Trading costs were understandably lower at £188 as Open Church was closed for most of the year compared to £207 incurred during 2019. At the end of the year the deficit from the recording and production of special CD of organ music was £441 but it is expected that this will be covered from income received from subsequent sales of the CD once more normal operations can resume.

Thank You

12. The Finance Committee wishes to record grateful thanks to all those members of the congregation who give regularly through the Parish Giving Scheme, Planned Giving (white pledge envelopes) and Gift Aid schemes (yellow envelopes) and to those people who have made generous ad-hoc donations through the year. This sustained and regular giving is not only greatly appreciated but is also a great encouragement and huge help in budgeting.

13. Whilst St Saviour's has not been able to arrange concerts, social and fund raising events as we have in previous years due to the restrictions placed on the Church and congregation by the COVID pandemic with a consequent reduction in income, the Finance Committee is most appreciative of all those people who have supported St Saviour's financially through ad hoc donations during the year.

14. The Finance Committee wishes to record special thanks to our Treasurer Miss Mary Delves for so ably keeping the books and paying the bills and to Mrs Rosemarie Emery (and to Mrs Pauline Fella and Mr Carl Hodgkinson during the Government imposed lockdown) for their essential work in counting, recording and banking the various monies each week upon which these Annual Accounts are based. Thanks also to Mrs Krys Breeze for all her work in recording and managing gift aid donations and with Mrs Pauline Fella for submitting our claim to HMRC.

Future Outlook

15. Although St Saviour's financial position appears healthier at the end of 2020 this is misleading. Firstly, like many parishes St Saviour's has faced a sharp drop in our income (with no income from hall lettings, fundraising activities, concerts etc) and this has been masked by the decision by the Finance Committee to reduce our parish share by £2547 per month since May 2020. Once the Government's COVID restrictions are lifted we should be able to increase our income, but there will also be an expectation from the Diocese that our PMC contribution will resume at its agreed level. Secondly, St Saviour's has benefited from two generous bequests during the year, but the majority of these funds are restricted in use and can only be used in expenditure related to the chapel. Finally, the Church is still facing expenditure to meet the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection report. So it is clear that 2021 will continue to present challenges to St Saviour's financial viability.

Reserves Policy

16. It is the PCC's policy to maintain a balance on the general unrestricted funds (excluding property) which equates to approximately 3 months worth of unrestricted payments against unforeseen situations. The closing balance did not achieve this but is getting closer.

It is PCC policy to invest fund balances with the CBF Church of England deposit fund.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CHARITY

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll, so that they can vote for candidates for the PCC and the Deanery Synod, at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Communicant members who are 16 or over, and whose names are on the Roll, are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. This PCC does not have any sub-committees, but it does have a standing committee of four members: the Vicar, the two Churchwardens and Chair of the Finance Committee.

Throughout 2020 the PCC has complied with its duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2017, in relation to having due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding arrangements are clearly stated on the front page of the parish website: www.stsaviourseastbourne.org.uk.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council: *(due to the exceptional situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, the usual APCM was delayed from April until the 11th October)*

Ex Officio members

Incumbent:	The Revd Mark McAulay	Chairman
Assistant Curate:	The Revd Thomas Crowley	
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pauline Fella	
	Mr John Vernon	Until APCM 2020
	Mr Keith Metcalfe	From APCM 2020

Elected Members

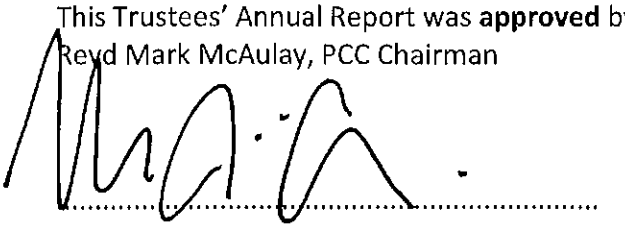
Mrs Judy Grundy	PCC Secretary
Mr David Thorpe	Until APCM 2020
Mr Carl Hodgkinson	Chair of Finance Committee
	Until APCM 2020
Mr Richard Crook	
Mrs Sylvia Dwyer	Until APCM 2020
Mr Roger Emery	
Mrs Rosemarie Emery	Deputy Churchwarden
Mr David McLean	Until 11/12/20
Mrs Yvonne Dyer	
Mrs Krystyne Breeze	
Mrs Beverley Thorp	
Dr Simon Thorp	
Mrs Brenda Wright	

Deanery Synod

Miss Mary Delves	Treasurer
Mrs Isobel Nugent	
Mr Tony Sharley	Deputy Churchwarden

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC and signed on their behalf by The Revd Mark McAulay, PCC Chairman



Date 28/05/21

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
Incoming resources						
Voluntary income	2a	81,226	74,546	0	**155,772**	99,269
Activities for generating funds	2b	15,585		0	**15,585**	16,568
Income from investments	2c	43		0	**43**	56
Church activities	2d	7,912	0	0	**7,912**	20,002
Other incoming resources	2e	9,157		0	**9,157**	0
Total incoming resources		113,923	74,546	0	**188,469**	135,895
Resources expended						
Costs of generating voluntary income	3a	0		0	**0**	43
Fund-raising trading costs	3b	188		0	**188**	657
Church activities	3c	107,288	4,261	0	**111,549**	122,647
Governance Costs	3d	300		0	**300**	450
Total resources expended		107,776	4,261	0	**112,037**	123,797
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		6,147	70,285	0	**76,432**	12,098
Gross transfers between funds	5	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/losses		6,147	70,285	0	**76,432**	12,098
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	6a	0	0	0	**0**	0
Gains/(losses) on disposal investment assets	6b	0	0	0	**0**	0
Net movement in funds		6,147	70,285	0	**76,432**	12,098
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2020		21,459	39,444	0	**60,903**	48,805
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2020		27,606	109,729	0	**137,335**	60,903

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	Notes		2020	2019
			£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	6a		**0**	0
Investments	6b		**0**	0
Total fixed assets			**0**	0
Current assets				
Debtors	8	**8,205**		8,000
Short term deposits		**5,764**		5,764
Cash at bank and in hand		**128,778**		52,251
		142,747		66,015
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	**5,412**		5,112
Net current assets			**137,335**	60,903
Total assets less current liabilities			**137,335**	60,903
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	9		**0**	0
NET ASSETS			**137,335**	60,903
Funds	7			
Endowment funds	10		**0**	0
Restricted funds	10		**27,606**	39,444
Unrestricted funds	10		**109,729**	21,459
			137,335	60,903

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on April 2021 and signed on its behalf

Chairman Fr. Mark McAulay SSC

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. **Accounting policies**

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and under current Church Accounting Regulations in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP 2005. Current (2015) Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102), as amended in 2016.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b **Funds accounting**

Funds held by the PCC are:

- *Unrestricted funds* - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes
- *Designated funds* - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.
- *Restricted funds* - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.
- *Endowment funds* - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.
Planned giving receivable is recognised only when received.
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.
Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other Income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold
Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

2 Incoming resources

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
a	*Voluntary income*					
	Planned giving	39,996			**39,996**	35,258
	Collections at all services	2,026	437		**2,463**	8,283
	Gift days	5,636			**5,636**	5,468
	Sundry donations and appeals	20,069	4,109		**24,178**	29,014
	Income tax recoverable	7,299			**7,299**	15,246
	Legacies	6,200	70,000		**76,200**	0
	Grant	0	0		**0**	6,000
		81,226	74,546		**155,772**	99,269
b	*Activities for generating funds*					
	Fetes, bazaars and other fund-raising events	1,172			**1,172**	2,693
	Car Parking Fees	14,413			**14,413**	13,875
		15,585	0		**15,585**	16,568
c	*Investment income*					
	Dividends and interest	43			**43**	56
		43	0		**43**	56
d	*Income from Church Activities*					
	Church hall lettings etc	4,518			**4,518**	10,056
	Church Lettings	0			**0**	4,818
	Church Outings etc	0	0		**0**	2,696
	Fees from weddings etc	3,165			**3,165**	1,812
	Parish magazine	229			**229**	620
		7,912	0		**7,912**	20,002
e	*Other other incoming resources*					
	Insurance claims	9,157			**0**	0
		9,157	0		**9,157**	0
	Total incoming resources	**113,923**	**74,546**	**0**	**188,469**	135,895

3	**Resources expended**	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £**	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
	Costs of generating voluntary income					
a	Special appeal costs	0	0		**0**	0
	Stewardship costs	0	0		**0**	43
		0	0		**0**	43
	Fund-raising trading costs					
b	Trading costs	188	0		**188**	207
	Hire costs	0			**0**	450
		188	0		**188**	657
	Church Activities					
c	Missionary and charitable giving:					
	Direct as a tithe	0			**0**	0
	Collections and other giving	0	386		**386**	1,252
		0	386		**386**	1,252
	Outings & Events		0		**0**	2,736
	Ministry costs:					
	diocesan parish contribution paid	40,752			**40,752**	55,572
	other clergy costs	8,796			**8,796**	10,144
	Church running expenses	19,895	3,875		**23,770**	36,814
	Church maintenance	32,964			**32,964**	9,020
	Upkeep of services	1,771			**1,771**	2,525
	Upkeep of churchyard	200			**200**	626
	Parish magazine	0			**0**	520
	Church hall running costs	2,910			**2,910**	3,438
	Vicarage dilapidations	0			**0**	0
					0	
		107,288	4,261		**111,549**	122,647
	Governance costs					
d	Independent examination fee	300			**300**	450
	Cost of annual accounts					
		300	0		**300**	450
	Total resources expended					
		107,776	**4,261**	**0**	**112,037**	123,797

4 Staff costs

		2020	2019
		£	£
a	*Wages and salaries*	**1,020**	4,175

During the year the PCC employed an organist, but no payment was large enough to attract social security costs.

b *Payments to PCC members*

There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected to them, nor other related parties.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	**Total 2020**
	£	£	**£**
Vicarage Dilapidations	0	0	0

6 Fixed Assets

a Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Church equipment	**TOTAL**
Cost or valuation	£	£	£
At 1 January 2020	0	7,224	**7,224**
Additions	0	0	**0**
Disposals	0	0	**0**
Revaluation	0	0	**0**
At 31 December 2020	0	7,224	**7,224**
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2020		7,224	**7,224**
Provided in the year		0	**0**
Disposals		0	**0**
At 31 December 2020	0	7,224	**7,224**
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2020	**0**	**0**	**0**
At 31 December 2019	0	0	0

7 Analysis of Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	**Total Funds 2020 £**
Fixed assets for church use	0			**0**
Current assets	33,018	109,729		**142,747**
Current liabilities	(5,412)			**(5,412)**
	27,606	109,729	0	**137,335**

8 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Income tax recoverable	**8,205**	8,000
Prepayments and accrued income	**-**	-
Other debtors	**-**	-
	8,205	8,000

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Other creditors	**5,412**	5,112
Archdeacon's Loan	**-**	0
	5,412	5,112

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	**Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2020**
	£	£	£	£	**£**
Unrestricted Fund					
General fund	18,459	113,923	(107,776)		**24,606**
Designated repair fund	0		0		**0**
Contingency fund	3,000				**3,000**
	21,459	113,923	(107,776)	0	**27,606**
Restricted Fund					
Finance Committee	39,444	74,546	(4,261)		**109,729**
	39,444	74,546	(4,261)	0	**109,729**
Total funds	60,903	188,469	(112,037)	0	**137,335**

Independent examiner's report
To the PCC of St Saviour & St Peter Eastbourne

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on the foregoing pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section 144 of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has 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 act; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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..... Brian E Etheridge....

Date... 1 May 2021

Brian R Etheridge
Retired Chartered Accountant
3 Mountney Road
Eastbourne
BN21 1RJ