

St. Mark's Church
MARSKE in CLEVELAND



Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ended
31st December 2024

Incumbent

The Rev'd Julie Smith

Bankers

Santander UK PLC
Bootle

Independent Examiner

Chantelle Hodgson
Fellow Chartered Accountants
6 Corby Dales Close
SALTBURN BY THE SEA
TS12 1PS

The Vicar's Report.

Throughout 2024 St Mark's has engaged with the seasons of the church year in worship and outreach. During Epiphany we celebrated the visit of the wise men to the infant Jesus recognising that Jesus is not just for a select few but for everyone. This was explored in the school assemblies and in their visits to church to look at prayer. Prayer was at the heart of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The worship materials were put together by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso. We joined with the other churches in Marske for a joint service on the 18th January.

February saw us reflecting on Candlemas and then moving into Lent, a period of reflection before Easter. People had the option of attending either an afternoon Lent Course run by the Mothers' Union, an afternoon course run by Revd Bruce and Revd Rachel Harrison or an evening course run by the Vicar. People also had the opportunity to raise money during Lent by taking a USPG collection box.

Lent was also looked at during school assemblies and Messy Church. We were also pleased to welcome the local Beavers to church during February and March.

March saw us once again joining with the other churches in the village for the World Day of Prayer at St Bede's which had been prepared by Christian women from Palestine.

The Key stage 2 children from Errington came to church to take part in Experience Easter.

At the end of March we gathered to remember the Last Supper, Jesus' arrest and trial, his crucifixion and rising in glory with a variety of services both inside the church itself and at other locations such as the square on Good Friday and St Germain's Churchyard on Easter Day.

On St Mark's Day (25th April) we began the first of a monthly Pop In Session at church (3pm-4.30pm) where we looked at penguins (World Penguin Day 25th April) and the symbol of the lion for St Mark through crafts, games and refreshments. Other themes later in the year included World Music Day, World Bee Day and World Children's Day.

We continued the celebration of St Mark on Sunday 28th April where we were pleased to welcome the Rt Revd Paul Ferguson Bishop of Whitby to lead us in worship for a Confirmation and Holy Communion Service for 2 adults and 2 young people.

May saw the celebration of Ascension Day and Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative culminating in Pentecost.

In June some of us attended the Deanery Morning at St Helen's in Carlin How. The speaker was Gram Seed who went from a life of crime and addiction to helping others find new life in God's kingdom. A service was held in June to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D Day landings which ended with the church bells being rung.

In June we presented the Year 6s of Westgarth and Errington Primary Schools with the Scripture Union booklet It's Your Move and the Vicar went to speak with Year 6 at Westgarth about their move from primary to secondary school.

In July we celebrated Sea Sunday and also said goodbye to Bishop Paul as he retired.

During the Summer we had a sermon series looking at some of the Psalms.

In July we helped out at the Lunch Box scheme held in Errington School and run by Footprints in the Community with the assistance of the local churches.

In August we held a Messy Church morning at Errington School in conjunction with the Methodist Church and The Community Church.

During our worship in September, October and the first Sunday in November we looked at some of the parts of the Holy Communion Service. There was also a Blessing of the Animals Service in The White House in September.

In October we celebrated Harvest Festival through services in church and welcoming Errington Primary School for their Harvest Festival Service. Donations were sent to Farm Africa and Redcar Foodbank.

At the beginning of November we held a service for the recently bereaved (and anyone else who wished to remember a loved one). Services of remembrance were held on Sunday 10th November in church and at the War memorial and on Monday 11th November at St Germain's Churchyard.

In November and December we supported the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence.

During November we also took part in the National Safeguarding Week reminding us that Safeguarding is something that everyone should be aware of.

As Advent began our knitted sheep were placed in shops as part of the Messy Church Sheep Trail before returning for the Christmas Eve Crib service. An Advent Study based on Women of the Nativity took place. Every child in Westgarth and Errington Primary Schools were given a copy of the Bible Society Christmas Book The Shiny Bright Sparkling Light.

As part of the Follow the Star Church of England campaign we held a Follow the Star week where people from the church and local community groups made stars that reflected their organisation.

December services included the Christingle Service and Carol Service. We were pleased to welcome Westgarth Primary School for their Christmas performance and Errington Primary School for their Carol Service. Both schools also attended church for Experience Christmas.

We were pleased to welcome people into church during the Santa Parade where we provided refreshments and were entertained by the choir from Errington Primary School and the Steelworks Steelband.

The Carol Singing in the square was cancelled due to bad weather but members of local churches gathered to give people Christmas tree baubles with details of one church service from each of the four churches in the village.

During 2024 we have also welcomed people to St Mark's for baptism, wedding and funeral services.

Representatives from St Mark's have attended Deanery Synod meetings and Deanery Chapter meetings.

"Abide in me as I abide in you. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete."

John 15.7-9,11

I give thanks for all who have been a part of the life of St Mark's in 2024 and look forward to continuing to proclaiming the Gospel in 2025.

Revd Julie Smith

St Mark's Mission

At St Mark's Church in Marske we seek to glorify God by creating a community where we live with the love of Christ. As we follow Christ we value;

Inclusion- we respect the individual and embrace people of all faiths.

Relevance- we promote Christ as central to our community, our world and ourselves.

Caring- we share Christ's love through welcome, hospitality, service and stewardship.

Relationships- we build nurturing connections with God, each other and the wider community.

Worship- we provide a space for people to celebrate and grow in the healing love and grace of Christ.

Churchwardens' Report

This year our social events have proved popular. We have had good support at concerts and 'Tea on the Lawn'. This has helped to raise money for the church expenses and the tower fund. We have received grant money towards the cost of the tower repairs and very generous donations from church members. It is hoped that the work on the tower can be completed in 2025. This will be the first major work on the fabric of St Mark's for several years.

It is noticeable that our Sunday morning attendances have dropped during the year. This is due partly to illness and infirmity. Visitors to the church tell us that they appreciate the warm welcome they receive. We need to continue to welcome more to join our worship.

St Mark's relies on its volunteers. We are grateful to all who help to make the church and its garden a pleasant and welcoming site. Thank you to all who make our church commitment easier.

Peter Tinkler, Sue Sotheran. Churchwardens.

PCC Secretary's Report for 2024

St Mark's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the parish of Marske in Cleveland the whole Mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. The PCC has responsibility for St Mark's Church building, the White House and St Germain's Tower.

Membership of the PCC

Vicar Rev Julie Smith

Churchwardens Mrs Sue Sotheran and Mr Peter Tinkler

Elected Representatives The following succeeded the 2022-2023 committee in May 2024:

Miss Carol Anderson, Dr Janet Dack, Mrs Elizabeth Fox, Mrs Clare Marshall, Mrs Laura Maskery, Mrs Margaret Tinkler, Miss Sue Thompson, Mrs Maureen Taylor (co-opted), Mr Jonathan Bragg, Mr Jack Thomas, Mr Andrew Fox

Representatives on the Deanery Synod Dr Janet Dack, Mr Jack Thomas, Mr Peter Tinkler

Standing Committee Rev Julie Smith, Sue Sotheran, Peter Tinkler (Churchwardens), Elizabeth Fox, (PCC Secretary), Janet Dack (Reader).

The PCC met on ten occasions and has been occupied with monitoring all activities relating to St Mark's and considering revisions and additions where necessary.

Free Will Offering The PCC voted to retain our Freewill Offering at £56,000

Fund Raising Quiz Nights, "Tea on the Lawn", Amaryllis Night, concerts by the Fishermen's Choir, Rockulele, The Odell Singers were supported by the PCC.

Mission and Vision. In October the PCC examined St. Mark's Mission Statement which was found to need revision. There was a discussion as to whether we should offer some non Eucharistic services and use different styles of music. In December Ven. John Day "Growing Healthy Churches" Adviser was invited to speak to the PCC

Christmas Parcels for Eastern Europe Gift Filled boxes for children and adults were again donated by members of the congregation for onward delivery by "Children in Distress".

Redcar Women's Refuge. We have continued to provide gifts at Christmas and Easter.

Repairs to the tower. The quotation of £107,000 for repairs has been revised upwards to £110,000. We have sufficient funds to be able to attract grants. As we have always paid the full amount of our freewill offering, St. Mark's should receive a worthwhile donation from the Diocese. At December 31st the Tower Fund stood at £44,608.

Electoral Roll A new electoral roll will be needed in 2025.

Education Trust Advice from the Diocese has been requested as to how we can access funds and how we can use them. Elizabeth Fox (Honorary Secretary to the PCC)

Safeguarding Report

Safeguarding Statement

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

All Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and relevant training for St Mark's members who are responsible for regular activities with children and vulnerable adults have been completed and up to date, these are for all Church Leaders, Safeguarding team, PCC Members, Church Wardens, Messy Church Leaders, and Choir Master.

The Safeguarding representatives attend regular meeting and training events to keep up to date with all new regulations and guidance.

St Mark's is now on the "Parish Dashboard" and "the Parish Hub", this is a central online computerised system for recording parish records.

Safeguarding protocols & policies have been reviewed and updated where necessary. The Safeguarding Team has been more proactive in promoting a safer church environment at St Mark's

No Safeguarding issues have been reported this year.

Carol Anderson & Sue Thompson

Safeguarding Representative

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Mark's Church, Marske in Cleveland Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the St Mark's Church, Marske in Cleveland Parochial Church Council (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

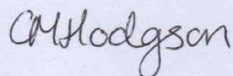
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those 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.



Chantelle Hodgson
Fellow Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)
6 Corby Dales Close, Saltburn by the Sea TS12 1PS
19 May 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MARSKE IN CLEVELAND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestrict Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2024	Total 2023 £
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024					
Receipts					
<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>					
Tax Efficient planned giving		35628		35628	33775
Gift Aid small donations scheme		10516		10516	9251
Collections		2244		2244	4268
Donations		2876		2876	2372
Income Tax Recovered		10575		10575	9059
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>					
Christmas Bazaar		2229		2229	2416
Upleatham Trust		1000		1000	0
Sundry	A	5623		5623	5832
<i>Income from Investments</i>					
M & G Charifund		3701		3701	3515
Rent received from E E		3063		3063	3063
<i>Church Activities</i>					
Wedding/Funeral Fees		11933		11933	9386
Gross Income from Magazine		2958		2958	4264
White House Lets		12216		12216	12636
White House Genral		4496		4496	0
Tower Fund		11237		11237	10283
Sunday Club		0		0	72
<i>Charitable Giving</i>					
Children' Society & Others			2290	2290	3133
Funerals			1546	1546	1845
TOTAL RECEIPTS		120295	3836	124131	115170
Payments					
<i>Church Activities</i>					
Diocesan Freewill Offering		56000		56000	56000
Clergy Expenses		509		509	3134
Church Running Expenses	B	18922		18922	26074
Fees (Weddings & Funerals)		5806		5806	2972
Fees (Auditor & Surveyor)		420		420	330
Costs of trading (Magazine)		4404		4404	4435
White House	C	14762		14762	21128
Charitable Giving			4019	4019	5013
Sunday Club		0		0	78
Sundry	D	829		829	791
TOTAL PAYMENTS		101652	4019	105671	119955
Excess/deficit of Receipts over Payments				18460	-4785
Bank current account as at 1st January 2024				18198	22983
Transfer to Yorkshire Building Society				-10000	
Bank current account as at 31st December 2024				26658	18198

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MARSKE IN CLEVELAND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Notes	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2024	Total 2023 £
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024				
CASH FUNDS				
Santander Bank Account	26658		26658	18198
Yorkshire Building Society	10000		10000	0
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	36658		36658	18198
INVESTMENT ASSETS				
Lloyds Banking Group 73 Ordinary Shares @ 54.78p	40		40	35
M & G Charifund 117.206 Accumulation Units		38258	38258	35158
M & G Charifund 2067 Income Units		30434	30434	29662
M & G Charifund 2045 Income Units (Parish Funds)	30099		30099	29343
	66797	68692	135489	112396

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

a	b	c
Coffees/Raffles 2630	Cleaning 2235	Honorarium 1200
Memorial Book 80	Wine, Wafers etc 523	Cleaning 3011
"100" Club 1490	Gas 4247	Gas 2517
Amaryllis Supper 110	Electricity 2726	Electricity 1133
Sale Calendars 471	Stationery 1565	Ins & Rates 2310
Christmas Cards 265	Insurance 4871	Porch Roofing 3783
General Sales 577	Organ Service 210	Routine Expenses 388
5623	Repairs 2183	Rodent Riddance 420
	Dona Percentage 236	14762
	Bazaar 69	
	Guisborough Deanery 57	
	18922	
d	List of funds at year end	
R.S.C.M. 127	Sick & Poor Fund	738
Riding Lights 550	Magazine	-1446
F.W.O. Envelopes 90	Tower	40764
Sundry Expenses 62	White House	1950
829	Church	-5834
	Sunday Club	486
	TOTAL	36658

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 2nd March 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Rev. Julie Smith (Vicar)

Julie Smith 2/3/2025.

Electoral Roll

147 people on the electoral roll as of December 2024.

120 residents 27 non residents

David Dack (Electoral Roll Officer)

Redcar Foodbank.

Basic foodstuffs have continued to be donated regularly at St. Mark's.

During the year 595.1 Kg of food and other items were donated by our parishioners. The staff at the Foodbank look forward to our weekly donations because of the wide variety of items we donate. They are extremely grateful and have expressed their thanks to all our church members.

Deanery Synod Report

Deanery Synod Representatives

Dr Janet Dack, Mr Jack Thomas, Mr Peter Tinkler

The Deanery Synod has met three times to discuss good practice but also meet to share where support can be gathered. Whether this be on financial matters, through the work of Bruce Williams (Deanery Financial Advisor) or the Diocesan Financial Advisor.

There was a Deanery Day that sought to bring people together and celebrate the faith. Collective faith of the Anglican communion, irrespective of where our respective churches are (high, low, or in between).

Deanery Synod has been a really positive experience for people to gather and share what it means to be a Christian and how to spread that message!

Deanery Meetings- 2nd July 2024, 1st October 2024.

Deanery Leadership Team (DLT): Revd Adam Reed (Area Dean), Oliver 'Ed' Evans (Lay Area Dean), Bruce Williams (Deanery Financial Advisor), Jack Colin George Thomas (Deanery Secretary), Father Adam Gaunt, Jean Parncutt.

Parish Magazine

Joyce Cawthorne decided to stand down as magazine editor in February 2024 and we thank her for her contribution to the life of St Mark's and beyond during her time producing the magazine.

As a temporary measure the Vicar took over as editor. Despite increasing the price of the magazine and not using colour it is running at a deficit. Joyce did an excellent job of recruiting and making sure payment was received from advertisers but this is still something that needs to be addressed.

The magazine is delivered to 250 residents and copies are placed in church, in the White House and in local businesses. Thanks go to Carol Anderson for coordinating this.

Marske Bellringers

To celebrate 50 years since the new bells were hung in St Mark's, a peal was rung. A peal consists of three hours of continual ringing starting, and finishing, with the bells rung in order from the treble (lightest) to the tenor (heaviest) bells. We also rang two quarter peals (only 45 minutes) and this enabled two of our newer members to become qualified members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers – Congratulations to Sue and Emma. We continue to ring for every 9.30 Sunday Service and to practice every Monday evening. We often welcome visitors to our ringing sessions and also venture out to other towers.

Marske Bellringers Accounts 2024

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Weddings	£ 120.00	subs	£ 108.00
subs	£ 60.00	Repairs	£ 84.60
interest	£ 3.00		
TOTAL	£ 183.00		£ 192.60

BALANCE

balance at 01/01/24	£ 147.58
deficit	£ -9.60
balance at 31/12/24	£ 137.98

The White House

The White House continues to host an array of long term regular users from MOAM Soup kitchen to childminders and keep fit classes. Over the year we have welcomed some new users and have begun to take a lot more bookings for children's parties and hope to continue working with community groups with their room hire requirements.

All enquiries regarding the White House to-

Mrs K Callaghan 07412656492 thewhitehousemarske@gmail.com

Mothers' Union

Our Branch of 36 members continues to be run by committee.

On the first Monday in the month we hold a Prayer Group at 11am in church, the second Wednesday at 1.45pm is the Branch meeting when we have had interesting speakers and discussions and on the third Wednesday members take part in the 10.00am Communion Service followed by our coffee morning.

Last year in Lent and Advent we had house groups and Services in church were led by Revd. Julie. On Mothering Sunday we provided daffodils and cards for both Services and contributed towards church flowers at Easter and Christmas.

Fund raising events took the form of after Service lunches on Lady Day and Mary Sumner Day (to which we invited members from other Branches) and our annual Strawberry Tea. These with our monthly coffee mornings raised £1,400 for M.U. projects at home and abroad. Many thanks to all who supported these events.

We continued supporting the local Women's Refuge donating toiletries and household essentials and together with our Church congregation, Easter eggs and Christmas gifts for the women and children.

Sadly in 2024 two of our long serving members passed away. Some members are now unable to get to meetings but are still supportive in prayer and donations.

Jean Johnson (for Committee)

Friends of St Germain's

Our volunteer group will soon be returning to our tasks now that Spring is here. We will begin by removing any Christmas tributes and spent flowers which remain on interment plots and graves. We will continue our work, as the weather allows, by weeding interment plots and graves, pruning back plants and removing vegetation from the perimeter fences and walls. We also maintain the flower bed along the fence. During the year we have enhanced some old graves by clearing the plot, membrane and covering with decorative stones. We are grateful to Hugh and Mark, who assist our team, for their work in the churchyard. They have strimmed and mowed pathways which has given visitors a clear route through the churchyard and around the Commonwealth Graves.

RCBC continue to cut the grass throughout the year and in April they replaced a broken gatepost.

In November a beautiful poppy cascade was created for the tower which was in place for the Remembrance Day service. Marske Fishermen's Choir led our Candlelit Christmas event in December, generous donations have boosted our funds. We have been given some funds by RCBC to help enable the repair of the perimeter Grade 2 listed wall.

Thank you

Gill Haveron

St. Mark's Choir

The Choir leads the worship at the 9.30 Sunday Eucharist. The music is varied in style to accommodate a range of musical tastes within the congregation. We aim to sing a short choral item at all 9.30 Eucharist services including all major festivals.

The December Nine Lessons and Carols service went ahead as usual with some guests and members of the congregation joining the choir. The service was well attended again with an estimated congregation of 110. It clearly attracted visitors who do not regularly attend St Mark's, possibly because a notice was placed on St. Mark's Facebook page.

St Mark's is fortunate in having a small core of very loyal singers who attend almost all practices and services. We are a small choir and every voice really counts. At present we have eight singers. **N.B WE URGENTLY NEED RECRUITS IN ALL VOICES** in order for us to fulfil our role at St. Mark's. We have just one short practice on Monday morning and sing at one Sunday service - not much more commitment than is made by regular members of the congregation already. The Choir cannot be taken for granted.

We are fortunate in having two supplementary organists, Debbie Read and Llinos Mary who enjoy playing for us.

All at St. Mark's will miss Ann Saunby whose funeral was on August 22nd. Anne was a longstanding, much loved and very sociable member of the choir. She had a lovely soprano voice, and proclaimed her faith through the choir she loved.

Andrew Fox, Organist and choirmaster.

Choir Accounts 2024 - Audited by Ian Stoker 02/04/25

For the purchase of robes, music, organ and piano repairs etc
Summary

	Petty Cash	Yorks BS
31/12/23		
Brought Forward	£24.19	£5100.82
Income	£10.00	£ 172.84 Interest
		<u>£ 178.00</u> Coffee
		Mornings
Expenditure	Nil	Nil
Balance at 31/12/24	£34.19	£5451.66

NB Coffee Mornings

31/01/24	£50.00
29/05/24	£47.00
01/08/24	£40.00
30/10/24	<u>£41.00</u>
	<u>£178.00</u>