



**Annual Report
and unaudited
Financial Statements
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

Incumbent

The Reverend Olly Ryder
6 St Lawrence Road
Plymouth

Bank:

Barclays Bank Plc
19 Princess Street
Plymouth

Independent Examiner:

Tony Jopson & Co.
246 Peverell Park Road
Plymouth PL3 4QG

Registered Charity Number:

1134139

The Parish Church of Charles with St Matthias

‘St Matts Plymouth’

North Hill, Plymouth, PL4 8HF

stmplymouth.org.uk



THE EVANGELISATION OF THE NATIONS
THE REVITALISATION OF THE CHURCH AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021
(presented April 2022)

‘CHARLES WITH ST MATTHIAS (St Matts) PLYMOUTH’

Diocesan ID - 9187

Registered Charity Number - 1134139

PURPOSE - St Matts is a **City Centre Resource Church** with a vision to play it's part in the

The **EVANGELISATION** of the nations;
The **REVITALISATION** of the Church;
The **TRANSFORMATION** of society.

MISSION - St Matt's aims to fulfil this vision through four operating lenses:

KNOW GOD - We want everyone to come into a personal relationship with Jesus. We do this principally through our **Sunday Services** and encouraging people in their own personal faith journey.

FIND FREEDOM - We want everyone to grow in their relationship with God and to discover freedom and life. We believe this happens supremely in community with others in midweek **Small Groups** where we can grow in life, faith and friendship.

DISCOVER PURPOSE - We want everyone to discover their purpose in life. We do this through our **Join the Adventure sessions** providing people with an opportunity to learn how to get the most out of their faith and how God has made them.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE - We want everyone to get up and running living a life of service and blessing. Through our **Dream Team** of volunteers we hope to connect every person with an area of the church's life that energises them and blesses others and spills out into other areas of their life.

Background - The church in its current format was launched on **25 September 2016** by Revd Olly & Ali Ryder and a small staff & volunteer team at the invitation of the Bishops of Exeter and Plymouth in partnership with Holy Trinity Brompton, London. St Matts is part of the **Plymouth City Deanery** in the **Diocese of Exeter** in the **Church of England** and is based at the top of North Hill, Plymouth, PL4 8HF.

Structure, Governance and Management - St Matts is led by the **PCC** (Parochial Church Council). The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church of England's '*Church Representation Rules*'. All church attendees who consider themselves as belonging to the worshipping community of St Matts are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll. All those on the Electoral Roll may stand for election on the PCC. The Church Council should reflect the diversity of the church and local community. The PCC is re-elected every three years. The Church Council has responsibility, alongside the Vicar, staff team, and lay pastors, of fulfilling the church's vision. PCC members who served from **April 2021** until the date this report was approved are:

PCC Members

Ex-Officio Members

Vicar and Chairman	Olly Ryder
Curate	Reuben Crossley
Curate	Mike Knight

Church Wardens

Adrian Boughton	<i>Elected annually up to six successive years</i>
Sally Pearson	Elected 2021
	Elected 2021

Deanery Synod Members

Portia Crossley	<i>Elected every three years</i>
<i>Vacant position</i>	Elected 2020

Safeguarding Representative

Debbie Boughton	Appointed 2019
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Other Members

Jonathan Bushby	Treasurer	<i>Elected every three years</i>
Dean Jacobs		Elected 2020 [serving second term]
Tim Hookway		Elected 2021 [serving second term]
Laura Fraser-Crewes		Elected 2019
Neil Mawson		Elected 2021
Bob Mills		Elected 2021
Jeff Stephenson		Elected 2021 (re-elected serving second term)
Teressa Cornish		Elected 2021
Jesse Leach		Elected 2021
Beth Horton		Elected 2020
Janet Stirling		Elected 2021

Co-Opted Members (non-voting)

Hannah English	Secretary	Elected 2021 [re-elected annually since 2017]
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Staff Team - as at March 2022

Olly Ryder	Vicar
Claire Worth	Executive Director
Jonathan Bushby	Finance Director & Treasurer
Reuben Crossley	Curate & Small Groups Pastor

Mike Knight	Curate & Student Pastor
Robin Smith	Ordinand & Alpha Pastor
Phil Jones	Worship & Creative Pastor
Julia Johnston	Kids Pastor
Lucy Gilbert	Youth Pastor
Noah Gilbert	Media & Production Coordinator
Hannah English	Church Coordinator & Executive Assistant

ANNUAL REVIEW - 2021/22

St Matts has completed its **fifth** full year as an '**HTB Network' City Centre Resource Church** with a vision to play its part in the '**evangelisation of the nations, the revitalisation of the church and the transformation of society**' by helping people to know God, find freedom, discover purpose and make a difference. The church has grown from a small group of 30-50 regular worshippers to 400-500 every Sunday (pre-pandemic) - post pandemic levels now at 300+ every Sunday, and 1,000+ contacts on the church's database.

VICAR'S REPORT - Rev'd Olly Ryder - Like the previous year, this last year has been very challenging due to the ongoing turmoil brought about by the coronavirus pandemic. However, it has been inspiring to see the St Matts family weathering the storm with great faith and resilience and many good things happening.

During the year we've sought to provide weekly spiritual support and encouragement to our whole church family and visitors through our **Sunday Services** offering both 'in-person' and 'online' provision. More recently, following the ease in lockdown restrictions, it has been great to be able to gather together in person - we now have more than 300 people gathering every Sunday as well as around 100 online and 50-60 children and youth. We've also continued providing smaller midweek communities for people to grow in faith and friendship through our **Small Groups** - this term there are more than 40 groups.

Our Love Your Neighbour campaign provided significant support to those most in need in our community and city during the pandemic. Although we have formally finished the project much of the work continues through the Soup Run and our many partner organisations in the city.

Looking ahead - As we look ahead to a new church year there is lots to look forward to including the ongoing exploration of the viability of planting a church into St Simon's Mt Gould; further developing and improving the site at St Matts; continuing to grow our Sunday Services and church family; rebuilding our Dream Team of volunteers; developing our Small Groups; and continuing to grow the different strands of church life, Kids Church, Youth, Students, Over 50s, Missions.

In the summer we will be saying farewell to our Curate, Reuben Crossley, as he takes on a new role as Rector of St Swithuns, Retford. We'll also be saying farewell to our Ordinand, Robin Smith, as he takes on a new role as Curate at Holy Trinity Barnstaple. We are exploring the possibility of a new Ordinand joining us this September and a new Curate next summer.

Love South West - We are looking forward to a united weekend of worship, service and invitation as part of Love South West 2022, 10-12 June (<https://www.lovesouthwest.org.uk/>). We'll gather at St Matt's for a Kingdom Come night of worship and prayer on Fri 10 June; run social action projects in our streets and local communities on Sat 11 June; and invite people to 'Try Church' at St Matts on Sun 12 June.

Creation Fest - We are looking forward to the whole St Matts family attending Creation Fest (29 July – 1 August - <https://creationfest.org.uk/>) for an extended weekend with churches across the South West of worship, teaching, prayer, fun and time together.

As you read the rest of this report, I hope you enjoy and are inspired by all that God is doing in and through us. Thank you so much for being part of this family and God-adventure by the sea!

KNOW GOD - Sunday Services

CONTACTS

Database - primarily through 'Join the Adventure' cards

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	387	450	494	543	604	639	657	667	702	743	865	902
2018	935	996	1022	1040	1099	1116	1145	1161	1208	1251	1315	1363
2019	1386	1401	1440	1438	1488	1500	1549	-	1584	-	1665	-
2020	1719	1727	1785	1795	Data cleanse		1153	1156	1149	1171	1233	1242
2021	1246	cleanse	-	-	1250	1252	1256	-	1260		1374	-
2022	1375	1402	1417									

Facebook - 'Likes'

2017	633	685	762	797	825	852	862	894	980	1036	1059	1098
2018	1109	1123	1155	1188	1217	1226	1248	1262	1337	1402	1424	1458
2019	1482	1500	1521	1626	1628	1678	1688	-	1762	-	1825	-
2020	1835	1845	1895	1906	1919	1927	1928	1937	1942	1954	1968	1985
2021	2095	-	2089	-	2128	2022	2025	-	2133		2144	
2022	2144	2100	2086									

Instagram - 'Followers'

2018	-	725	792	843	870	885	917	952	982	1024	1066	-
2019	-	1144	1160	-	1207	-	1267	-	1342	-	1403	-
2020	1447	-	1470	-	-	1500	-	-	1520	-	-	1550
2021	1560	-	1580	-	1601	1608	1611	-	1,618		1651	
2022	1667	1676	1680									

ELECTORAL ROLL - (members of the church's official register): **117 (as at 23 March 2022)**

SUNDAY SERVICES - St Matt's currently has two main Sunday services - **THE TEN & THE FIVE** with an average weekly attendance of around 360 people across the two services - 300 adults & 50 children - and a further 100 for 'Church Online'. During the last year, in response to the pandemic and changing regulations, we have had to adapt and offer different Sunday service provision over the year including multiple socially distanced services and 'Church Online'. As the pandemic continues to ease and people are able to gather in person we hope, pray and expect our Sunday Services to increase in numbers.

Main Service Attendance

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	TEN	163	158	196	184	171	179	204	196	197	209	224	227
2017	SIX	136	146	129	130	158	102	109	74	193	200	177	211
	TOTAL BOTH	299	304	325	314	329	281	313	270	390	409	401	438
2018	TEN	242	257	200	285	245	259	253	236	297	291	280	282
2018	SIX	183	190	158	168	154	126	98	106	199	230	215	166
	TOTAL BOTH	407	447	358	453	399	385	351	342	496	521	495	448
2019	TEN	332	320	323	281	268	311	291	256	320	319	299	213
2019	SIX	229	277	226	163	199	165	147	127	240	227	226	192
	TOTAL BOTH	561	597	549	444	467	476	438	383	560	546	525	405
2020	TEN	327	264	260	-	-	-	-	-	58	62	-	56

2020	SIX	209	224	215	-	-	-	-	35	46	-	-	58
2020	NINE-THIRTY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66	57	-
2020	ELEVEN-THIRTY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	32	-
2020	FIVE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	51	51	-
2020	SEVEN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70	58	54	-
2020	TEN ONLINE	-	-	-	333	267	210	271	125	60	81	92	80
2020	SIX ONLINE	-	-	-	89	66	54	111	31	53	-	-	-
2020	YOUTUBE	-	-	-	-	-	-	259	307	265	160	250	340
TOTAL	BOTH	536	488	475	422	333	264	641	498	612	504	536	534
2021	TEN	-	-	-	-	104	74	63	-	-	TEN	150	272
2021	SIX/Five	-	-	-	-	83	70	85	-	-	FIVE	40	87
2021	SEVEN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SEVEN	90	119
2021	Online	69	89	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2021	YouTube	235	262	219	-	358	133	170	-	-	YouTube	280	114
	Total	304	351	316	-	545	277	318	--	-	-	560	
2022	TEN	118	131	156									
2022	FIVE	96	124	147									
2022	YouTube	156	121	111									
	Total	370	376	414									

BAPTISMS - Due to coronavirus pandemic and limits on the number of people who can gather we have had a significant reduction in baptisms and reaffirmations during 2021/22. As lockdown eases we anticipate a significant increase in baptisms.

Baptisms and Reaffirmations of Baptismal Vows				
	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Total over year
2017	19	5	1	25
2018	7	-	10	17
2019	17	12	8	37
2020	0	2 (reaffirmations)	0	2 (reaffirmations)/ Covid
2021	0	12	5	17
2022	8			8 (so far)

CHILDREN & YOUTH - Julia Johnston (Kids Pastor) - The vision of Kids Church, under the church's overarching vision, is: **'To enable every child to experience a fun and life-giving relationship with Jesus and to grow as Christian leaders in their generation.'** The three pillars of St Matts Kids Church are:

- 1. Fun** - ensuring kids have fun.
- 2. Love** - helping them to know they are loved and to love.
- 3. Jesus** - meet and grow in faith and friendship with Jesus.

Sundays - It has been a challenging year with a second year of pandemic restrictions but also many signs of life, hope and new life. Despite the difficulties we've endured, we've also seen children and families growing in life, faith and friendship.

Kids Church Online - During the lockdowns we continued offering a special weekly 'Kids Church Online' service with teaching, testimonies, worship, prayer and lots of fun. Huge thanks to Kids Team leader Charlie Kingston who helped to oversee the online content and delivery. And many thanks to so many of our young people and Kids Team helpers who also provided regular content.

'In Person' Gatherings - Following the end of the national lockdowns and easing in covid restrictions there has been a great sense of joy and community as we have welcomed between 50-60 children each week to Kids Church. We are not quite at our pre-pandemic numbers but, since Christmas, parents and carers have been growing in confidence in attending church with their children and meeting in larger groups. We have seen attendance growing steadily each week and look forward to seeing an increasing number of children and young people across all ages.

Team - Since the pandemic has eased we have spent time rebuilding our volunteer Kids Team of helpers who serve, bless and encourage our young people each week. We currently have around 50 helpers (36 female, 12 male). We are currently seeking to grow the number of male volunteers to provide a better balance in leadership. We have recently recruited three more male leaders. We are also seeking to further balance our Kids Church content of art, crafts, activities and sport alongside worship, teaching, discussion and prayer. The boys in particular seem to appreciate space for more energetic games, activities and sport.

Pastoring & Pastoral Calls - During the pandemic and the lockdowns we tried to stay connected with families, kids and the Kids Team through pastoral calls, walks and mentoring. We have sought to continue this post lockdown.

Kids Church Special Events and Activities:

Easter (March) - for Easter 2021 there was an easing in the pandemic restrictions so we were able to gather in person. We held a successful Easter Trail in the Church Garden.

Light Party (Oct) - Following an ease in pandemic restrictions we were delighted to be able to host an indoor 'cosmic themed' Light Party attended by 250 children, parents and carers. The evening - a positive alternative to Halloween - included a silent disco, giant inflatables, candy floss, face painting, lots of sweet treats and a light themed Christian message.

Christmas (Dec) - Despite uncertainty regarding Christmas covid regulations and changes it was great to be able to host an in person Family Carols with Nativity attended by around 200 people as well as many more online. The Kids Team put together a scratch Nativity performed by around 30 young people.

Social Trips (Yrs 5&6) - We've organised a number of social trips for the young people to grow in faith and friendships outside of Sundays. This year we've had trips to Pizza Hut, Frankie and Bennies and Ice Skating at Plymouth Pavilions attended each time by 10-18 children supervised by members of the Kids Team and some parents. It has been lovely to see the children grow in relationship with one another. We are aiming to hold more regular social outings and encourage the young people to bring their non-church going friends as well as forming lasting friendships with each other.

Schools - We have formed good relationships with Prince Rock School. Julia frequently visits and delivers a short message on the life of Jesus. The school is enjoying the assemblies and Julia is seeing a lot of fruit from this as young children often seek her out and ask further questions.

Mini-Matts - Zoe Wilson and Roxy Knight have been running a weekly parents/carers/toddlers group in the Church Hall on Mondays as restrictions have allowed. It's been lovely to provide a space for parents and

carers to connect, enjoy coffee, cake, conversation and mutual support and encouragement and for their children to have a safe and fun place to play and grow in friendships.

Vision/Next Steps - We are anticipating that Kids Church will continue to grow to pre-pandemic levels and beyond. We are seeking to improve the worship experience that the young people enjoy by building the Kids Worship Team. We are also planning on updating and improving some of the Kids Church equipment. We will continue recruiting more Kids Team volunteers as well as continuing to look at ways to best utilise the space in all our rooms for different year groups.

YOUTH - Lucy Gilbert (Youth Pastor) - All parents and young people were contacted when Lucy started the youth role to ensure connection was being made with those who attended St Matts. We received useful feedback which helped to tailor provision going forward.

Younger Youth - For our Year 7-9's, we started meeting in person after Easter last year when covid regulations allowed. The group have been able to build relationships together and develop connections with those who serve on the Youth Team. We regularly see between 8-10 children which can sometimes reach 14-16 over busier periods.

We provide 'Youth' on a Sunday morning during The Ten. This is a place to play games, hear about each other's difficulties and wins and to grow in relationship with God. This session often follows seasonal topics or books of the Bible. We have also included other topics including: 'How to Understand Parents', 'What does it mean to have faith?' and 'The Fruit of the Spirit'. After Easter, our young people will stay in for worship in the main church building as this is a key part of growing them in their faith.

Monday evenings, called 'Fusion', have been running since September and has been the more social gathering. Our emphasis on this night has been fun and then growing deeper in what it means to be a Christian. We are currently exploring Youth Alpha with the aim of growing the personal faith and relationship with God in our young people.

Older Youth and Young Adults - Our Year 10-11's and Year 12+ have been much harder to reach. When discussing with other youth workers in the surrounding area, this has been a common theme. All are facing much lower engagement from this age group. They have been encouraged to attend The Five and we do see them occasionally but attendance at our midweek gathering (Wednesday evening) has been minimal.

Youth Light Party - One of our big events of this year was our Light Party in October. We saw over 30 young people between the ages of 11-16 gather together for an evening of mess and fun. Whilst this did not grow our youth group in numbers, it did solidify growing friendships of our current young people. This has been invaluable in creating a group that has meaning and provides the youth themselves with familiarity and a space to be open.

Vision/Next Steps - As with everything, we are learning that sometimes the best things take time to develop and create those deep roots. It has been an exciting yet challenging year for our youth ministry however we have learnt a lot along the way. Big areas of development over the next year:

- **Growing Team** - this is essential in ensuring consistency in provision and in relationship building. If provision is consistent, young people remain consistent. This is something Lucy is actively working

on and putting plans in place to ensure this is strengthened over the next year. With this will come team socials/training to create a strong team of people that care for the needs of our young people. A vision night will be held in April for anyone interested in youth ministry or currently on Youth Team to bring their ideas and see what we hope to achieve and bring to our youth ministry at St Matts.

- **Older Youth/Young Adult provision** - finding out what would be beneficial to this age group and making it available is a top priority for the coming year. Ensuring they feel valued within church and have space to grow in/develop a relationship with God.
- **Events** - Being a teenager is tough and we'd love to provide our young people with opportunities to just have fun. That can look like great Christian events such as Creation Fest but it could also be a fun social where they just get to be with their friends. This is something we'd like to build in more as a termly occasion once we have a greater number of team to lean on.

SAFEGUARDING - All those working with children and youth are expected to have **DBS disclosures**. St Matts has a **Child Protection Policy** and an **Equal Opportunities Policy**. Our Safeguarding Representative, Debbie Boughton stood down from her role in January 2022 after serving the church in this capacity since 2019. We are very grateful to Debbie for all her hard work, care and concern in ensuring our safeguarding processes and procedures are in place. One of our parents and Kids Team helpers, Jen Bradley, has agreed to take on the role. Any concerns regarding children's safety should be referred to our **Safeguarding Representative, Jen Bradley - safeguarding@stmplymouth.org.uk**

Children & Youth - Average Weekly Service Attendance													
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	TEN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	57	59	46
2018	TEN	69	67	65	86	66	71	71	69	92	84	81	70
2019	TEN	81	87	116	73	69	87	62	60	89	81	71	64
2020	TEN	78	64	74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
2021	TEN	98	112	75	-	-	78	81	29	72	54	43	63
2022	TEN	45	48	52									
Children & Youth - Total Contacts on Database													
2017		-	-	96	96	97	97	97	97	180	189	198	211
2018		219	242	259	274	308	314	331	357	387	418	435	444
2019		467	481	499	523	532	563	561	568	575	-	591	-
2020		612	623	644	641	-	-	642	-	-	-	-	-
2021		-	-	-	-	637	-	649					-
2022		668	673	676									
YOUTH NIGHTS													
2020		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	16	-	18
2021		-	-	-	5	7	8	7	-	-	-	9	9
2022			6	8									

STUDENTS - Revd Mike Knight (Student Pastor & Curate) - It has been a joy to serve alongside the student community this year, and particularly to be able to get back to some kind of normality in terms of meeting together. There is a strong sense of family among the students which has grown over the year and has been particularly evident during the particularly difficult periods over the last few months. It has been beautiful in the midst of darkness seeing people join together, get round each other and keep pointing each other back to Jesus.

Students continue to make up a large proportion of our church family (particularly at the Five on Sundays) though we have seen some expected movement around churches post-Covid where, anecdotally, we had

found many new students joining St Matts very quickly due to the brilliant online provision but have now had the chance to explore other places that are more suited to them. Our student community contribute massively to the life of the church and it has been great seeing so many getting involved on teams and using their gifts in serving the church as well as stepping out leading Small Groups, doing 'Preachtastic' talks and leading Sunday Services.

Student Night - In the last academic year (2020-21) we multiplied our student night into Small Groups as a necessity during Covid restrictions. This year we decided to keep a focus on Small Groups meeting separately from Student Night as these provide a great space for students to really get to know and be supported by a smaller community that can know and love them. It also gives more space for student leaders to take on more responsibility in leading and discipling other students. Our student leaders have really taken ownership for this and being the 'Student Pastors' to smaller groups within the community. More recently, hoping to provide a bit more consistency week-by-week, we have moved our Small Groups back to meeting separately but together in the building on alternate weeks for time to study God's word and pray together. We have a wider student community of around 100, whilst numbers at Student Nights tend to be around 35-45 on any given week and our 5 student Small Groups represent around 40-50 students with 9 leaders.

A highlight of our student nights is our termly 'Testimony Takeover' - a chance for students to share their faith story and invite friends along (and they always do!) to experience something of Jesus' story in our lives. One student was invited along to a 'Testimony Takeover' in October — it was her first time in church - at our February 'Testimony Takeover' she was sharing the story of her own journey to faith over the last few months. She was then baptised in March!

Vision/Next Steps - We look forward to finishing the academic year well, praying for those heading off to new things and having lots of fun and bbqs as we continue to grow together as a community. I'll be particularly looking for new team members as we head towards the start of a new academic year, especially among the first years and newer students. Next year I hope to continue to grow our team even more in their leadership so that Student Nights are more and more student led; to solidify our pattern of meeting so that its really easy for new freshers to get quickly embedded in the community; and to re-focus on doing our part in reaching out to the 35,000 students studying in Plymouth.

Students - connected with community (Facebook Group)												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	178	184
2018	189	196	206	214	207	207	209	213	218	234	240	-
2019	-	255	259	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	272	-
2020	-	-	-	295	296	297	298	295	305	313	313	312
2021	313	314	-	-	308	308	306	-	-	-	308	-
2022	309	307	306									
Instagram - @stmstudents												
2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	401	-
2022	419	422	430									
Student Nights - Thursday night gathering during term time for food, worship, message, discussion, prayer												
2019	-	67	50	40	41	-	-	-	52	59	47	-
2020	45	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	68 (in person)	42 (online)	45 (online)
2021	37 (online)	40 (online)	-	50	52	46	-	-	40-60	40-60	40-60	-

2022	40	40	37									
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Student SMALL GROUPS												
		AUTUMN				SPRING				SUMMER		
2020-21	GROUPS	12				9				-		
	LEADERS	16				11				-		
	MEMBERS	75				55				-		
		AUTUMN				SPRING				SUMMER		
2021-22	GROUPS	5				5						
	LEADERS	9				7						
	MEMBERS	39				45						

50+ OVER 50s GROUP - Bob & Lin Mills & Olly Ryder - In November 2021 we started a new ministry at St Matts called '50+' aimed at supporting and encouraging the over 50s in our church family and their friends. It's a monthly gathering with refreshments, worship, teaching, discussion, prayer and time for conversation and community. There are currently more than 40 members of the group with a monthly attendance of around 30 each time. We have formed a fledgling over 50s worship band and have enjoyed numerous speakers and testimonies.

Vision/Next Steps - We aim to grow the over 50s Leadership Team and Worship Team and build a growing number of over 50s engaged in the life of St Matt's and at 50+ to provide a supportive and encouraging faith based community. We are planning on some social outings as well as providing opportunities to welcome and invite non-Christian friends or those disengaged from faith to grow in faith and friendship.

50+ over 50s monthly midweek service - Thursdays, 10.30am-12pm												
	Spring Term				Summer Term				Autumn Term			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	36
2022	25	32	30									

FIND FREEDOM - Small Groups

SMALL GROUPS - Revd Reuben Crossley (Curate & Small Group Pastor) - *Small Groups have one, simple purpose - to bring people together. We believe God created us to live in community with others and only then can we experience the full life he intends for us. Small Groups provide a place for us to **connect with others, share life, and grow in faith** together. We believe life-change happens in the context of relationships. Our belief and vision is that St Matts is a church **of** Small Groups, not a church **with** Small Groups.*

It's wonderful to report that Small Groups have revived and are back in force. The autumn term saw over 40 groups with over 50 leaders and 360 distinct attendees (total attendees is greater due to some people joining more than one group). This compares to our record of 52 small groups. There remained a healthy mix of in-person and online groups through the summer madness of unexpected isolations and uncertainty in 2021 and by the Autumn term more and more groups returned and small group leaders took up the mantle again. There had been some concern as to how quickly leaders would take on groups again, but this was unfounded and the take-up has been as significant as before the pandemic.

Our small group model continues to foster group gatherings and friendship groups outside of the formal structure as well. We held an autumn Small Group Leaders Celebration and Training in November 2021 which saw 37 booked in. This was a fun time of renewing friendships, sharing encouragement and tips and also praying for one another. I reiterated the tenets of our Small Group system which are 'Connect', 'Protect' and 'Grow'. This re-established our vision to facilitate friendship and connection between the whole community of St Matts, the role of groups in caring for, praying and watching out for each other and for seeking to grow in our faith together.

Despite the common challenges of leading groups during the pandemic there were many stories of the Holy Spirit at work transforming lives and communities. We have continued to see the benefits of our organic, passion-led group model. The flexibility this has created for leaders to respond to what they see happening around them in the St Matts community, the world and what the Holy Spirit prompts is amazing.

I have continued to field emails, texts and requests for coffee meetings to discuss group issues, new group dreams and ideas, tricky interpersonal issues in the groups and complex theological and Biblical questions. It is always a pleasure and a privilege to meet with and pray with our leaders who are always grace-filled and enthusiastic. I have also fielded several enquiries from other church leaders on our model and this has been one way that we can realise our call to be a Resource Church.

SMALL GROUPS				
		SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN
2017	GROUPS	28	28	24
	LEADERS	-	-	-
	MEMBERS	154	181	135
2018	GROUPS	34	33	48
	LEADERS	-	-	65
	MEMBERS	246	252	357
2019	GROUPS	46	40	44
	LEADERS	58	60	60
	MEMBERS	329	315	353
2020	GROUPS	52	44	50
	LEADERS	60	54	62
	MEMBERS	497	400	382
2021	GROUPS	37	38	41
	LEADERS	47	48	56
	MEMBERS	319	290	360
2022	GROUPS	43		
	LEADERS	55		
	MEMBERS	410		

ALPHA - Robin Smith (Ordinand & Alpha Pastor) - We encourage members of the congregation to share their faith with others in their everyday life. We also run the Alpha course as a more intentional way of providing an opportunity for people wanting to investigate Christianity or are new to faith. Alpha continues to be a great place to help those exploring faith to ask their questions, make new friends and be introduced to the life of St Matt's as well as for those already attending St Matt's with faith to be refreshed, reconnect with God and others and grow in their own evangelism. A typical Alpha session would include food (when meeting in person), icebreakers, worship, watching the DVD together looking at a range of topics (e.g. Who is Jesus? How can I have faith? How does God guide me?) and a discussion. In the past St Matts has run a large centralised course in the Autumn and Small Groups in the Spring and Summer terms.

Over the past year, Alpha at St Matt's has transitioned from being online to meeting back in person. Our last 'Online Alpha' was January-March 2021 where we had 29 people join us. The following term from May-July, Tina Bayliss and Sheena McCulloch ran an in person Alpha which 15 people attended (10 guests and 5 helpers)) who were connected to the Love Your Neighbour ministry, some of who had significant addictions, domestic and spiritual challenges. Many were helped through prayer, counselling and listening and a number were baptised.

Following all restrictions being lifted, in September 2021 with people getting back to work, church in person and life, the Alpha Team and I sensed it was not right to run an in church Alpha straight away but give people time to transition back into routine and so not overwhelm people with an 11 week course commitment. This time was spent instead building and training team, caring for people who had previous done or led Alpha and advertising for a bigger in-person Alpha in January 2022 and an extended period of invitation. This was time well spent and since January 2022 we resumed Alpha in-person and we have had an average of 50 people over 5 groups attend each week, with 38 of them having never attended an Alpha course before or with us at St Matts and we trained 9 new leaders alongside the other 7 who had previously helped to lead on Alpha.

Alpha continues to be one of the most exciting opportunities for people to come to faith, experience the power and healing of God (especially on the Alpha Day away and "Does God Heal Today?" sessions) and to connect to the wider life of the church. So far this term we have seen one person's back healed, one person set free from a smoking addiction, two people get baptised, everyone having the opportunity to receive and be filled with the Holy Spirit and his gifts and to learn and have an opportunity to pray with and for each other.

The Holy Spirit Alpha Day continues to be one of the highlights of every course. Every time we see the Holy Spirit filling people, bringing his healing, peace and presence as we take time to pray for people and to hear God. We often open up a time of response after the second session "How Can I be Filled with the Holy Spirit?" for singing/speaking in tongues, words of knowledge, prophecy and this is often peoples first encounter with the more obvious supernatural elements of the Christian faith.

The Holy Spirit Alpha Day is also a significant time for people to bond and to have fun together. This term in the afternoon groups went out climbing, tobogganing and to a board games café with entertainment in the evening in the form of a quiz, group games and food. There is always so much laughter and a real sense of the kingdom of God breaking in.

Some of the challenges of running Alpha over the past year has been the huge knock on effect of people's physical, mental and emotional health (and zoom fatigue) which no doubt had a variety of sources. Much more recently, the tragic death of Lewis Fletcher (who some of our leaders knew well) saw a number of leaders step down and away from Alpha entirely. Mental health has had a big effect on the small groups, worship and production, but I am very thankful for Terrassa Cornish who has co-lead Alpha with me this term and Phil Jones for stepping in and up in so many ways to keep Alpha running smoothly.

I cannot recommend this course enough as a great way to draw others into faith and friendship. It

has been such a huge privilege and joy to serve St Matt's in this way and as I hand Alpha on after I leave in June, my hope and prayer is that it will continue to be a central part of the life of St Matt's.

Alpha Testimonies - 'Alpha has been an inspiration for my confidence, leadership, my continuing growth in faith which is amazing as I learn and try to memorise verses and become fulfilled with God, Christ Jesus, the Holy Spirit and The Bible' - Richie

'The Holy Spirit day was an amazing session and I now realise I have encountered the Holy Spirit and had guidance from God! What a revelation! I feel so grateful for Alpha for the learning but also in some ways to clarify I am closer to God than I ever realised. I wish I had done the Alpha course a long time ago!' - Kirstein

'I love helping on Alpha because you get to meet different kinds of people and see them grow in their questions and depth to life and the purpose of living. It is an amazing way to intentionally have conversations and get to the core of who Jesus is, how we ended up here and who we can be in Jesus.' - Jess

'The Alpha group has changed everything for me. As a non-believer or feeling "on the fence" for a long time, Alpha gave me a space to openly talk to other people about life and faith... I have learnt so many things about faith that I didn't previously know, I have had questions answered, I have cried, laughed, dressed up as a leopard and had love hearts drawn on my face. This course was so much more than what I expected. Coming from a background of avoiding discussions about faith with others, I now feel quite the opposite and I want to speak to others more about it, and learn as much as I can. I don't want it to end!' - Emily

Alpha				
	SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN	Total
2016 attendees	-	-	120	120
2017 attendees	14	28	100	142
2018 attendees	11	6	70	87
2019 attendees	-	-	90	90
2020 attendees	60	30	23	113
2021 attendees	29	?	?	29
2022 attendees	50			

DISCOVER PURPOSE - We have a 'JOIN THE ADVENTURE' session to help people integrate into the life of the church, learn about the church's vision, discover their gifting and take their next step by joining a team. During 'normal time' we have run our 'Join the Adventure' sessions every month.

During the pandemic we have not been running our 'Join the Adventure' sessions - although we have been connecting people to the life of our church through Sunday Services and Small Groups. We will be restarting our Join the Adventure sessions after Easter.

Join Adventure Sessions													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	20	34	8	-	85
2018	20	-	12	-	10	-	13	-	7	-	-	-	60
2019	26	-	9	-	6	3	7	-	10	8	-	7	35
2020	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	15

MAKE A DIFFERENCE - Every member of St Matts is encouraged to serve on the **DREAM TEAM** whether it's helping with Kids Church, Worship, Welcome, Cafe, Students, Youth, Small Group Leadership, Prayer Team. An annual Dream Team Party is held each year to thank all team members. There are currently around **150** members of the **DREAM TEAM**. We are in a time of rebuilding all of our teams following the pandemic.

Including All Teams			
	Spring	Summer	Autumn
2018	155	153	176
2019	215	220	225
2020	248	-	-
2021	-	-	-
2022	Approx 150		

GIVING - Jonathan Bushby (Treasurer & Finance Director) - We would love to help everyone that calls St Matt's 'home' and is part of the DREAM TEAM to develop godly practices with their finances including — *'earning diligently, spending carefully, saving wisely, and giving generously'*. We have a growing number of people worshipping God through their finances and enabling the vision of the church to grow through their 'tithes' and 'offerings'. We are very grateful for everyone who gives financially into the life of the church enabling us to flourish and grow as a church family and bless the city, region and further afield.

GIVING: Number of individual monthly givers & monthly amounts given													
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2017	Givers	45	34	52	50	52	60	58	57	54	70	85	82
	Amount	4192	5627	8697	5123	5219	5806	7437	6771	6991	9831	9993	9145
2018	Givers	77	85	86	105	99	93	97	102	96	123	116	120
	Amount	9207	12382	11372	13815	12536	11762	12004	12936	12037	14941	13000	14,376
2019	Givers	141	149	149	151	143	143	143	143	145	137	154	148
	Amount	15,444	13,707	16,046	15,097	14,945	15,743	14,201	15,615	16,546	14,755	21736	18288
2020	Givers	147	132	162	162	161	150	147	136	138	138	152	140
	Amount	19,034	14,385	20,563	14,607	16,000	17,885	16,359	14,312	14,866	14,439	17,356	17,452
2021	Givers	134	136	132	126	142	140	127	122	125	142	132	126
	Amount	14273	18174	16933	13460	13210	15061	13,456	13,318	13,138	15,891	14782	15438
2022	Givers	130	132	-									
	Amount	15,450	14,938	-									

OTHER ACTIVITIES/REPORTS DURING THE YEAR

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR - Our Love Your Neighbour project came to an end at the end of December as our grant funding and contracts finished. During the pandemic, in partnership with Holy Trinity Brompton and their national 'Love Your Neighbour Campaign' (<https://www.loveyourneighbour.uk/>) we were able to access match funding from the Government and other funders to enable significant social action and relief to those in need across Plymouth and the South West. St Matts contributed £50k of church funds towards the project. The whole project and supporting partners has spent £500k+ over two years and supported thousands of people in need. The Plymouth Love Your Neighbour campaign has involved:

- **Staffing** - We were able to employ one full time and two part time staff members to oversee the project - full time Hub Leader, Tina Bayliss, part time Hub Coordinator, Sheena McCulloch; part time

Finance Director, Jonathan Bushby. A team of 80+ volunteers has been involved in the project. Huge thanks to Tina, Sheena and Jonathan for all their hard work and the whole volunteer team.

- **Food Bank** - we set up our own weekly food bank operating out of St Matt's Church Hall (providing 600,000 meals over the last 18 months). During the food bank we had volunteers to assist with debt advice and budgeting advice, signposting to our partners Hamoaze House, Shekinah, Christians Against Poverty and Shelter and PATH for those who were experiencing housing issues. We also offered morning breakfasts during the lockdowns for people who were in Bed and Breakfasts. We also created small groups such as Alpha, bible studies, self defence class for vulnerable women, and lunches for lonely vulnerable people.
- **Other Food** - We also provided food from the St Matt's team, congregation and food bank for homeless people housed in accommodation on North Hill as well as other sheltered housing. This specific project was for the Homes 4 Homeless (H4H)
- **Linked food provision** - We acted as a conduit for food provision to people across the city and region through other churches and charities including 'Transforming Plymouth Together' and the 'Four Greens Community Trust'. We developed a relationship with a food charity called Fareshare which enabled more food provision. We were given a warehouse from a local business man Fareshare asked if we would be willing to receive and distribute DEFRA Emergency food supplies from December to April. We were distributing about 20 tonnes of food a week to almost 40 different organisations throughout Devon and Cornwall.
- **Soup Run** - We started overseeing Tuesday evening on the Plymouth Soup Run (a citywide project that has been running for 20+ years). LYN Hub Leader Tina Bayliss also attended the monthly city wide Rough Sleeper Team meeting each month to provide input. St Matts has contributed to discussions that have led to positive change in the city for homelessness.
- **Love Christmas** - We took part in a national Love Christmas Campaign (building on our annual Christmas 'Gift Project' from previous years) providing more than 188 presents to those in need as well as 164 food hampers and 100 student boxes with food and other items. Due to the DEFRA Emergency supplies we were also able to provide frontline organisations with food to give out over Christmas.
- **Other Charities** - Through our connection with the national Love Your Neighbour campaign we enabled other local charities to access match funding to support work amongst the homeless, debt advice, alcohol and drug support, job advice including charities Christians Against Poverty, Trevi House, Shekinah, Hamoaze House. St Matts has collaborated with Shekinah, Hamoaze, PATH, and CAP for service users to get to a point where they would not need to utilise a food bank. Once we were out of lockdown we required service users to engage with our partner services to continue to receive food or be referred from an agency such as the job centre or the council.

Love Your Neighbour Legacy - Whilst the funding for our Love Your Neighbour project ended there are still obviously many ongoing social needs in our church and city. As a church we continue to seek to play our part in alleviating poverty and hardship and supporting those in need through:

- **Supporting the Vulnerable** - We currently continue to offer spiritual, emotional and relational support and encouragement through our Sunday Services and midweek Small Groups. We also signpost people to other more experienced organisations in the city to meet specialist needs such as debt relief, housing advice and drug addiction support. In the future the church could look to employ a 'Community Pastor' who can help oversee and develop further support for addiction recovery, mentoring ex-offenders, and other support for those in need in St Matts and the local community.
- **Fareshare** - There is now a permanent Fareshare Hub in Estover. This will continue to provide food across Plymouth and the South West.
- **Other Charities** - Our other partner charities including Trevi House, Hamoaze House, Christians Against Poverty and Shekinah continue to offer care across the city to those in need. We continue to have various links with the charities and continue to give a percentage of our annual church

'missions giving' to Trevi House and Shekinah. We also welcome many of these regular service users to St Matt's for Sunday services and our midweek small groups for ongoing pastoral care.

- **Soup Run** - The Church Council agreed to continue funding the Soup Run (around £2k pa) overseen by congregation members Neil & Liz Mawson and Jill and Jerry Morris alongside a group of 10-12 reliable and committed volunteers. As well as providing physical, relational and spiritual support and encouragement to those in need. The Soup Run also provides a low key bridge to faith and the church. There are a number of regular attendees of the church who have made St Matts their home as a direct result of their contact with the Soup Run Team. The Soup Run also provides an outlet for service and community for those in the church who are motivated to be involved in social action.

MISSIONS - St Matt's 'tithes' 10% of its income to other local, national and international charities and mission organisations including (in equal proportion):

- **Shekinah** - Shekinah is a Plymouth based charity that provides opportunities for people in recovery or seeking recovery - <https://www.shekinah.co.uk/>
- **Trevi House** - Trevi is a nationally award-winning women's and children's charity based in Plymouth. The three Trevi Houses (Jasmine, Sunflower, Daffodil) are all in the St Matthias parish. We have very close connections with the charity's leadership as well as many of the women, children and families who attend St Matt's - <https://trevi.org.uk/>
- **Church Planting Fund** - St Matt's gives into an internal 'church planting fund' with a vision to help plant other life giving anglican churches across Plymouth and the South West. At the beginning of 2022 the Church Council agreed to allocate £5k of funds towards exploring a potential church plant at St Simon's Mt Gould.
- **CRT (Church Revitalisation Trust)** - The Church Revitalisation Trust is a charity set up in early 2017 by St Matt's parent church, Holy Trinity Brompton to be a catalyst for a momentum of church planting that will see 100 City Centre Resource Churches (CCRCs) and other local churches planted in strategic cities across the country, bringing revitalisation to the Church and seeing communities transformed - <https://crtrust.org/about>
- **Compassion** - Compassion is a leading Christian children's charity seeking to release children from poverty in Jesus name. St Matt's members currently sponsor more than **80** children across the world but primarily in Ghana - <https://www.compassionuk.org/>

CHURCH PLANTING - **St Simon's Mt Gould** - In December 2021 the Church Council agreed for the derelict church of St Simon's Mt Gould to be transferred into the parish of St Matt's with a view to St Matt's exploring the possibility of restoring the buildings, launching a new worshipping community and serving the area. Since then a small team overseen by Bob Mills and Olly Ryder have formed a 'St Simon's Interest Group' (currently 80+ members); launched a midweek service (weekly 15-20 people), spent time clearing and cleaning the church building and grounds and formed a 'Strategy Group.'

A Christmas Carols by Candlelight service was held attended by 150 people. A Spring BBQ was held attended by 30-40 people. And an Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Service is planned for Easter Sunday, 3pm. Electricity has now been installed in the church, significant pigeon mess has been cleared and essential repairs have been made to the building.

Plans for the Summer Term include continuing to grow the midweek service, continuing to repair, clean and clear the building and gardens, develop a medium and longer term strategy for the church and site for consideration by the Church Council.

HTB NETWORK

- **BAY CHURCH TORBAY** - During 2021 we supported the planting of Bay Church Torbay, led by Matt Bray. The church officially launches on Easter Sunday.
- **ASSEMBLE DAY** - As part of the HTB Network, St Matts hosted a regional hub for the HTB Network staff teams welcoming two other regional HTB churches, Bay Church Torbay and St Matt's Exeter, for a day of encouragement, envisioning, worship and prayer.

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT - Portia Crossley (Deanery Synod Representative) - *St Matts is part of the 'Plymouth City Deanery' in the Diocese of Exeter, in the Church of England. All Deanery Synod Representatives of the Church of England churches in the Deanery termly to share information, feedback and encouragement.*

Next Steps - The Next Steps for the Diocese concerning creating more missional communities has had nearly 500 people take part in consultation events. Feedback was that the culture of 'Next Steps' would need to be invitational and attentive to what each mission community said about its own circumstances.

New Legal Form of the Diocesan Board of Education - The Diocesan Synod was required to make a scheme in accordance with the new Diocesan Board of Education Measure 2021, to designate an entity as the Diocesan Board of Education for each diocese. It was agreed this would come under the Diocesan Board of Finance.

Report on Women in Ordained Ministry - Numbers are low of Women clergy in our diocese and we need to address the abuse they are receiving both in person and online.

Anna Chaplaincy – 7 Anna chaplains and 2 Anna Friends were commissioned.

Keyham - Churches involved with Keyham were thanked and consideration was given to what further help could be administered.

General Synod Election The results of the General Synod Elections for the Diocese of Exeter are as follows:

Clergy

The Revd Preb. Rosie Austin
The Ven. Douglas Dettmer
The Revd Preb. Karl Freeman
The Revd. Graham Hamilton
The Revd Prof. Morwenna Ludlow

Laity

Mr Luke Appleton
Mr Simon Friend
Mr Timothy Hamilton
Miss Georgia Willis

BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE REPORT - Claire Worth (Executive Director) - The Church site and buildings have continued to be used in different ways; The Church Hall has continued to be used for AA meetings, cooking and preparation for the bi-weekly Soup Run and providing pastoral care, support, friendship and advice. The Church Building is currently getting back into full swing with Sunday services, Alpha, Student nights, St Mellitus College, Kingdom Come and other ad hoc events.

Security Funding - We have been successful in our bid to receive funding for additional security measures across the site from a Government Security Fund for Churches. This significant funding includes full system CCTV across the whole site (12 cameras), new security fencing, security lighting, gates and other security features. We are currently liaising with a contractor in regards to commencing this site upgrade as soon as possible. We are so grateful to have been chosen as this work would cost tens of thousands of pounds to do ourselves.

AV Changes/ Sound Desk - The team continues to improve and upgrade our AV systems and we now have additional provision through the significant investment made. We felt as a Leadership team that we needed to continue with our 'on-line' service provision, which is now of an extremely high standard with extensive positive feedback received from the wider St Matts family. We have also continued to improve our social media offering and increase our external engagement and the team is continuing to develop this area of ministry. Recently, our 5 year old sound desk (which has been extensively used) unfortunately broke. However, through an incredibly generous member of the St Matts family, we have been able to purchase a new desk which is an amazing answer to prayer.

AA - Since lockdown and beyond, we have seen an increase in the number of people attending the Alcoholics Anonymous 'Road to Recovery' group in the Church Hall. The group continues to meet 3 times a week (it was once a week previously). We didn't feel that we wanted to increase the costs excessively for them, given the nature of their work and the support they offer the local community. However, this has in turn increased the hall hire revenue to £375 per month (an increase of £225 per month).

Toilets - We are at the final stage of this very long process, with the application now waiting for approval with the Chancellor. All being well with the application, we will be commencing the tendering process for this development and looking into raising funds to cover the work needed. The updated toilets will bring a much needed revamp to the Vestry area and provide warm, clean, modern toilet facilities which we are very excited about!

Site Maintenance - Noah Gilbert (our Production & Maintenance Coordinator) continues to work very hard in keeping the site functioning safely and securely. With such a large site to look after and given that Noah only works 1.5 days a week on this element of his role, he is building a team of volunteers to help support all of the maintenance, decorating and gardening that needs doing.

Dale Gardens - The church owns a property in Dale Gardens which is let to long term tenants. Rental income is invested in the life of the church.

FINANCE REPORT - Jonathan Bushby (Treasurer & Finance Director) - Covid relief grants from the Government and other sources significantly boosted financial activity from the usual level in 2021, as they did in 2020, and this has been shown as restricted fund activity under the Love your Neighbour (LYN) banner in the annual accounts. All grants were fully spent by the end of 2021 so will not be a factor in 2022.

During the year the charity received a total income of £454,602 split between £253,972 of operating income, a £50,000 donation match funding the employment of a Youth pastor and a Media pastor and £150,630 of LYN/Covid relief funding.

Operating expenditure in the year amounted to £262,308 and in addition £20,545 of depreciation was charged. LYN/Covid related expenditure was £254,788. The overall effect of the pandemic on the

church's finances was slightly positive over 2020 and the first part of 2021, with the reduction in giving at services being offset by reduced costs due to lower activity levels and furlough scheme payments. However as reopening progressed, and the furlough scheme tapered away, in the latter part of 2021 operating costs have risen.

The church is currently operating with a monthly deficit of around £3,000 and plans are in place involving further giving increases and/or cost savings that will need to be achieved to bring the budget back into balance over the coming years.

Capital expenditure of £7,331 was undertaken and £4,750 was added to the church planning fund which now stands at £65,042.

An operating surplus of £915 and Investment income of £3,051 helped to increase the general fund and at the year end it stood at £3,986.

£39,310 of funds reserved for children's work, support for those in need and at the discretion of the PCC, were transferred to the general fund to support our children's work and to help provide much needed Covid relief. This enabled matched funding to be accessed from the Government, as well as helping to cover LYN expenses that did not have grant funding. Over 2020 and 2021 St Matts released £50k of historic funds and redirected 6 months of its tithing (£13,968) to LYN to provide Covid relief in our city. Overall £7 was raised, via Government and other grants and donations, for every £1 St Matts provided.

A hardship fund, 'The Acts 4 Fund', available to support members of the congregation in financial difficulty, was started during 2020 and stands at £1,479 at the end of 2021.

We have been encouraged by the faithfulness of our regular givers in the St Matt's family (currently 130 members give regularly), particularly in the face of the uncertainty of the pandemic, but need to encourage more of the church's members to give in order to ensure a balanced budget going forward and to continue growing and blessing the city and region.

Investment policy - In accordance with the charity's governing document, the Trustees have the power to invest funds in any investments that they see fit. The policy is to adopt a low risk strategy whilst maximising returns. The Trustees are satisfied with the performance of the investments held and that the policy adopted remains adequate and appropriate. £118,483 of endowment investments, held in 3 separate charities, are shown in the church accounts on the basis that they are controlled by the PCC. Income was £3,051 on these investments which showed a gain of £14,776 over the year. £7,800 of rent was received on a freehold property, valued in the accounts at £146,000, owned by the PCC.

Reserves policy - It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves, at a sufficient level to secure the continued provision of normal charitable activities for a maximum period of six months.

Safeguarding - The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Trustees' Responsibilities - Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the surplus or deficiency for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies, as described later in the accounts, and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and

estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Examination

A resolution to appoint Tony Jopson & Co. as independent examiners for the ensuing year will be proposed at the next APCM during which the financial statements are approved in accordance with the Charities Act 2011

On behalf of the PCC *Olly Ryder.* Olly Ryder, Chairman Mon 11 July 2022
Date.....

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF CHARLES WITH ST
MATTHIAS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

I report on the attached accounts of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") for the year ended 31 December 2021, in respect of an examination carried out under regulation 3 of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 and Section 145, Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (members of the PCC) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b)) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

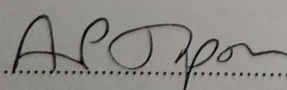
Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters as set out in the statement below.

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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, 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.

 27/6/22

A P Jopson, FCA

Date

(Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales)

Tony Jopson & Co Ltd, Peverell Corner, 246 Peverell Park Road, Plymouth, PL3 4QG

THE PARISH CHURCH OF CHARLES WITH ST MATTHIAS PLYMOUTH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Year ended 31 December 2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)

	Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
		General £	Designated £	£	£	£	£
Income from							
Donations and legacies							
Regular giving	2	215,133	-	-	-	215,133	216,938
Other voluntary receipts	3	0	-	201,557	-	201,557	293,470
Church activities	4	34,844	-	-	-	34,844	29,601
Investments	5	17	-	-	3,051	3,068	3,055
Total income		249,994	-	201,557	3,051	454,602	543,064
Expenditure on							
Church activities	6	249,078	-	288,562	-	537,640	493,533
Total expenditure		249,078	-	288,562	-	537,640	493,533
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		915	-	-87,005	3,051	-83,039	49,531
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	14,776	14,776	6,260
Net income/(expenditure)		915	-	-87,005	17,827	-68,263	55,791
Transfers between funds		-1,534	4,750	-165	-3,051	0	0
Transfers in of 3 charities							
Assets controlled by PCC		-	-	-	-	0	0
Net movement in funds		-619	4,750	-87,170	14,776	-68,263	55,791
Total funds brought forward		4,605	206,292	232,458	103,707	547,062	491,271
Total funds carried forward	12	3,986	211,042	145,288	118,483	478,799	547,062

THE PARISH CHURCH OF CHARLES WITH ST MATTHIAS PLYMOUTH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Year ended 31 December 2021

BALANCE SHEET

		2021		2020	
	Note	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	8				
Freehold Investment Property			146,000		146,000
Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings			43,412		51,371
Audio Visual equipment			62,322		67,577
Investments	9		118,483		103,707
			<u>370,217</u>		<u>368,655</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	16,046		25,022	
Cash on deposit		72,267		81,983	
Cash at bank and in hand		36,310		82,867	
		<u>124,623</u>		<u>189,872</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>16,041</u>		<u>11,466</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			108,583		178,406
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			478,799		547,062
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year			0		0
NET ASSETS			<u>478,799</u>		<u>547,062</u>
FUNDS	12				
Endowment funds			118,483		103,707
Designated Funds			211,042		206,292
Restricted funds			145,288		232,458
Unrestricted funds			3,986		4,605
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>478,799</u>		<u>547,062</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 17/3/2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Olly Ryder (Chair)

Mr Jonathan Bushby (Treasurer)

Oliver Ryder

Oliver Ryder

JC Bushby

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
CHARLES WITH ST MATTHIAS, PLYMOUTH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value, and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS 102 together with update bulletin 1) on Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the financial statements of Church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Unrestricted and designated funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC. These include funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC.

Restricted funds are amounts which have been received by the PCC with specific directions concerning the way in which capital and any income arising are to be expended.

Endowment funds are sums which are held by or on behalf of the PCC and where only the income can be spent, with the capital being retained permanently, or at the PCC's discretion, and invested.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Church is entitled to the income, there is sufficient certainty of receipt, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Voluntary income, including collections, donations, planned giving and income tax recoverable under Gift Aid is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as they are received. Funds raised and other similar events are accounted for gross. Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

Income from Investment

Investment Income, including recoverable tax, is included when receivable.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is included in the accounts gross of VAT

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
CHARLES WITH ST MATTHIAS, PLYMOUTH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

.....continued

Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements by S10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Church Wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are considered inalienable property and are now capitalized unless consecrated. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000, there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off.

A full year's depreciation is charged in the year of purchase and none in the year of sale.

Office furniture, computing and other equipment

These items are depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years.

Church audio visual and other equipment, fixtures and fittings

These items are depreciated on a straight-line basis over ten years.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value as at 31 December.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF CHARLES WITH ST MATTHIAS PLYMOUTH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Year ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted funds		Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Total Funds
		General	Designated	Funds	Funds	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£
2	Regular giving						
	Planned giving inc. envelopes	173,110	-	-	-	173,110	178,866
	Collections at services	1,571	-	-	-	1,571	6,137
	Income tax recovered	40,453	-	-	-	40,453	31,935
		215,133	-	-	-	215,133	216,938
3	Other voluntary receipts						
	Government COVID relief grants	0	-	110,513	-	110,513	254,715
	Love your neighbour & Covid relief giving	0	-	40,117	-	40,117	37,414
	Donation to Youth and Media	0	-	50,000	-	50,000	0
	Hardship fund	0	-	927	-	927	1,342
		0	-	201,557	-	201,557	293,470
4	Income from church activities						
	Statutory fees - weddings, funerals, etc.	414	-	-	-	414	932
	Miscellaneous	0	-	-	-	0	0
	Gross income (Solar panels)	2,818	-	-	-	2,818	1,505
	Gross income (Hall lettings)	23,811	-	-	-	23,811	19,365
	Gross income (Letting 18 Dale Gardens)	7,800	-	-	-	7,800	7,800
		34,844	-	-	-	34,844	29,601
5	Income from investments						
	Dividends & Interest	0	-	-	3,051	3,051	2,991
	Bank Interest received	17	-	-	-	17	63
		17	-	-	-	3,068	3,055
	Total Income	249,994	-	201,557	3,051	454,602	543,064

6	Expenditure on Charitable activities						
	Ministry: common fund	53,194	-	-	-	53,194	50,183
	Church running expenses	12,004	-	-	-	12,004	11,006
	Church maintenance	7,539	-	-	-	7,539	3,016
	Upkeep of services	2,757	-	-	-	2,757	5,811
	Music and production	7,877	-	-	-	7,877	4,862
	Parish hall – services and maintenance	22,122	-	-	-	22,122	11,762
	Events and Other parish expenditure	1,585	-	-	-	1,585	6,333
	Youth/Student work	6,987	-	-	-	6,987	4,280
	Maintenance costs – 18 Dale Gardens	422	-	-	-	422	1,498
	COVID relief-Love your neighbour	-	-	254,788	-	254,788	251,222
	Salaries and fees	112,634	-	12,640	-	125,273	98,849
	Training	1,005	-	-	-	1,005	3415.26
	External giving	13,560	-	590	-	14,150	13700
	Depreciation	-	-	20,545	-	20,545	19,812
	Administration	7,141	-	-	-	7,141	7,534
	Accountant's fees	250	-	-	-	250	250
	Total Expenditure	249,078	-	288,562	-	537,640	493,533

THE PARISH CHURCH OF CHARLES WITH ST MATTHIAS PLYMOUTH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Year ended 31 December 2021

7 Transactions with PCC members and related parties

None of the members of the PCC were remunerated or reimbursed for their expenses in their capacity as PCC members.
Jonathan Bushby was paid £31,332 relating to his role as Operations Director and Hannah English £19,111 as Church Centre Manager
Claire Worth was paid £38,203 in her role as Executive Director
During 2021 the PCC received £30,868 in donations from Trustees. The donors did not attach any conditions to their gift which required the charity to significantly alter the nature of its existing activities.

8 Tangible Fixed Assets	Investment Property	A/V & IT Equip.	FF&F	Total
Cost or Valuation				
At 1/1/21	146,000	118,526	79,595	344,121
Additions		7,331	0	7,331
At 31/12/21	146,000	125,857	79,595	351,452
Depreciation				
At 1/1/21	0	50,949	28,224	79,173
Charge for the year	0	12,586	7,959	20,545
At 31/12/21	0	63,535	36,183	99,718
Net Book Value				
At 31/12/2021	146,000	62,322	43,412	251,733
At 31/12/2020	146,000	67,577	51,371	264,948

9 Investments	Market Value 31/12/21	Market Value 31/12/20
Household of Faith	38,039	33,295
Victoria Almshouses	34,079	29,829
Charles Plymouth relief in need	46,365	40,583
	118,483	103,707

These investments are held in separate charities and are shown on the Church's balance sheet because they are under the control of the Vicar, Churchwardens and PCC, in line with guidance from the Diocese.

£118,483 represents the value of the investments on 31/12/21 and £13,657 in the charities bank accounts at that date has been consolidated into the cash on the balance sheet.

10 Debtors	31/12/21	31/12/20
Gift Aid reclaimable	3,090	12,919
Prepayments	3,129	4,946
Rent due	6,000	5,360
Solar feed-in	1,000	1,000
Other debtors	2,828	798
	16,046	25,022

11 Creditors	31/12/21	31/12/20
Fees due	250	250
Other creditors	120	1927
Accrued expenses	15671	9288.82
	16,041	11,466

12 Funds	Bal b/fwd	Income	Expenditure	Investment Gain	Transfers	Bal c/fwd
General unrestricted	4,605	249,994	249,078		-1,534	3,986
Designated for Church Planting	60,292				4,750	65,042
Designated Property investment	146,000				0	146,000
Restricted Youth & Media	0	50,000	12,640			37,361
Restricted Love Your Neighbour	73,060	150,630	254,788		31,815	717
Restricted hardship fund	1,142	927	590		0	1,479
Restricted Sale of endowments	39,310				-39,310	0
Restricted Fixed Assets	118,946		20,545		7,331	105,731
Endowment Funds 3 separate charities	103,707	3,051		14,776	-3,051	118,483
	547,062	454,602	537,640	14,776	0	478,799