

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1131694

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2023

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ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
(Charity Registration Number 1131694)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the members on my examination of the financial statements of the PCC of St Mary The Virgin for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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") and; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

The 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 we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act as also contained in the Church Accounting Regulations 1997; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Sharon White ACCA - Benson Wood Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 21 Belasis Court
Belasis Hall Technology Park
BILLINGHAM
TS23 4AZ

Date 24/04/2024

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Administrative Information

St Mary's is located on Norton Green in the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees. It is in the Deanery of Stockton, and within the Auckland

Name of Charity: The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Mary the Virgin, Norton. (Other name or acronym: St Mary's

Charity Registration Number: 1131694

Address: c/o St Mary's Parish Office, 70 The Green, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees TS20 1DT

Office Phone: 01642 531300 / 07505 464005

Office Email: parishadmin@virginmedia.com

Vicar's Email: revmartin@outlook.com

Website: www.stmarysnorton.co.uk

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission.

PCC members (Trustees) serving from 1 Jan 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent	Revd Martin Anderson	Chair
Assistant Curate	Revd Hannah Richardson	Appointed to St. Mary's in March 2023
Licensed Reader	Haydn Beckwith	
Churchwardens	Sylvia Morgan	
	Colin Legg	

Representatives on Stockton Deanery Synod (elected for the Triennium 2020-2023)

Jeremy Kendall	(stepped down prior to APCM in April 2023)
Judy Rigg	(stepped down prior to APCM in April 2023)

Elected to Deanery Synod April 2023 for Triennium 2023-2026

Ruth Langford
Julie Saunders
Colin Legg

Elected Members of PCC:

Ruth Langford	
Helen Bostock	
Julie Saunders	PCC Secretary
Ruth King	Parish Safeguarding Officer
Brian Webb	Health & Safety
Ian Saul	Acting Treasurer
Sue Dixon	
Carol Mansell	
Ryan McCabe	Trainee Treasurer (co-opted June 2023)

Structure, Governance and Management

PCC's are governed by two "Church of England Measures"; the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended). The Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. St Mary's Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and welcome to stand for election to the PCC.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (cont'd)

Objectives and Activities

St Mary's PCC is part of the Church of England and extracts the pertinent objects from the PCC Powers Measure. Main activities undertaken in relation to these objects:

- Regular public worship and Holy Communion
- The provision of sacred space for prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work, including care of the sick and bereaved
- Christian teaching through sermons, group courses and small group learning
- Taking of religious assemblies in schools
- Growth in Christian discipleship & formation
- Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.
- Maintenance responsibilities for St Mary's Church, Parish Hall & Forge on Norton Green

Achievements and Performance

In 2023 regular patterns of worship included the 10.00am Thursday midweek communion, 11.00am Sunday parish communion, and a 'Messy church' at 3.00pm every third Sunday of the month which provides wonderful crafts, games, stories and songs delivered through a dedicated commitment in our ministry to families. We continue to have significant pastoral contact through occasional offices, social events and outreach activities. During the year we had numerous baptisms, marriages, funerals in church, and funerals at crematoriums, burials of ashes and burials at cemeteries. Our Pastoral Team have provided community pastoral care at a weekly Café Hub, home visits and home communions during 2023, superbly coordinated by Ruth Langford.

Activities at St Mary's Parish Hall & Forge booked through Sue Gardner (Parish Administrator) have provided a valuable source of income & strengthened community cohesion, including dance classes, bonsai, ukelele, U3A, baby sensory, Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. Sue's work provisions are invaluable, providing consistency, welcome and knowledge to newcomers & church members throughout the year.

A regular monthly 'koinonia' parish lunch with fabulous food & hospitality and a monthly parish walking group led by Mike Rawson has offered accessible, open, and sociable time for relationships to be deepened, spaces to be listened to & meaningful friendships to be shared.

A High Tea and Harvest Tea were also successful events ably organised by Louise Bradley and volunteers with successful community support and involvement.

A service of celebration for the Coronation of King Charles III and Coronation Big Lunch were at St. Mary's on Sunday 7th May 2023.

A Parish Nursing Service opened in the Parish Hall in September 2023 with the appointment of Carol Mansell, Parish Nurse who provides a weekly session open to all members of the Norton community for medical advice, listening hub, blood pressure checks, etc. alongside social or medical referring on.

We welcomed Revd Hannah Richardson in March 2023 who is a valuable support to the parishes of St. Mary's and St. Michael's, Norton. Sheila Austin provided Lay funeral ministry to both Norton parishes in support to clergy and bereaved families. Haydn Beckwith continues to provide lay ministry as a licensed reader.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (cont'd)

Achievements and Performance (cont'd)

We have established links with local primary schools and offer regular activities based on bible stories and worship services in church every term. In May 2023 we were delighted to welcome Christian Life Preparatory School from Texas for a return visit to Norton, with generous offers of hospitality from host homes across the parish. We also had a visit from leaders and young people based at Prestonwood Baptist Church, Texas who self-funded their visit to St. Mary's and St. Michael's in July 2023.

Partnership lead activities continue to be a vital part of the work at St. Mary's. The Love Norton Advent Window Trail in December 2023 was superbly led by Louise Bradley & Mary Rawson promoted and assisted by Stockton Council, our Ward Councillors Steve Nelson & Lisa Evans, local schools, uniformed organisations, and supported by local businesses in Norton. Organised alongside this was a Christmas Tree Festival and Christmas Fayre which resulted in 1,500 visitors to St. Mary's Church and provided a valuable resource for community interaction and continuing attendance by some visitors, as well as providing valuable income for the church. A High Tea and Harvest Tea were also successful events with community support and involvement.

St Mary's Choir has ably supported regular services & festivals faithfully led by organist and choir leader, Alex Fishburn. Diane Fisher continues to decorate the church with beautiful flower displays for a plethora of weddings and church festivals along with weekly services. Ian Saul as 'Acting Treasurer' has ably managed our finances, payroll and gift aid as well as instructing our Trainee Treasurer Ryan McCabe who aims to take up the position of Treasurer.

Our Church Wardens, PCC members and PCC Secretary have worked hard in ensuring that risk assessments, health & safety, safeguarding and co-ordination of regular services have been sustained in 2023 and implemented church maintenance, servicing of electrical systems and safety items also replacement of parts necessary to equipment within the Church. The PCC committed to a Parish Share contribution of £40,000 when the renewal period was requested.

The PCC meets regularly and seeks to meet all its statutory obligations, with a steadfast commitment in prayer and the practical outworking of our ongoing vision at St Mary's Norton for "Connecting with God, Loving our Neighbour, and Making Christ Known..."

Financial Review

In accordance with Diocesan and CCLA Regulations the financial accounts for St. Mary's, the Parish Hall and Forge have been presented and discussed at all PCC Meetings. All aspects of income, expenditure, salaries, upgrading systems, routine repairs, servicing and building work required have been discussed, quotations for work received and reports obtained to undertake such measures needed to maintain the fabric and safety of these buildings.

The Financial Report for 1st January to 31st December 2023 have been independently audited as correct by Benson & Wood Accountants nominated at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 30th April 2023 in preparation for final approval of finance by the PCC and presentation at the APCM to be held on 28th April 2024.

Signature: Date:

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
				2023 £	2022 £
	Note				
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from donors	2a	40,253	4,367	44,620	42,017
Other voluntary incoming resources	2b	2,480	1,710	4,190	6,882
Income from fees and trading	2c	33,705	0	33,705	35,237
Other ordinary incoming resources	2d	448	0	448	6,431
Income from investments	2e	0	551	551	233
Norton Parish Church Hall	2f	0	9,744	9,744	2,908
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		76,886	16,371	93,257	93,709
RESOURCES USED					
Grants to charities and mission	3a	0	0	0	1,480
Routine work of St Mary's Church	3b	68,822	6,656	75,478	68,865
Fees and trading expenditure	3b	12,993	0	12,993	15,476
Sundry	3b	310	0	310	297
Depreciation of fixed assets	3b	1,924	3,960	5,884	5,884
St Mary's Church administration	3c	13,489	0	13,489	12,280
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		97,539	10,616	108,155	104,283
NET INCOMING(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(20,652)	5,755	(14,897)	(10,574)
Transfers		0	0	0	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(20,652)	5,755	(14,897)	(10,574)

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	4a	357,080		362,964	
			357,080		362,964
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	2,136		1,501	
Short Term Deposits		17,731		17,180	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		12,717		28,819	
Parish Hall operation	8	44,187		34,443	
		<u>76,771</u>		<u>81,942</u>	
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(13,370)		(9,529)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>63,401</u>		<u>72,413</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>420,481</u>		<u>435,377</u>
REPRESENTED BY FUNDS					
Unrestricted	5,10	36,775		55,714	
Restricted		58,986		50,981	
Restricted(Property)		324,720		328,682	
			<u>420,481</u>		<u>435,377</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

and signed on its behalf by:

The Rev M Anderson (Chairman)

I. Saul (Hon.Treasurer)

The notes on the accompanying sheets form part of these accounts

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the full accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

Restricted funds represent a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may be expended only on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is a separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming Resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable; interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources used

Grants and other donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts, in accordance with section 96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000, there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently, no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

The freehold land and buildings comprise Norton Parish Church Hall and the Forge. The Net Book Value is based on the valuation carried out by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group surveyor on 18th January 2006.

Depreciation is provided at an annual rate of 1% on cost, in order to write off the value of the properties over their expected useful life.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****2 INCOMING RESOURCES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
			2023 £	2022 £
2a Incoming resources from donors				
Planned Giving	21,399	0	21,399	22,417
Income Tax recovered	6,480	0	6,480	4,897
Collections & plate at all services	10,995	0	10,995	10,065
Rent Darlington Lane	0	4,367	4,367	3,776
Donations	1,379	0	1,379	862
	<u>40,253</u>	<u>4,367</u>	<u>44,620</u>	<u>42,017</u>
2b Other voluntary incoming resources				
Legacies	1,000	0	1,000	0
Fund raising for St Mary's	1,433	1,710	3,142	6,804
Dedicated plate	47	0	47	78
	<u>2,480</u>	<u>1,710</u>	<u>4,190</u>	<u>6,882</u>
2c Income from fees and trading				
Fees	32,649	0	32,649	34,401
Teas & coffees	1,057	0	1,057	837
	<u>33,705</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33,705</u>	<u>35,237</u>
2d Other ordinary incoming resources				
Forge Rent	295	0	295	3,820
Sundry Income	153	0	153	201
Grants	0	0	0	2,411
	<u>448</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>448</u>	<u>6,431</u>
2e Income from investments				
Dividends and interest	0	551	551	233
	<u>0</u>	<u>551</u>	<u>551</u>	<u>233</u>
2f Norton Parish Church Hall	0	9,744	9,744	2,908
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>76,886</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>93,257</u>	<u>93,709</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 RESOURCES USED

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
			2023 £	2022 £
3a Grants to charities and mission				
Donations from dedicated plate/charity appeals	0	0	0	1,480
	0	0	0	1,480
3b Routine work of St Mary's Church				
Ministry - Parish share	55,000	0	55,000	48,567
-Clergy working expenses	20	0	20	975
-Clergy housing	472	0	472	426
-Mission Materials	2,551	0	2,551	1,778
St Mary's running costs	5,687	5,376	11,063	12,049
Church repairs & maintenance	1,231	1,280	2,511	4,235
Cost of worship/services	1,151	0	1,151	267
Fees	12,993	0	12,993	15,476
Card machine & fees	1,729	0	1,729	0
Forge running costs	982	0	982	567
Sundry & hospitality	310	0	310	297
Depreciation-Forge & Parish Hall	1,924	3,960	5,884	5,884
	84,049	10,616	94,665	90,523
3c St Mary's Church administration				
Parish administrator	8,756	0	8,756	8,402
Copying and general admin	3,450	0	3,450	2,384
Fees and licences	263	0	263	475
Independent examiner's fees	1,020	0	1,020	1,020
	13,489	0	13,489	12,280
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	97,539	10,616	108,155	104,283

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

4a Tangible Fixed Assets	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures & Fittings £	TOTAL £
Valuation as at 1st January 2023	357,344	5,620	362,964
Additions during the year	0	0	0
Depreciation - charge for the year	5,554	330	5,884
Net Book Value at 31st December 2023	<u>351,790</u>	<u>5,290</u>	<u>357,080</u>

The freehold land and buildings comprise Norton Parish Church Hall and the Forge. The Net Book Value is based on the valuation carried out by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group surveyor on 18th January 2006. Depreciation is calculated to write off the value of the properties over their expected useful life.

4b Investments

The PCC owns no investments other than those held in Permanent Endowment Funds. These are not available for realisation, under the terms of the trusts, so valuations are not included.

5 Analysis of Net Assets by Fund at 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
			2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets	5,290	324,720	330,010	334,302
Current Assets	44,855	58,986	103,841	110,604
Current Liabilities	(13,370)	0	(13,370)	(9,529)
	<u>36,775</u>	<u>383,706</u>	<u>420,481</u>	<u>435,377</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Grant Claim - VAT	308	299
Fees received in the following year	1,062	0
Music Licence	0	263
Parish Hall	369	438
Income Tax recovered on Gift Aided giving	397	500
Accrued Income	0	0
	2,136	1,501

7 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Forge Heating	38	101
Clergy Housing	214	181
Dedicated plate	108	217
Cost of fees	870	248
PAYE/NIC	52	30
Church gas, electricity and telephone	1,642	3,606
Church security	0	87
Mission	0	43
Independent Examiner	1,020	1,020
Grants - warm spaces initiative	1,257	2,847
Grants - parish nursing initiative	7,594	0
Cost of services	125	0
Fees prepaid for following year	450	1,150
	13,370	9,529

8 NORTON PARISH CHURCH HALL

The accounts for Norton Parish Church Hall are produced by the Parish administrator. The Hall accounts are, therefore, not included in full but the overall figures for accumulated funds, income and expenditure are incorporated into these accounts. Funds are held independently within bank accounts in the name of Norton Parish Hall for capital and maintenance work but under the overall control of St Mary's PCC. Copies of the Hall accounts are readily available on request.

9 STAFF COSTS

The PCC employs a part time administrator. The cost of wages is included in note 3.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, NORTON. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 FUND DETAILS

10a Unrestricted Funds

Name of Fund	Type	Object of Fund	Balance at 31.12.23 £	Balance at 31.12.22 £
General Purposes Fund	U	Cash flow management	28,017	48,665
Choir Fund	Des	Choir and music in church	577	577
Harvest £10 Challenge	Des	Presentational equipment	3,449	3,449
Advent events	Des	Community Christmas events	1,710	0
Magazine Fund	Des	Magazine support	3,023	3,023
			36,775	55,714

10b Restricted Funds

Name of Fund	Type	Object of Fund	Balance at 31.12.23 £	Balance at 31.12.22 £
Newby Bequest	R	Church repairs/improvement	2,636	7,461
Trust 258/1(changed from endowment)	R	Chancel Maintenance	799	799
Trust 258/7(changed from endowment)	R	Churchyard Maintenance	2,065	2,065
Church Organ Maintenance and Repair	R	Church Organ Upkeep	2,401	2,401
Darlington Lane Rent	R	Church Building Maintenance	6,898	3,812
St Mary's Parish Church Hall		Accumulated funds	44,187	34,443
			58,986	50,981
Freehold Property		Book value	324,720	328,682
			383,706	379,663

TOTAL OVERALL FUNDS

420,481 435,377