

**Parish Of St Maxentius
Bradshaw**

**Annual Report
And**

Financial Statement.

Year ended December 31st 2021

St <Maxentius Church

Bolton Road, Bradshaw , Bolton, BL2 3EU

Diocese of Manchester, Bolton Episcopal Area

Walmsley Deanery, then Bolton Deanery

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Maxentius, Bradshaw

Registered Charity Number 1132522

Year ending December 31st 2021

Presented to the Annual Parochial Council Meeting

Sunday 15th May 2023

This report is compiled by members of the Parochial Church Council .

Background and general information.

The Anglican Parish of St Maxentius is part of the Turton Moorland ministry, among with the parishes of St Peter, Belmont, St Anne, Turton and Christ Church Walmsley. The team is on the Northern edge of the Manchester Diocese, consisting of suburban development, moorland villages and extensive rural areas. St Maxentius Church is situated on Bolton Road, Bradshaw, and serves a stable and settled community based on the village of Bradshaw on the northern outskirts of Bolton. Many of the local population have links with the church and many of the congregation have long standing local connections.

The address for all correspondence is St Maxentius Church, Bolton Road, Bradshaw, Bolton, BL2 3UE.

Administrative information.

The Parochial Church Council, known as St Maxentius PCC is a registered charity, no 1132522. Church officers who served from Jan 1st 2021 until this report was approved are:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Team Rector | Canon Peter Reiss. |
| Team Vicar and Chant. | Vacant |
| Deputy Chant: | Jan Bennett |
| ALMs: | Jan Bennett, Jo Haslam |
| Churchwardens: | Joyce Armstrong, Jan Bennett |
| Deputy wardens: | Bryan Goodall, Dave Haslam, Don Taylor, Margaret Heaton, Tom Heaton, Ruth |
| Scoran | |
| PCC: | Carol Carr, Elaine Christian, Alison and Arthur Greaves, Sue Usher, Jemma Hart, |
| Eckersley, | Bryan Goodall, Jo Haslam, Don Taylor, Rebecca Smith, Chris Sutcliffe, Katie |
| Treasurer: | Matthew Pearson |
| Secretary: | Bryan Goodall |
| | Carol Carr |

I will be off sick and out of action for a good time longer as I finish my chemo-therapy treatment and my body recovers. Thank you all who are praying and to all who have offered love, concern, sent cards and well wishes and for the deep sense I have of being part of our family of churches across our team.

Thank you to all who have had to do more in the past months because I have been absent' not least wardens and PCC secretaries who have had to prepare for the APCMs, and thank you particularly for those who have done their stunts in key roles and those who are offering to step up to take on new responsibilities. We cannot function without these roles being filled. Together we can share the burden and do things as a team. As a team we thank Christine for her work as administrator.

Thank you to our clergy and lay ministers, who have also had to take on more. St Paul talks about the church as a body with many members, none indispensable and the last few months have shown this to be true. St Paul also knows there is a task in ministry, a work, and thank you to those who have done more "work". We do appreciate it greatly.

This past year has not seen the movements we would have liked, especially in the slow rate of change towards being a viable and visible Mission Community. In our team we said goodbye to Carol Hayden as she retired as Team Vicar, and the temporary restructuring has seen Hannah take on greater responsibility for the mission, ministry and worship at Walmsley, with Chris Jameson continuing to be the focal leader/minister at Belmont, with me taking the focal lead at Bradshaw and Turton. We are not the solo leads however. In each of our parishes we want to build teams and groups who will lead and minister together. This is happening and we thank God for that. The changes in other parishes in the Mission Community seem to be very slow to happen. There have been some shared events. The clergy are looking at how we can work together and share together. We trust we will see more tangible changes in the coming year.

Money is always a challenge. We have projects in almost all our churches to make them better for the coming decades and to make good where there is damage from previous decades. These are costly and will need giving and the getting of grants. There are also the running costs. Not least with increased energy bills. This past year most of our parishes have not managed to pay the Parish Share. Looking at how we can increase our income through new streams of income, through more contributing, through teaching on generosity and giving (not by bashing the regulars on the head and asking for more-expecting the well to give more and more), these will need to be on our agenda and high on our agenda for the coming year. We are not alone in this, and Manchester

Dioecesis is struggling in comparison to other Dioceses. We are seeing our churches growing younger as we have desired. Our Family services, whether Sundays or weekdays are growing and even thriving (and with the challenges that brings). We are seeing good numbers requesting baptisms (also brings challenges!!) Our churches are places for funerals, our churchyards places for remembering and grieving. Home Communion, Mothers' Unions, visiting and care for each other are our pastoral networks of care, and Coffee mornings, events, social groups provide a sense of community, along with those who use our various facilities, whether for a toddler group, a Post Office or for dancing.

I am sorry to be absent in person, but I feel a warm pride at being the Team Rector here. And I look forward to being back and being active again. I am deeply grateful to all who are doing so much so that our churches are not just buildings, but the people of God witnessing to the love of God and the grace of God, to those within and to all in our communities.

May God guide, guard and bless us in this coming year.

Peter

Church Report

2022 was our 150th anniversary of our church building and we had a hard working team pulling things together to make it special. Arthur greaves put together a wonderful history of our church building and its incumbents from 150 years ago to the present day and displayed this with photographs and memorabilia around the walls of the church. Bishop Mark Ashcroft presided in our church service and we had a beautiful cake decorated with a picture of the mosaic window.

We had our first Deanery Synod meeting at Bishop Bridgman school where we had some interesting seminars about Eco Church. Not only Sunday and other Diocesan initiatives. We were also to meet and discuss in our new Mission Communities. It was a very positive meeting. We have shared services together and are making plans for some social events.

Many of us went to the cathedral to see Hannah being priested. In July and she subsequently presided here at St Maxentius for her first Eucharist service the day after. Nicola Pearson made her a cake which was shared after the service so we could chat and celebrate with her. As we gained Hannah we sadly had to say goodbye to Carol Hayden whose last service with us was 31st July. The team has missed her. Rev Peter and Rev Hannah have felt the strain. Rev Hannah now oversees all work at Walmsley, Rev Peter looks after St Annes and St Maxentius and Rev Chris Jameson looks after St Peters Belmont. We are blessed with support from retired clergy and OLM to cover services. We have been particularly blessed by Rev Marcus Bulcock helping us out more recently due to Peter's illness. On that note we pray and wish Peter well as he goes through his treatment and we hope for a good recovery. We miss him greatly, but he and his family are always in our thoughts and prayers. We had celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, a Back to School Sunday where we blessed school bags and Year 4 and 5 came down to church for lessons about our church in October. We also had a school Carol service and a Christmas wiggle worship service for KS1. (Infant section!) Our links with school are strong. Jo Haslam is now chair of governors, and Rev Hannah and myself go into school on alternate weeks to take assembly on Tuesday afternoons. Year 4 organised and acted out an Easter service and the younger ones had their service in church too. We had our annual Christmas Fair in the school.

Wednesday Worship has flourished, and we have on average around 100 people, adults and children a week. We have introduced a nursery rhyme communion service once a month when Rev Hannah comes to preside. We are getting more support for church as we are getting some integration within our community. We introduced a quiet reflective service on Tuesday morning which is going well. It takes the form of communion service with Rev Peter before his illness, and Rev Marcus now, alternating with morning prayer taken by myself. I also take communion to several parishioners who cannot get to church. I feel we have services which suit everyone, and some people attend more than one service.

It has been wonderful how everyone has pulled together since Peter has been ill, and I would like to thank the whole team here at St Maxentius who have worked so tirelessly to keep things going. It just shows that God is with us all during this tough time, and that with his help we can continue to thrive.

Jan Bennet ALM

Parish Report

The electoral roll stands at 137 There have been 7 additions, and we lost five members. Church attendance around 75 people a week, but Worship at home is still sent out to over 100 people as this is also a good way to make sure information about events gets to them. Wednesday Worship is very well attended with over 100 children and adults. We also now have a Tuesday morning reflective service with either communion or morning prayer which is proving popular. There have been 2 weddings, 30 baptisms, 6 funerals and 4 burials of ashes.

Carol Carr, Electoral roll officer

PCC report

At the last APCM Jan Bennett and Joyce Armstrong were elected as Churchwardens, Bryan Goodall was elected as Treasurer, and Carol Carr as secretary. We said goodbye to Ruth Scora, and we welcomed David Houghton, Sue Usher, Sam Dale, and Katie Eckersley to the PCC. Matthew Pearson and Emma Hart were co-opted onto the PCC. The Wednesday service for families and children continues to flourish. Social events are back, including the monthly coffee mornings are back. We had a very successful afternoon tea courtesy of Christliffe, on a beautiful sunny day. We also had a Spring Fair, as our Christmas Fairs were not allowed, but will be back this year. This was a huge success and we hope to repeat it. We also hosted a concert by Affetide Choir that was very enjoyable. Some of these events are now specifically for raising money for the Building Fund as we have been looking at ways of making our church more accessible for children's groups, coffee mornings and so on and it would be wonderful to have toilets inside the building. The PCC has also been looking at the matter of parking, as the Crofters had installed a licence plate identifying camera and people who were not happy of customers would be fined. Yogi had outsourced the parking to a private company but was happy to let us record our congregation's number plates and so we could park freely. That has not happened due to problems at the Crofters, but we are still hopeful. We also investigated the use of a card machine especially for Baptisms and Wednesday worship and we now have one. Another financial issue was the collection of ground rents from some houses on Turton Road and Rigby Lane. We had stopped collecting these as the income was barely worth the effort in collecting but the Diocese insisted that we did collect them. Bryan and Carol contacted all the owners and we did successfully bring most of them in and must continue to do so. Another issue has been making communion safe for people who are missing the cup. Some churches are using small individual cups, but the PCC was not keen on this and we decided to use the intinction method, with the water dipped by the priest and handed to the communicant. This seems to be working.

The new Tuesday morning reflective service is being introduced as we are the only church in the team who does not do this. It will occasionally be communion, occasionally morning prayer.

A highlight of the year was the 150th anniversary of the consecration of St Maxentius Church. The Bishop of Bolton came to preach, and Arthur Creaves produced a spectacular illustrated history of our church which went all around the walls inside the building. It had to come down but is going to be resurrected in book form. Also during the year the PCC agreed to support Jan Bennett in going forward for AOM training. The PCC also agreed that Jan Bennett and Jo Haslam should be reaffirmed as ALMs, and they were thanked for all they had done to contribute to the worship in our church. This last year has been a busy one for the PCC. I expect next year will be the same with many new challenges. Thank you to all the members of the PCC. It has been good to have some new faces. Thank you to our hardworking wardens, Joyce and Jan, to Peter who has kept us on track and to Marcus who has taken many of our services. Although we are without our own priest we are managing to thrive, so thank you to the members of our congregation who make this church the warm place it is.

Carol Carr PCC secretary.

Deanery Synod report
The new Bolton Deanery held three meetings in 2022, one by ZOOM in February, one in the morning at Bishop Bridgman School in May, and one in the evening at St Peters Halliwell. One of the main focuses of the year would be looking at the role of Focal Leaders in the churches in the Mission Community and the Deanery MAP.

The first ZOOM meeting Keith Lewis, Lay Chair asked that the Synod would support a motion asking that the Diocese should look at the rising costs of energy within churches. Most churches in the Deanery have been struggling to pay their bills and meet the Parish share. A presentation about Focal Leaders was followed by breakout groups where we shared how our Mission Communities priorities. Our Mission Community Group seems to be getting on with things very well. Then there was a short presentation by Rachel Eden of Children Changing Places. This is now in its fourth year and works with children in schools as well as having started toddler groups with a Christian ethos. Canon Slade, St Catherine's and St James High schools all have chaplains to support pupils. Bolton Back to School Sunday would be held on September 4th. The next meeting at Bishop Bridgman, after a brief discussion about using communion cups, was concentrated mostly on the Deanery MAP, with representatives from ways different Churches on how they were including Eco Church, and realising Church is more than Sunday, things we already do.

The last meeting was at St Peters Halliwell and was very full. One of the themes was living in hard times, followed by a presentation by Jo Haslam about Children Changing Places which is now in its final year. Wiggle Worship is massively popular in school. Many Some parishes do not have schools so the team is looking at ways to address this. Shades, a group to tackle racism is running. The group will be restructured in 2023 and there will be personnel changes. There was then a Powerpoint presentation on Deanery Action plan which has still to be finalised. There was a review of how Mission Communities are working. WE are doing well, as we have a leader in Peter Reiss, and then the new names and logos for the Mission Communities were revealed and accepted. Rev Grace Thomas thanked churches that have registered for the Energy footprint and have become Eco Churches.

TH meeting ended with a reflection and prayer from Rev Peter Reiss.

Financial report.

The receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds were £60,739 and are detailed in the financial statements. £56,833 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St Maxentius Church, including the contribution to the diocesan parish share, which largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. The sum that the churches in the Deanery have to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a headcount of the congregation. We will have to find more as we were unable to pay our contribution in full. The net result of the year was a surplus of receipts over payments of £3,906. Adding the bank balance brought forward from the beginning of the year the balance carried forward at December 31st for unrestricted funds totalled £7,748. These accounts have been audited and found to be correct by Michael Renshaw.

Bryan Goodall, treasurer

Fabric Report

No major works were undertaken to the Church building during 2022. Whilst there are several essential repair required the building itself remains wind and watertight. Repairs requiring early attention include areas of replastering and replacement of existing lighting although these may now be incorporated into any internal remodelling scheme. Expenditure during the year was primarily in respect of felling five trees and pruning a further six within the church grounds, the remainder being in respect of recurring annual maintenance costs. Works of repair on the Church tower has once again been held in abeyance due to the likely costs. The improvements to the Churchyard's appearance are due to the many hours of work by a limited number of volunteers and the Monday Group to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude.

Don Taylor, Fabric Committee Chair.

Safeguarding report.

JO Haslam took over as safeguarding officer after the last APCM. There have been no safeguarding issues. The PCC are all undergoing safeguarding training. DBS checks are also ongoing.

Jo Haslam

Choir report.

In a previous report I noted that the St Maxentius Choir had bounced back strongly after the Pandemic. In the year since we have been consolidating our position and going from strength to strength. We successfully executed the plan of singing prepared 4 part anthems for high days (Christmas, Easter and so on) with a mix of some new pieces and some much loved ones from the past. We practice weekly on a Thursday evening and these practices continue to be well attended. One very special development this year is that younger members of the congregation, especially those who attend the Wednesday Worship have joined us at the monthly all-age service. It has been a wonderful thing to see

younger people in the choir stalls lending their voices to the cause. Special thanks goes to Sue Usher for her work with the young people. We are still experimenting with the best way to harness the musical talent of the younger people in church. In the coming year we will try out different strategies to increase participation. A particular focus is some way of bridging the music and worship style of the Wednesday service with that of the Sunday one. Both forms of worship are equally valid and uplifting and I am eager to take the best of both traditions and blend them, rather than building air-tight silos. If I take a long term view of the choir and ponder what it will be like in 20 years time, then if the choir is still going and I hope it is, it will be because of children who started singing with us in their childhood.

We are always delighted to welcome new members, so do let us know if you would like to sing with us.

Dr Matthew Pearson, Organist and Choirmaster.

Mothers Union Report

Since the absence of group meetings during Covid, we have adjusted our meetings in the light of access difficulties for meetings in the day school and the reluctance of members to drive at night. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in church and in January and February we will join with the reflective service and stay for coffee and a chat. Interesting meetings have included a Bible market, and the background to ordination for Hannah our curate, and our member Sue on her efforts to the survival of her business after in Manchester after the IRA bombing. We had a floral demonstration before Christmas, and we have contributed to the Spring and Christmas Fair and other Parish events. Edna Bowers, our branch leader for 17 years (her second stint) retired after Christmas and we gave thanks for her hard work and guidance. She was presented with flowers and a token and all our good wishes and grateful thanks.

Alison Greaves/June Lowe

| Unrestricted Funds | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2022 | Total 2021 |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|

Receipts & Payments Accounts

Receipts

| | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| Voluntary Receipts | | | | | |
| Regular Giving | | | | | |
| Receipts from donors | | | | | |
| Planned giving | | | | | |
| Collections other than giving | 36,358 | - | - | 36,358 | 36,613 |
| Income Tax recovered | 9,262 | - | - | 9,262 | 8,777 |
| Other voluntary receipts (note 4a) | 2,004 | 19,964 | 7,169 | 29,137 | 13,491 |
| Activities for generating funds (note 4b) | 4,364 | - | 1,620 | 5,984 | 2,032 |
| Receipts from Church Activities (note 4c) | 2,816 | - | - | 2,816 | 2,227 |
| Investment income (note 4d) | 2,298 | - | - | 2,298 | 2,222 |
| | 60,739 | 19,964 | 8,789 | 89,491 | 65,997 |

Payments

| | | | | | |
|--|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| Church activities | 36,012 | - | - | 36,012 | 39,127 |
| Diocesan parish share | | | | | |
| Other payments (note 4e) | 20,820 | 372 | 10,358 | 31,550 | 19,074 |
| | 56,833 | 372 | 10,358 | 67,563 | 58,201 |
| Excess of Receipts over Payments | 3,906 | 19,592 | (1,569) | 21,929 | 7,795 |
| Transfer between funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| Bank current & deposit accounts 1st Jan | 3,906 | 19,592 | (1,569) | 21,929 | 7,795 |
| Bank current & deposit accounts 31st Dec | 7,748 | 22,542 | 21,812 | 52,102 | 30,173 |

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

| | | | | | |
|--|-------|--------|--------|---|--------|
| Cash Funds | | | | | |
| Bank current accounts | 7,748 | 22,542 | 21,812 | - | 30,173 |
| CBF deposit fund | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other deposit funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Monetary Assets | - | - | - | - | - |
| Investment Assets (note 2) | | | | | |
| Investment Fund shares at market value | - | - | 77,198 | - | 87,446 |
| Assets retained for Church use | - | - | - | - | - |
| Liabilities - | - | - | - | - | - |

The attached notes on pages 2 & 3 form part of these financial statements

Approved by the PCC on xxth March 2023 and signed on their behalf
by Rev. xxxxxxxxxxxx and Mr Bryan Goodall (PCC treasurer)

NOTES

1 The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts & payments basis.

2 All the funds are invested in CBF Church of England Investment Fund shares.

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

| Bal b/fwd | Receipts | Payments | Tax Rec | Bal c/fwd |
|-----------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| 22,604 | 5,640 | 9,723 | 0 | 18,521 |
| 0 | 2,715 | 0 | 0 | 2,715 |
| 619 | 0 | 151 | 0 | 468 |
| 158 | 434 | 484 | 0 | 108 |
| 23,381 | 8,789 | 10,358 | 0 | 21,812 |
| - | - | - | - | - |

Designated: PCC yearly charity

The fabric fund represents accumulated donations, appeals and monies transferred from Investment Assets which can only be spent for fabric maintenance.

The organ fund represents accumulated donations which can only be spent for organ maintenance.

The flower fund represents accumulated donations and monies spent on flowers for the church.

4 Receipts and Payments analysis

| Unrestricted Funds | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | Total | Total 2021 |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|------------|
| 2,004 | 19,964 | 7,169 | 29,137 | 13,491 |
| 2,004 | 19,964 | 7,169 | 29,137 | 13,491 |

a) Other voluntary receipts

Legacy
Donations

b) Activities for generating funds
Book of Remembrance 10
Donations - Votive Stand 240
Events - Bonus Ball -
Events - Christmas Fair 2,060
Events - Pancake, BBQ etc -
Events - Safari Supper 1,518
Events - Quiz -
Magazine Sales 128
Magazine Adverts 125
Ground Rent 284
Misc

| | | | | |
|-------|---|-------|-------|-------|
| 4,364 | - | 1,620 | 5,984 | 2,032 |
|-------|---|-------|-------|-------|

c) Receipts from Church Activities

Fees

| | | | | |
|-------|---|---|-------|-------|
| 2,816 | - | - | 2,816 | 2,227 |
|-------|---|---|-------|-------|

d) Investment income

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Bank Interest | - | - | - | - | 2,298 |
| Dividends on CBF Investments | 2,298 | - | - | - | 2,298 |
| | <u>2,298</u> | <u>2,298</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>2,222</u> |

e) Church activities - payments

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Vicar expenses | - | - | - | - | - |
| Vicarage Upkeep | 1,148 | - | - | - | (160) |
| Team Expenses | 1,500 | - | - | - | 1,500 |
| Gas/Electricity/Water | 6,151 | - | - | - | 2,824 |
| Insurance | 3,041 | - | - | - | 2,950 |
| Repairs/Maintenance | - | 8,254 | - | - | 5,212 |
| Service Consumables | 857 | - | - | - | 675 |
| Cleaner | 2,390 | - | - | - | 1,895 |
| Magazine | 969 | - | - | - | 254 |
| Ground Rent | 50 | - | - | - | - |
| Organists | 2,740 | - | - | - | 1,090 |
| Event Expenses | 809 | - | - | - | (100) |
| Bonus Ball | - | 1,620 | - | - | 1,815 |
| Sunday School | 300 | 372 | - | - | 652 |
| Sundries | 866 | - | - | - | 468 |
| Flowers | - | 484 | - | - | - |
| | <u>20,820</u> | <u>372</u> | <u>10,358</u> | <u>31,550</u> | <u>19,074</u> |

5 The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their duties as PCC members. One member of the PCC received payment for cleaning the church on a weekly basis. One member received payment as our organist.

Financial Review

Total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds were £60,739 and are detailed in the financial statements.

£56,833 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St. Maxentius Church, including the contribution to the diocesan parish share, which largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy.

The sum that the churches in the deanery have to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a head count of the congregation. We will have to find more as we were unable to pay our contribution in full.

The net result for the year was a surplus of receipts over payments of £3,906. Adding the bank balance brought forward from the beginning of the year, the balance carried forward at the 31st December for unrestricted funds totalled £7,748

Reserves policy

The PCC aims to retain a balance of unrestricted "free" reserves to provide working capital and to meet any future shortfalls in receipts or unexpected payments, at least equal to three months payments.

Examination of St Maxentius Church Accounts for the year ended 31st
December 2022

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Conditions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act to be found in the Church Guidance 2006 Edition.

To complete the examination full reviews of the accounting records and comparison of the accounts that are presented with those records are required.

The examination also includes any consideration of any anomalies in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters.

This examination does not provide all the evidence that would be required by a full audit, therefore, I do not express an audit opinion of the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

During my examination no matters have come to my attention.

This gives me reasonable assurance that the Trustees have met their requirements to ensure that:

1. Proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with Section 130 of The Act)
2. Accounts are prepared and agree with the accounting records, and these comply with all the requirements of The Act.

Signed,

Michael Keshaw