

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY, CHESHUNT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134781

Details

Other names ST MARY'S PCC, CHESHUNT

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-03-10

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address St Mary's Parish Office
The Portacabin
Churchgate
Cheshunt
Waltham Cross
EN8 9NB

Phone 01992635190

Email hello@cheshunt.church

Website www.cheshunt.church

Activities

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

Activities: Regular public worship open to all. Pastoral work including visiting the sick or bereaved. Teaching Christianity via sermons or small groups. Taking religious assemblies in schools, such as Dewhurst St Mary Primary School and St Mary's High School and other Cheshunt schools. Church Youth Club. Toddlers' Group. Supporting Mothers' Union. Provision of meeting room for local groups.

Classification

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

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£87,475	£90,286	-	-
2023-12-31	£98,299	£119,251	-	-
2022-12-31	£199,525	£107,799	-	-
2021-12-31	£114,840	£91,998	-	-
2020-12-31	£136,114	£95,591	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Elizabeth Fellows	Chair	2025-05-11
ANGELA MARY CORLETT		2011-09-17
Angela Dronyij		2019-04-07
Geoffrey Parks		2016-04-17
Helen Palmer		2021-05-09
Ian Turner		2025-05-11
Jill Barkway		2022-05-15
MICHELE PERRY		2025-05-11
Patricia Higgins		2018-04-29
Patrick Flower		2023-06-01
ROY LEE		2024-06-01
Samantha Whorlow		2022-05-15
Trevor Coombs		2025-05-11
Victoria Clarke		2016-04-17

Accounts

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL REPORT
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF CHESHUNT ST MARY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Cheshunt
Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts EN8 9NB
Charity Number 1134781

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**Agenda of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
In St Mary the Virgin, Cheshunt
Sunday 11 May 2025 following the 10 am Eucharist**

1. Appointment of Clerk to the meeting.
2. Circulation of lists of attendance and apologies.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 12 May 2024.
4. Matters arising from those minutes.
5. Election of Churchwardens for the coming year.
6. Report on the Cheshunt Churchwardens Charities.
7. Date of Next Meeting.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

8. Minutes of the APCM held on Sunday 12 May 2024.
9. Matters arising from those minutes.
10. To receive from the PCC with the opportunity to discuss
 - a) Report on the Electoral Roll.
 - b) The Annual report of the PCC including Fabric, Goods and Ornament, and Safeguarding
 - c) The independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024.
 - d) A Report on the proceedings of the Cheshunt Deanery Synod.
11.
 - a) Elect up to 3 Parochial representatives of the laity to the PCC.
 - b) Elect 2 people for the Deanery Synod
 - c) Appoint an Independent Examiner for the ensuing year at a remuneration to be fixed by the PCC.
12. Any Other Business. (Any items proper to the meeting not relating to the above agenda).
13. Clergy Charge
14. Date of Next Meeting.
15. Closing Prayer.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETINGS
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT
HELD IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH ON SUNDAY 12th May 2024

Chairman: The Revd. Eugene Hanshaw

Clerk to the Meeting: Helen Palmer

The meeting was preceded by 10am Eucharist.

1. It was unanimously carried by those present at the meeting that Helen Palmer be appointed Clerk to the meeting.
2. The attendance and apologies lists were circulated.

In attendance: - Femi Awotesu, Jill Barkway, Audrey Bernard, Maureen Bruce, Andrew Clarke, Victoria Clarke, Trevor Coombs, Marian Coombs, Angela Corlett, Angela Dronyij, Patrick Flower, Lynne Flower, Maureen Gedge, June Haynes, Trevor Hector, Pat Higgins, Terry Hoare, Marion Hoare, Jeffrey Lawson, Carol Lee, Roy Lee, Carole Parks, Geoffrey Parks, Doris Ridgewell, Norman Reed, Jill Shaw, Elizabeth Sugg, Rosemary Trundell, Mark Warner, Samantha Whorlow

Apologies: - Elspeth Ellis, Edna Oake

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 14th May 2023

The minutes of this meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record with corrections. Proposed by Elizabeth Sugg
Seconded by Jeffrey Lawson. Carried unanimously

4. Matters Arising.

None

5. Election of Churchwardens for the Coming Year

Fr. Eugene thanked Victoria Clarke and Angela Dronyij for their help over the past year.

Nominations were received for Victoria Clarke, proposed by Geoffrey Parks and Seconded by Patrick Flower and Angela Dronyij, proposed by Patricia Higgins, seconded by Maureen Bruce. There being no further nominations it was unanimously agreed that Victoria Clarke and Angela Dronyi be duly elected as Churchwardens

6. Report on the Cheshunt Churchwardens Charities

Accounts are available to read.

Victoria Clarke reported that there are funds available for use via the Churchwardens Charities and encourages the use of these. Submissions for consideration for grants can be submitted to the Churchwardens

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was announced that the date of the next meeting will be Sunday 11th May 2025

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

In attendance: - Femi Awotesu, Jill Barkway, Audrey Bernard, Maureen Bruce, Andrew Clarke, Victoria Clarke, Trevor Coombs, Marian Coombs, Angela Corlett, Angela Dronyij, Patrick Flower, Lynne Flower, Maureen Gedge, June Haynes, Trevor Hector, Pat Higgins, Terry Hoare, Marion Hoare, Jeffrey Lawson, Carol Lee, Roy Lee, Carole Parks, Geoffrey Parks, Doris Ridgewell, Norman Reed, Jill Shaw, Elizabeth Sugg, Rosemary Trundell, Mark Warner, Samantha Whorlow

Apologies: - Elspeth Ellis, Edna Oake

8. **The minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2023** were agreed following corrections and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Trevor Coombs and seconded by Carole Parks. Carried unanimously

9. **Matters Arising from those minutes**

None

10. **To receive from the PCC with the opportunity to discuss**

a) **Report on the Electoral Roll**

The number on the electoral roll remains at 98 although we lost a few names from the roll over the past year they have been replaced by new people

If you know anyone who would like to take a more active role in the church and is not already on the roll, please encourage them to fill out a form found at the back of church and hand it to me: You need to have your name on the electoral roll for at least 6 months before you can become eligible to join the PCC

A reminder that next year there will be a full revision of the electoral roll and everyone will be required to fill out a new form if they wish to remain on the electoral roll

Lynne Flower Electoral Roll Officer

Fr. Eugene thanked Lynne Flower, the Electoral Roll Officer for all her work.

b) **The Annual report of the PCC**

Please refer to the document entitled Report of the PCC to the Annual Meeting 2022 for detail. This included reports on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church and Safeguarding (given by Victoria Clarke Churchwarden)

c) **The independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023.**

Geoff Parkes our Financial Officer gave the report of the finances of the church.

The financial position of the church during 2023. remains precarious. Please refer to the financial report for full detail.

The finances of the church remain on a knife edge the predicted deficit was much larger than predicted because of multiple restoration projects in the church and Portacabin. It was necessary to dip into reserves to cover the cost of these

It is estimated that we need an addition 20,00 in fundraising this year just to stand still

The largest amount of monies that we have received thus far comes from legacies

The curates house can be put on the letting market as soon as Rev Escott leaves

TH asked about the possibility of installing solar panels on the church roof to offset energy costs. This is being looked at by the diocese, however the structural engineers report for this will be significant.

At present the Parish buying scheme gives us the best possible reduction on energy bills.

Grateful thanks given to Geoff for all that he has done and is doing for the church.

For personal reasons he would like to pass the role of finance officer on to someone else.

d) A report on Fabric goods and ornaments

The churchwarden gave the report which is complete with the exception of adding the restored Aumbrey lamp which was forgotten.

Thanks to the Parish Holiday committee for providing funds for the restoration

e) Safeguarding.

Safeguarding is an agenda item at every PCC meeting. All PCC members need to be compliant in training for safeguarding. This can be completed via the Diocese of St. Albans Web site.

F) Cheshunt Deanery Synod

Nothing to report

g) Our church Life. (formerly Aspects of Parish life)

Fr. Eugene made reference to the discrepancy in the funeral figures on Page 11. The drop in numbers is due to a problem with one of our local funeral directors who owe not just St. Marys, but other churches, considerable amounts of money. This means we are not taking funerals from this particular funeral director. The matter is in the hands of the diocesan registrars.

11. a) Elect up to 3 Parochial representatives of the laity to the Parochial Church Council

Patrick Flower and Roy Lee were duly elected. All other members continue their current term of office

- b) Appoint an Independent financial Examiner for the ensuing year at a remuneration to be set by the PCC. Steve Sell was duly elected again at a fee of £110

AOB None.

Clergy Charge.

As Father Eugene prepares to move on he talked about change and how the parish should embrace the opportunity for this.

He thanked Fr. Mark for all that he has brought to the church and to his own ministry

Fr. Mark closed in prayer at 12.12

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC of St Mary's Cheshunt has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

The Trustees have had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The purpose of our charity is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.

Our aim is to fulfill this purpose by worshipping reverently, inclusively and accessibly, communicating our message effectively, being available to the community, by managing parish affairs responsibly and by caring for our historic building.

How we fulfilled this aim in 2024

Worship

2024 was a year of two halves as Rev Eugene left the parish in June

In the first half of the church our pattern of worship continued as it had done previously. Morning Prayer was available for three weekday mornings. Eucharists were held on Tuesday evenings (BCP), Thursday mornings (Said) and on Sunday mornings 8am (Said) and 10am (Sung Eucharist). A non-Eucharist family service was held on the 4th Sunday of the month. If there was a fifth Sunday in the month a Team Service was held in one of the four churches in the Cheshunt Team (except in March when it fell on Easter Day)

The formal 10am Sunday service usually had a full altar party with Sub-Deacon and the music was provided by the organ. Numbers at this service remained steady. The family service brought in new faces including children. The nave altar was used for most services.

Children's work continued to be supported by a once-a-month session in the Parish Office where the gospel story was considered and activities enjoyed. The children's activity boxes in church continued to be popular, and now contain the weekly "Redemptorist" sheet with puzzles etc linked to the weekly gospel.

Plans for a group of older children meeting occasionally in the Vicarage did not flourish.

Spiritual growth was encouraged by the Lent course, shared within the Cheshunt Team, as well as reading suggestions from Rev Mark Escott the Curate. The Cheshunt Team organized on-line Worship during Advent,

Following the departure of Rev Eugene in June and Rev Mark in July the number of services was limited to Thursdays at 11am and Sundays at 10am. We were grateful to Rev Teresa the Team Rector who covered for Thursday services until her retirement in September and to the visiting clergy who covered for Sundays. When no member of the clergy was available a service of Morning Prayer was led by one of our two Lay Leaders of Worship, Andrew Clarke and Terry Hoare.

Information about church services and activities is available through the "Church Near You" website, social media and a monthly on-line newsletter.

Community

With the help of visiting clergy, St Mary's was able to continue to offer funeral services to those who sought the consolation of a church funeral (16 funerals). A memorial service and a wedding were also celebrated and there were 30 baptisms.

The community was welcomed into the church for social and fund-raising events including table top sales, concerts and summer and autumn fayres. The weekly coffee morning and the men's Fish and Chip evenings also provided an opportunity for outreach. Particularly popular were the children's events, "*Bunny Fun*", a free activity morning for children on the Saturday before Palm Sunday, and "*Tea with Santa*" a Christmas get-together for 50 children in the church.

Residents at local care homes continued to come into church for their regular ROCCS services, which were run by a member of the congregation after Rev Mark's departure.

The church was also used by schools for curriculum visits as well as Harvest Services and Christmas events. Our statistics show about 1500 people attended school events in the run-up to Christmas. We also welcomed the children from Tiny Toes Nursery for a Harvest Visit.

Members of the congregation visited the Kingfisher Nursing Home to sing carols and chat to residents in December.

The church supported various charities over the year with special events or collections, notably Crisis, Shelterbox, the Bishop's Harvest Appeal and the Jamaica Hurricane appeal.

Management

The financial situation of the church continues to be fragile, as revealed in the finance report. Steps taken to minimize expenditure included a new photocopier contract and replacement of the office computer. Regular reports in the monthly newsletter allow members of the congregation to be aware of the financial situation.

Members of the congregation have been encouraged to donate via the Parish Giving Scheme.

It should be noted that no Stewardship Renewal Campaign has been undertaken for at least 8 years.

The PCC met regularly to oversee expenditure and deal with issues arising.

The process for appointing Rev Eugene's replacement began in February when the Church Wardens met with Archdeacon Janet who explained the procedure. Jane, Bishop of Hertford came to hold the official "Vacancy Meeting" on 30 April.

Subsequently, the PCC prepared a Parish Profile which was approved by the Bishop and then an Advert for a new Vicar was posted on the Diocesan Web Site and on Pathways, the national site for clergy vacancies. Vicky Clarke and Patrick Flower were appointed as Parish representatives and shortlisting and interviews took place in December.

We were all delighted that Rev Elizabeth Fellows had been appointed but this information was embargoed until January 2025.

Fabric

Regular servicing and cleaning took place throughout the year but no major fabric projects were undertaken in 2024. The planning for the toilets in the tower continued.

A lot of work was done by members of the congregation preparing the curate's house, 4a Goffs Lane, for reletting, following Rev Mark's departure. This saved the parish a lot of expenditure and the PCC were very grateful.

Work was also needed on the portacabin (which contains the Parish Office and toilet).

Aims and Objectives for 2025

The main aim for 2025 is to welcome a new Vicar and to work with her to continue with our purpose of proclaiming the gospel.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt is a registered charity No 1134781

Its governing document in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956

During the year the following served as member of the Parochial Church Council

Ex Officio Member:- Incumbent The Revd Eugene Hanshaw

Assistant Curate:- The Revd. Mark Escott

Church Wardens:- Victoria Clarke and Angela Dronyi

Elected Members Jill Barkway, Angela Corlett, Patrick Flower, Pat Higgins, Marion Hoare, Jeffrey Lawson, Roy Lee, Helen Palmer, Sam Whorlow

Deanery Synod Geoffrey Parks, Elizabeth Sugg

Appointed Officers

Chair of Finance Geoffrey Parks

Electoral Roll Officer Lynne Flower
Safeguarding Officer Victoria Clarke
PCC Secretary Helen Palmer
Refreshments Officer Pat Higgins

SALARIED APPOINTMENT

None

FEE PAID STAFF

Cleaner Fay Metin
Organists Caroline Sayer-Thomas, David Boarder
Funeral Verger Victoria Gibson-Musk

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of ex-officio members and up to nine members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE PCC

Terms of reference for the Standing Committee, the Fabric and Premises Committee and the Worship Committee were agreed in September 2023, but there were no meetings during 2024.

MANAGEMENT OF RISKS

The PCC has noted the requirement to identify risks, which if ignored, may come to bear adversely upon the life of St Mary's. These risks are not merely financial but include other concerns.

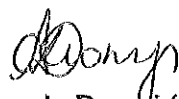
A risk management report was prepared by ecclesiastical insurers in September 2024 which raised no concerns.

The Trustees, to the best of their knowledge and belief, advise that there have been no serious financial incidents (as defined by the Charity Commission) during the year 2024 relating to our charity which have not been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC at the meeting on 14 April
And signed on their behalf by



Victoria Clarke (Church Warden and Lay co-chair)



Angela Dronyi (Church Warden)

PCC Report for the year ending 31 December 2024

The PCC met five times in 2024. Matters discussed included the debate about "Living in Love and Faith" (the CoE thinking on same sex marriage). After Rev Eugene's departure there was a lot of discussion of the Parish Profile, as well as service arrangements during the vacancy. After Rev Mark's departure the work necessary on the Curate's house was also discussed. Finance and safeguarding are on the agenda for every meeting.

Vicky Clarke and Patrick Flower were appointed as Parish Representatives for the purpose of shortlisting and interviewing candidates for the post of Vicar. Other members of the PCC took part during the interviews so that as many as possible had had a chance to meet the candidates.

Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

The Church Wardens have discharged their duties under sections 4 and 5 of the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 to maintain all appropriate records relating to the fabric of the church building and its contents and to inspect the fabric of the building.

During 2024 regular servicing and inspections were carried out as follows:- Gas inspection (26.9), Roof alarm (Aug), organ blower motor (25.11), Fire Extinguishers (10.12). Gutters and gullies are cleaned regularly.

In May the Church Wardens attended Diocesan Training on Church Maintenance in St Andrew's Hertford. The emphasis was on drains and roofs and subsequently Liz West visited St Mary's to see our situation.

At their meeting on 22 July, the PCC voted to proceed with the project of re-ordering the west end of the church (Baptistry) in accordance with the proposals from Hanslip & Co.

It was decided that a full lighting survey was needed and steps were taken to arrange this but it was carried over to next year.

The Inventory was amended by the addition of the television used for the ROCCS service and the new Easter Candle Stand made by Michael Thorpe.

Church cleaning takes place regularly on the first Saturday of the month. Thanks to Carole Parks who co-ordinates this and to everyone who turns up to help.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under s5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

At the meeting on 8th January 2024 the following policies were read and agreed :-
Policy for Responding to Domestic Abuse 2024, Policy for Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults 2024, Policy for Safeguarding Children 2024.

Safeguarding training continued on-line and in the Vicarage. Vicky (Parish Safeguarding Officer) attended Safeguarding Leadership training in St Albans in September.

New National Standards guidelines are coming into force and will be discussed over the next years.

New training guidelines are also being implemented soon.

Safeguarding is a standing item on each PCC Agenda and Vicky reports on any new information in the Diocesan Safeguarding Newsletter (though this now comes in a non-printable format).

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 14th April 2025

And signed on its behalf



Mrs Victoria Clarke (PCC Lay Co Chair)(Church Warden)



Ms Angela Dronyi (Church Warden)

CHESHUNT DEANERY SYNOD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD – 2024

Synod Officers

Rural Dean: Revd. Chris Kilgour (St. Thomas a Becket, Northaw with St. Andrew Cuffley,
Lay Chairman: Mrs Gillian Hutchinson (St. Clement, Turnford)
Honorary Secretary & Treasurer: Miss Dorothy Ayre (St. Cuthbert, Rye Park)

Synod Meetings: The Deanery Synod met on three occasions during 2023.

- February via Zoom
- June at Turnford
- October at Broxbourne

12 February – The Treasurer gave an up to date report on the Finances, with current funds held £5,400.44. She reminded us that there was £2,889.50 still available through Deanery Hub Grants for parishes to claim to assist with outreach events that are focussed on families, children or schools work. Voting would shortly open to appoint new Diocesan Synod Representatives. Applications for substantially reduced price contactless machines were now open to apply for at £50.

Each parish was asked to give their reflections on their Advent and Christmas events and looking forward to Lent and Easter. All parishes reported an uplift in visitors, and it was felt that people were returning to normal pre-COVID attendance. See reports below.

Notices were given about 17 February Musical Workshop at Hoddesdon Church with Noel Tredinnick followed by Sunday Morning worship with St. Cuthbert's. 1 March was World Day of Prayer prepared by people of Palestine at St. Cuthbert's in the morning and St. Laurence in the evening. 25 April was the Licensing of Revd. Ash at St. Augustine's. We were advised that Revd. Teresa would be retiring from Christ Church, Waltham Cross on 29 September.

24 June AGM – Held at Turnford together with Eucharistic and Social time and refreshment with Officers from the parishes. Reports were received from the Treasurer with end of year accounts showing funds held of £5,131.20 this included £2,889.50 Deanery Hub Grants awaiting distribution to parishes for various Youth/Children's ministry. During 2023 £1,250 had been paid out in Grants. Rural Dean's expenses and Administrator Support paid out had been reimbursed by the Diocese. We had to find a new Independent Examiner as Paul Scarborough had moved away, and we were able to obtain the services of Simon Ross, a Chartered Accountant, also the husband of Revd. Heather Ross, Curate at St. Cuthbert's.

The Standing/Mission and Pastoral Committee had met on two occasions to discuss the result of the survey about Meeting dates and the format of our meetings, and Pastoral Aid Grants for 2024. Incumbents and Treasurers met to review the Parish Share Factor which they decided to leave the same. Elections to Diocesan Synod had taken place for both Clergy and Lay Representatives for the next Triennium. Those elected were Clergy – Chris Kilgour, Helen Bryan and Tom Lilley, Laity – Jeremy Pearce and Jill Hempleman.

We were advised that Revd. Chris Kilgour would be on Sabbatical from 1 July, Revd. Nick Sharp would be standing in as Rural Dean, Revd. Eugene Hanshaw had moved on from Cheshunt Parish and Revd. Mark Escott would be leaving Cheshunt at the end of July and would be Licensed as Vicar of St. Catherine and St. Paul, Hoddesdon in September. Archdeacon's Visitations had been postponed until October

7 October - We welcomed Jacob and Corrine who offered a presentation on the Diocesan Dispute Advisory Service. Conflict occurs in all areas of life, and the church is not immune, and it can be a source of intense disappointment. They offered a number of scenarios of what conflict may look like in our churches. One of

Reports from the parishes:

Cuffley

A good number of people through the doors for the midnight and Christmas morning services - c. 80 people all different.

Lent - running The bible course
Easter putting details together.

St Clement's

Team Advent course - Christmas carols their origins and meaning, well received, thanks to team. Hosted a Farsi Christmas Carol service - was amazing to see how other Christians celebrate Christmas, by the end there was dancing in the Aisle, thanks to John Griffiths and Paul Davies.

We held a Blue Christmas service for the first time, it was well attended by the community. Team Lent course West Side Story. Easter - normal patten, details WIP

St James

Team Advent as above.

Held a wreath making workshop for the first time which was lovely, will repeat, really good numbers through at different points. Highlights for community engagement Crib service and also every year have a joint service with Methodist church around the Christmas tree in Goffs Oak, this year had about 150 people around the tree then went to the pub and sung a few carols. Very positive and happy Christmas. Jeremy: Numbers good everywhere, plenty of kids and people.

Hoddesdon in vacancy, report kindly delivered by John Forrest, LLW

Christmas was good, special service for residents of local care centre for people with different challenges. 12 residents with their carers attended, which was great. A local nursery group also asked for a service and 30 people came. The Christingle service was full and the Carol service, it is a blessing to have children from school with their choir, Midnight with Bishop Jane was excellent, wild church, messy church and school services also took place.

Lent course will be joint with St Cuthbert's - Christian Aid Lent course 'poverty today'.

Vacancy continues, Revd. Nick has been helping. Advert in Church Times this week.

St Mary's

Very good Christmas, 4 schools came in, regular services, midnight and Christmas morning were up about 20 percent, over 100 for both, Carol service rather than 9 lessons, well attended. Big highlight established links with home for adults with learning difficulties, they came in twice over Christmas singing and made cakes. This is going to continue in the new year, about 30 people once a fortnight.

Lent - team!

Broxbourne

Christmas was busy and good, between the 2 churches 8 services were held, thankful for Trevor Scott who led at St Laurence midnight service. There was a good number of people for all services. All went well especially those involving candles.

Lent joint, inviting people to join with Hoddesdon and Rye Park.

Easter - not yet planned, Good Friday all age service, and an hour at the cross at St. Laurence.

Christ Church

Like everyone increased numbers; candlelit carols particularly good, up 30%,

Ash Wednesday, morning service plus Ashes to go in the evening outside between the church and the station for 1 1/2 hours.

Team Lent course and services every day during Holy Week

Rye Park

Special service Advent Sunday focused on situation in Gaza with prayer stations, Christingle service quite well attended, disappointed school choir didn't turn up. Lessons and carols with enhanced choir from church and community joined in. John G led carols in the park - community event followed by hot chocolate. Christmas Eve family carol service - well up on last year. Midnight also seems to be well attended from the community. Christmas morning family communion service joint with St C and St P - so full church.

Ash Wednesday joint with Methodist and St C and St P

Lent course - joint with Hoddesdon

Good Friday service around clock tower and East Herts Church Choir RSCM Lift high the Cross programme, from Palm Sunday to Good Friday with lessons, anthems, hymns and prayers in St Cuthbert's 7:30pm, all welcome.

Easter Day sunrise service at 6:30am followed by breakfast and then Heather taking the Easter Service.

the points of the Dispute Advisory Service is help before an issue escalates. How do we let people know that this service exists? We need to keep talking about it, so it becomes an established potential area of support in the life of our churches. It is a service open to any member of the church in our Diocese.

The Service is a safe place to bring conflicts and problems that we might have with each other in a church setting. It offers an accessible, voluntary and confidential process that helps to resolve disputes in a broad range of situations and at all levels in the church community, including ministers, churchwardens, office staff, and congregation members. It is supported by the Diocese but independent of it: our stance is completely neutral and we never report to anyone, even if they have referred someone to us.

It is for anyone in a church community, clergy or lay, employed, a volunteer or a congregational member. They might be in conflict with someone else, maybe over roles, responsibilities, management of change or reorganisation, or over differences of belief and worship. There might be issues of discrimination, harassment, abuse or bullying. Talking to us can help you find ways of managing these or other difficult situations.

How does it work? With the Advisor you will explore the issue that is causing you concern and discuss how, when and whether to contact the other person in the conflict. There is a wide range of routes to resolution which include: discussion with appropriate people in the parish or Diocese; the clergy Counselling Service, the Support in your Ministry scheme, Mediation support through the Clergy Discipline process or specific trainings. Once you have consented to a proposed route to seek a solution, the Adviser will refer your situation to an appropriate person or service and will continue to support you through the process. The process is confidential and every step will be with your consent. We believe that making peace is intrinsic to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Treasure's Report showed a balance held of £5,407.05, including the Deanery Hub Grants which remain at £2,889.50. Rural Dean's Expenses continue to be reclaimed from the Diocese.

Business of Note:

- a) Finance: Reports are prepared by Miss Dorothy Ayre, Honorary Treasurer.
- b) The Synod also seeks:
 - To encourage representatives on Synod to take back to their parishes matters of impact for consideration in their PCC.
 - To bring back to Synod any consideration their PCC may have.
 - To invite members of each congregation to appropriate discussions or to hear speakers covering a wide range of issues.

Charitable Status of Deanery Synod: The Synod has charitable status and is exempt from registration with the Charity Commissioners.

Full Minutes: Full Minutes of each Deanery Synod Meeting are circulated to all Synod Members. Parishes requiring a fuller report on any of the Synod's proceedings should ask one of their Deanery Synod Members for more details. Copies of previous Deanery Synod minutes are available to PCC Secretaries on request.

Further information can be obtained from the Deanery Secretary/Treasurer or Rural Dean.

2025 Deanery Synod Meeting Dates
3 February 7.30 pm on Zoom,
23 June AGM, Eucharist and Social, St. Catherine & St. Paul, Hoddesdon.
6 October St. Augustine's Broxbourne

11 February 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Budget

The budget set for 2024 predicted an income/expenditure deficit of £102,941. This figure was based on income of £88,926 and expenditure of £191,867. Building costs of £100,000 to reconfigure the Baptistry had been factored into the expenditure. However, no such work took place during the year, apart from architect and surveyor costs. Given this, the revised predicted Budget deficit for the year should be considered to be £2,941.

Actual income was £87,475 and expenditure £90,286 resulting a deficit of £2,810 for the year.

Reserves Policy

Reserves Policy was to retain a minimum of £30,000 in the Barclays Business Account to enable the church to meet financial commitments. A fall below this level would require a review of income/expenditure and potential draw down from reserve funds.

Reserve funds are invested in accounts with the CCLA Bank of which there are ten; designated or restricted, for specific funding purposes. Additional investments are made by the Diocesan Board of Finance on behalf of the church into three further specific funds.

Funding Initiatives

Online giving was established during 2020 using the SumUp 'Give a Little' web portal. There are direct links from the church Facebook page and 'A Church Near You'. A debit/credit card reader is used to make giving to St Mary's easier, as well as enabling easier payment of fees for weddings. A charity donation bucket has been placed at the south porch entrance, to encourage donations from attendees to weddings/funerals/baptisms and events at the church.

Planned Giving

The church is grateful to all those members of the congregation that have been able to support the church, by continuing to make a regular donation to the church collection. There are now only a handful of individuals continuing to make contributions by Standing Order Payments. If as many as possible could pay using the Parish Giving Scheme, that would be a great assistance in reducing the workload of the finance team. Having the benefit of regular payments affords the church better financial

planning and management. Giving by these two methods raised £36,137 towards the church finances, compared to the sum of £39,969 in 2023.

Stewardship

A stewardship campaign did not take place during the year.

Parish Share

At the outset of the year the PCC had made a commitment to pay the Parish Share in full for 2024. The departure of our Curate, Mark Eascott, meant that the Parish Share increased for the final three months of the year. Despite this the full share was paid. This was possible thanks to the continued financial support of the congregation and fund raising activities, for which all associated with St Mary's, can be justifiably proud.

The departure of Mark meant that the Curates House at 4a Goff's Lane could be let to a tenant. The income from this helped offset the increase in the Parish Share.

Properties

Church House

The property is subject to a 49-year lease with B3 Living Housing Association, providing affordable accommodation to eight local families. The church receives an annual ground rent which is subject to review on a 5 yearly cycle. The ground rent was reviewed during 2023 and this increased from £2000 to £2276, which is made as an annual payment.

Estimated market value of the property is £2,200,000.

Curates House – 4 Goff's Lane

Following the departure of Mark and family the PCC decided to completely redecorate and undertake some refurbishment to the property. The work was undertaken by members of the church over a four-week period. The PCC is immensely grateful to those individuals that made the commitment to undertake this work. New washing machine, fridge freezer and bathroom shaver/light were installed, as well as new main stop cock. Renovation work took place to enhance kitchen units, which in the longer term will need to be replaced. All carpets were cleaned, and gas certification took place.

A monthly standing order for £125 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Church Property', to provide funds for any maintenance charges to the property.

A further monthly standing order of £100.00 is paid into the 'Periodic Planned Major Maintenance' account, to provide for the repairs and maintenance to the Church.

Church Office (Portacabin)

The property is in a reasonable state of repair for its age. The unit was only ever intended to be a temporary structure and in 2023, it was necessary to replace sections of the south facing wall to ensure continued integrity against water penetration. Further work may now be necessary for the same reason. Guttering was also added to improve drainage. It is intended, when possible, for the portacabin to be replaced with a more permanent structure.

Gas and Electricity Utility Bills

The rising cost of utility bills presents an ongoing challenge to the church financially. Gas and electricity provided to the church is purchased through the "Parish Buying Energy Basket." This scheme provides access to cheaper utility rates than would otherwise be available to the church independently.

Current Financial Position

St Mary's continues to find itself in a challenging financial position as with previous years. Legacies received over recent years have provided an important lifeline to the church, which like any other charity, could not continue in its mission, without such support. Legacy money received, together with the financial support of the congregation, has enabled the church to pay its Parish Share in full for a sixth consecutive year. Members of the congregation are encouraged to leave a legacy to the church to help secure its continued future. There are individual inheritance tax advantages for providing a legacy.

The greatest challenge faced by the church is the rise in utility bill costs. These will continue to have a significant impact on finances for the foreseeable future. In order to manage this, it is important that all future expenditure on church fabric, is considered against church reserves held and the ability of the church to pay the utility bills. The previous replacement of the Portacabin heaters has help to keep costs down.

The viability of the church depends entirely on increasing size of the congregation and scope of future fund-raising events. During the year a number of organised fund-raising events took place which helped to support the church finances. The PCC is very grateful to all who organised, implemented and supported these events.

Outlook for 2025 and beyond

The financial outlook for the church in 2025 remains challenging. It is intended once again to try to pay the Parish Share in full for the year. This will be a huge financial task, given the continuing decline in church income. It is important that we endeavour to meet this commitment.

While the church finances are supported by reserve funds, these are not finite. Once utilised, it will be difficult if not impossible to replenish these, requiring careful consideration on any future drawdown of funds.

Finance Team

All aspects of church finances have been devolved to the meetings of the PCC. Full financial disclosure and reports were provided to the members of the PCC by the church treasurer at scheduled meetings. It is intended that a new treasurer will take over from the current treasurer in 2025. A program of training commenced 2024 and will continue as required.

Gratitude

The PCC would like to express its thanks to members of the congregation that have managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through cash payments, standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Thanks also to the 'Friends of St Mary's' for the financial and other support they provided to the church, throughout the year and individuals that have made donations in support of the church.

**Financial Report of the
Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of
Cheshunt St Mary
For the year ended
31st December 2024**



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's report on the
accounts**

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

PCC OF St Mary Cheshunt

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2024	Charity no (if any)	1134781
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Set out on pages

IV to XV

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2024.

Responsibilities and basis
of report

As the charity's trustees, 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.

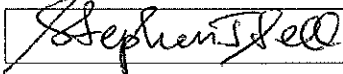
**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: 

Date: 21st April 2025.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE**

Name: STEPHEN JOHN SELL

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body (if
any):

FCCA

Address: 16 GARNER DRIVE

BROXBOURNE, HERTFORDSHIRE

EN10 6AP

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u> £	<u>Unrestrict'd</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> £
MONEY IN				
Church				
Cash collections at regular services	1	4,449	4,449	
Cash collections charity specific		0	0	
Donations	2	4,961	4,961	
Gift Aid envelopes		525	525	
HMRC gift aid reclaimed		3,043	3,043	
Other Cash Collections	3	1,765	1,765	
Planned Giving, Parish Giving Scheme	1	33,247	33,247	
Planned Giving via Standing Order	1	2,890	2,890	
Sumup/Easy Fund Raising		607	607	
Wedding & funeral fees income		7,881	7,881	
Church House				
Church House Ground Rent		2,276	2,276	
Curate's House				
4a Goff's Lane rental income		5,964	5,964	
General				
Fund raising	4	5,651	5,651	
Fund raising charity specific	5	1,475		1,475
Legacies		0	0	
Other receipts	6	2,186	2,186	
Banking				
Barclays reward		38	38	
Barclays Saver Account Interest 1411		687	687	
DBF Accounts Interest				
Church Fabric Fund	7	442	442	0
Church Chancel Fund		78	78	0
CCLA Accounts Interest				
CCLA Accounts Interest	8	9,310	7071	2,239
Total money in		87,475	83,761	3,714

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u> £	<u>Unrestrict'd</u> £	
MONEY OUT				
Church				
Church energy & water bills		8,993	8,993	
Church maintenance/repairs	9	274	274	
Church servicing	10	3,044	3,044	
Organ expense		541	541	
Clergy expenses		3,515	3,515	
Cost of organists at regular church services		2,350	2,350	
Other costs to run regular church services		568	568	
Parish Share	11	47,654	47,654	
Payments to Charities	12	1,135	1,135	
Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	13	1,248	1,248	
Wedding & funeral fee payments	14	4,240	4,240	
Banking				
Barclays Commission		460	460	
Curates House				
Curates House expenses	15	1,919	1,919	
Curates House maintenance	16	1,228	1,228	
Portacabin				
Portacabin energy & water bills		1,344	1,344	
General				
Admin & sundries	17	2,656	2,656	
Insurance	18	5,330	5,330	
Other payments	19	1,647	1,647	
Phone and Broadband		526	526	
Photocopier		1,614	1,614	
Total money out		90,286	90,286	0
DEFICIT		-2,810	-6,524	3,714

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2022	2023	2024	Difference 2023 & 2024	
MONEY IN	£	£	£	£	%
Church					
Planned Giving via Standing Order	3,605	3,130	2,890	-3,470	-9%
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	36,403	36,839	33,247		
Cash collections at regular services	4,487	4,087	4,449		
Cash collections charity specific	808	181	-	-181	
Donations	3,204	12,151	4,961	-7,190	-145%
Gift Aid envelopes	550	390	525	135	26%
HMRC gift aid reclaimed	3,962	-	3,043	3,043	100%
Other cash collections	1,702	1,157	1,765	608	34%
SumUp/Easy Fund Raising	2,404	569	607	38	6%
Wedding & funeral fees income	10,720	9,768	7,881	-1,887	-24%
Church House					
Church House Ground Rent	2,000	3,052	2,276	-776	-34%
Curate's House					
4a Goff's Lane rental income			5,964	5,964	100%
General					
Fund raising	6,642	5,905	5,651	-254	-4%
Fund raising charity specific	374	257	1,475	1,218	83%
Grants			-	-	
Legacies	115,665	-	-	-	
Other receipts	5,942	11,131	2,186	-8,945	-409%
Banking					
Barclays Reward	59	44	38	-6	-16%
Interest & Dividend	1,912	512	687	175	25%
DBF Accounts Interest					
Church Fabric fund		513	442	-71	-16%
MONEY OUT					
Church					
Church energy & water bills	6,685	12,262	8,993	-3,269	-36%
Church maintenance/repairs	8,364	27,602	274	-27,328	-9974%
Church servicing	11,465	4,977	3,044	-1,933	-64%
Organ expense	-	-	541	541	100%
Clergy expenses	4,871	4,113	3,515	-598	-17%
Cost of organists at regular church services	2,230	2,305	2,350	45	2%
Other costs to run regular church services	0	0	568	568	100%
Parish Share	34,727	41,995	47,654	5,659	12%
Payments to Charities	832	407	1,135	728	64%
Salaries, Wages, Honor	1,248	1,248	1,248	0	0%
Wedding & funeral fee payments	6,359	8,060	4,240	-3,820	-90%
Banking					
Barclays Gen & Fees Commission	470	448	460	12	3%
Curates House					
Curates House expenses	1,301	603	1,919	1,316	69%
Curates House maintenance			1,228	1,228	100%
Portacabin					
Portacabin energy, water & other costs	3,323	2,299	1,344	-955	-71%
General					
Admin & sundries	892	1,062	2,656	1,594	60%
Insurance	4,885	5,116	5,330	214	4%
Other payments	1,295	4,793	1,527	-3,266	-214%
Phone & Broadband	777	511	526	15	3%
Photocopier	1,383	1,451	1,614	163	10%

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<u>Opening balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Closing balance</u>
Barclays Unrestricted Income Funds					
General	1,000	69,594	85,932	16,337.31	1,000
Weddings & Funeral Fees	500	7,884	4,354	-3,529.87	500
Saver	52,580	687	0	-15,522.94	37,744
<i>Totals</i>	<u>54,080</u>	<u>78,165</u>	<u>90,285</u>	<u>-2,715.50</u>	<u>39,244</u>
CCLA Unrestricted Designated Funds					
General	10,777	572	0	0.00	11,349
Planned Major Maintenance	18,325	1,012	0	1,400.00	20,737
Legacy	103,381	5,487	0	0.00	108,868
<i>Totals</i>	<u>132,482</u>	<u>7,071</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,400.00</u>	<u>140,953</u>
CCLA Restricted Income Funds					
St Mary's Parish Centre	26,559	1,440	0	1,475.00	29,474
Special Funds	3,497	186	0	0.00	3,682
Youth	3,191	169	0	0.00	3,361
Belfry	3,137	176	0	302.00	3,615
Church Property	3,227	198	0	-442.00	2,983
Handbells	357	19	0	0.00	376
Junior Church	971	52	0	0.00	1,023
<i>Totals</i>	<u>40,940</u>	<u>2,239</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,335.00</u>	<u>44,514</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>227,503</u>	<u>87,475</u>	<u>90,285</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>224,692</u>

St Albans DBF managed

	<u>Opening valuation</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Closing valuation</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Deposit Fund					
156 Churchgate Sale Proceeds	26,322	325	0	325	27,383
<i>Totals</i>	<u>26,322</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>27,383</u>

	<u>Opening valuation</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Shares Held</u>	<u>Price per unit/share</u>	<u>Closing valuation</u>
	£	£		£	£
Endowment Funds					
Church Chancel Fund	2,803	78	124	23	2,867
Church Fabric Fund	15,937	442	705	23	16,302
<i>Totals</i>	<u>18,740</u>	<u>520</u>	<u>829</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>19,169</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

Church unrestricted funds are the Barclays General, Fee and Saver accounts, which are all used for the general running of the Parish.

Church CCLA Designated funds are the deposit used for General Reserves, the Planned Periodic Major Maintenance for major maintenance work and the Legacy Fund for legacies received. Restricted Income funds are the St Mary's Parish Centre fund, the Special fund originally for expenditure mainly on altar front and nave altar, the Youth fund for youth work with children over thirteen years of age, the Junior Church fund for children under thirteen years of age, the Belfry fund for major work on the bells, the Church Property Fund specifically for maintenance and servicing of the Curates House at 4A Goff's Lane, Cheshunt, and the Hand Bell Fund.

Most restricted income has already been transferred to the appropriate restricted fund during 2024. The notes on pages IX to XV form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 14 April 2025

And signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Angela Dronyij (Church Warden)



Mrs Victoria Clarke (Church Warden)

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Accounting basis and procedures

St Mary's 2024 accounts have been produced on a Receipts and Payments basis, which is permitted for charities with an annual turnover less than £250,000. It should be noted that this accounting method only records the actual bank transactions in the calendar year and the bank balance at the end of the year. A deficit does not mean an overdraft.

Excel spreadsheets have been used to record online banking transactions, which are then reconciled with invoices, bank transfers and weekly cash income records. The Data Developments system 'MyGiving.online' is used to claim gift aid from HMRC.

RECEIPTS

Income overall was down £10,824 compared with 2023. This loss is obviously of financial concern to the church and not sustainable in the long term. It is imperative that the church and congregation make every effort to support the church finances through fund raising and other financial contributions to ensure the viability of the church into the future.

1. Planned Giving

Thanks go to all the congregation members, that despite the challenging times, have managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Cash collections at regular services	£4,449
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	£33,247
Planned Giving via Standing Order	£2,890
Total	£40,586

2. Donations

Edna Oake	£100
Elizabeth Sugg	£500
Eugene Collection	£265
Friends of St Mary's	£480
Friends of St Mary's	£1,816
Mark Collection	£350
Charity Bucket	£617
Total	£4,128

3. Other Cash Collections

Baptisms	£754
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE**

Funerals	£665
Candle Stand	£346
Total	£1,765

4. Fund Raising

Fund raising activities make an important contribution to church finances and thanks go to those individuals that organised, managed and supported these events.

Auction	£271
Autumn Fayre	£1,100
Bunny Fun	£221
David Border Choir Concert	£162
Edna Coffee Morning	£127
Enfield Brass Band Concert	£242
Knitted Doll Sale	£10
Lottery Bonus Ball	£1,285
Summer Fayre	£1,501
Table Top Sale	£595
Xmas Tree Festival	£206
Tea with Santa	£40
Total	£5,651

5. Fund Raising Charity Specific

The following charities were supported through the fund raising efforts of the church.

Crisis 2023	£110
Crisis 2024	£162
Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£133
Hurricane Beryl	£245
Shelter Box	£150
St Elizabeth's Hospice	£150
St Mary's	£192
Total	£1,475

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE**

6. Other receipts

Parish Breakfast	£974
DBF Grant for TV	£250
CCLA Belfry Restricted Acc	£302
Miscellaneous Receipts	£660
Total	£3,041

7. DBF Accounts Interest

Including:

<u>Restricted Deposit Fund</u>	
156 Churchgate	£325
<u>Endowment Funds</u>	
Church Fabric Fund	£442
Church Chancel Fund	£78

8. CCLA Accounts Interest

CCLA Interest	£9310
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PAYMENTS

9. Church Maintenance/Repairs

Including:

Drain Cover Repair	£200
Floodlight & Cable	£26
Tower Door Paint	£48
Total	£274

10. Church Servicing

Including:

J. Scott & Sons	£594
HMDW Architects	£1,716
RPL Surveyors	£480
Total	£2,790

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE**

11. Parish share

The church paid the Parish Share in full for 2024, totalling **£47,654**. This is the sixth consecutive year that the Parish Share has been paid in full. Unpaid Parish Share from previous years remains at **£89,018**.

12. Payments to Charities

Payments to charities included:

Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£134
Crisis 2023	£110
Crisis 2024	£162
Hurricane Beryl	£245
Shelter Box	£150
St Elizabeth's Hospice	£150
Total	£951

13. Salaries, Wages & Honoraria

There were no payments made to PCC members as fees. Any payments made would only be to reimburse costs incurred by them in the first instance, upon expenses for the running of the church and associated activities. Service on the PCC is voluntary. Paid staff costs are summarised as follows:

Fay Metin - Church Cleaner	£1,248
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14. Wedding & Funeral Fee Payments

Organist, Verger, Bell Ringer Fees	£1,715
Parochial 2023 Fees	£2,525
Total	£4,240

15. Curate's House Expenses

EDF Utilities	£53
Thames Water	£348
R P Gibbs – Elec/gas	£261
White Goods	£605
Door & fittings	£202
Other costs	£450
Total	£1,469

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE**

16. Curate's House Maintenance

Carpet Cleaning	£155
General Repairs	£295
Oven Cleaning	£70
Refurb Materials	£707
Total	£1,228

17. Admin & Sundries

Data Developments – Monthly Fees	£180
C.C.L.I. - Licensing	£692
G. Parks – Printing Ink	£140
Broxbourne Print & Design	£913
Beds & Herts Historic Churches	£40
Redemptionist	£305
RSCM	£270
ThirtyOneEight - Fee	£12
Pathways Services	£75
Total	£2,627

18. Insurance

The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group provide all our insurance via a group scheme policy and our policies provide the following cover:

- Church buildings £11,710,000 and contents £140,000
- Organ £500,000
- Also covered are public and employers' liability for Incumbent, churchwardens, PCC members and many organised church activities.

Total Invoices £5,330

19. Other payments

Independent Examiner	£120	
Funeral Organist	£95	
Adam Omer	£235	Vicarage garden
Audery Carvell Memorial	£72	Refreshments
Church Requisites	£744	Catering/Cleaning Supplies
Eugene Leaving Gift Card	£265	
Vicarage Utilities	£116	
Total	£1,647	

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE

MONETARY ASSETS

20. Current accounts

The Barclays General Account is used to manage all church receipts and payments other than wedding and funeral fees and payments. The Fees Account with Barclays is used to manage all wedding and funeral fees and payments. Both accounts are automatically linked to the Barclays Saver account to keep a working balance at the end of each day.

21. Saver Account

This is a Barclays Account, which receives money automatically transferring from the Barclays General and Fees Accounts to leave a working balance in each account and earns a small amount of interest.

22. CCLA Deposit Accounts

There are 10 deposit accounts held by the Church. The interest received totalled £9,310, which is re invested in those accounts.

23. CBF Church of England Deposit Funds (CCLA)

Standing Orders with Barclays are used to deposit £125 monthly into the Church Property Account to fund potential maintenance and repair costs to the Curate's House. A further £100 is deposited monthly into the Periodic Planned Major Maintenance Account.

24. Endowment Funds

The Chancel Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment; this arose from the Tithe Redemption Commission in the 1940s to enable landowners with a liability for chancel insurance and repair to discharge their liability in a one-off payment. The restricted income is to be used towards the cost of insuring the chancel or towards the maintenance and repair of the chancel, church and churchyard. It is applied to the repair of the St Mary's church fabric through a restricted fund. In 2024, total dividend income was £78 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

The Fabric Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment established by deed on 27 April 1932. The designated income is to be applied to the upkeep, repair or maintenance of the fabric of St Mary's church through a designated fund, unless an alternative use is authorised by the Archdeacon of Hertford. In 2024, total dividend income was £442 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

Following the purchase of 4a Goff's Lane the residue money from the sale of 156 Churchgate was invested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in a CBF Deposit Fund which is restricted. The trusts contained in the original conveyance provide that "until applied (for furthering the religious and

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE

other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish) they (the net proceeds) shall be invested by the Board and the income thereof shall be applied by the (PCC) for the like purposes. In 2024, total dividend income was £325.

OTHER ASSETS

25. Freehold properties

51 Churchgate

In 2016 Church House was leased to B3Living for 49 years and redeveloped into eight flats for community use. The first tenants moved into during June 2019 and the flats are now fully occupied. A ground rent is paid annually to the church, and reviewed every five years. This review took place March 2023 and as a consequence the rent has increased from £2,000 to £2,276. The current estimated value of the property is approximately £2,000,000.

4a Goff's Lane

In 2018 the previously owned Curate's house was sold and a new more modern property, 4a Goff's Lane, was purchased. The current estimated value of the property is £460,000 approx.

Portacabin

The Portacabin was purchased in 2015 and is utilised as the church office and is also used by the clergy. The only church toilet is located here.

OTHER NOTES

26. Other Charities

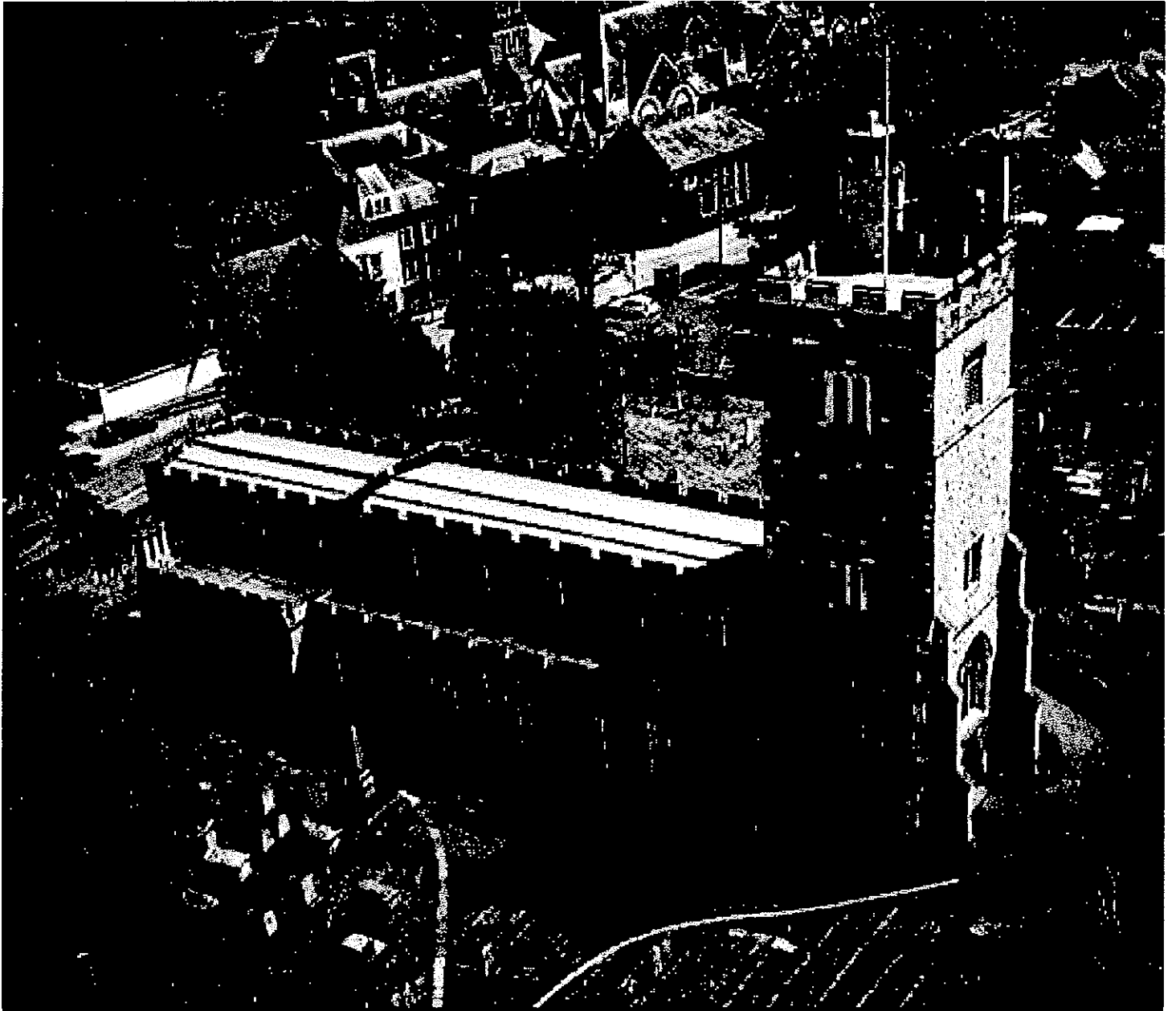
Not under the control of the PCC and therefore omitted from the accounts is The Cheshunt Parish Charities. These charities are traditionally known as "The Churchwardens' Charities". The incumbent and churchwardens are trustees, and their Annual Report and Accounts are available on request. The objects of the charities, some of which are ancient, are to support specific educational causes and those suffering hardship.

The Friends of St Marys is a separate registered charity which raises money for the upkeep and improvement of the church building.

In the year 2023-2024, St Mary's Box Collectors raised £365.93 in support of the Children's Society.

DELIBERATELY BLANK

Accounts



**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Review of the
Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
Cheshunt St Mary for the year ended 31st December
2023**

Including the Agenda for the APCM 2024 and the Minutes of the APCM
held on 14th May 2023

**Agenda of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
In St Mary the Virgin, Cheshunt**

**Sunday 12th May 2024
following the 10 am Eucharist**

1. Appointment of Clerk to the meeting.
2. Circulation of lists of attendance and apologies.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 14 May 2023.
4. Matters arising from those minutes.
5. Election of Churchwardens for the coming year.
6. Report on the Cheshunt Churchwardens Charities.
7. Date of Next Meeting.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

8. Minutes of the APCM held on Sunday 14th May 2023.
9. Matters arising from those minutes.
10. To receive from the PCC with the opportunity to discuss
 - a) Report on the Electoral Roll.
 - b) The Annual report of the PCC.
 - c) The independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2019.
 - d) A Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church.
 - e) A Report on Safeguarding.
 - f) A Report on the proceedings of the Cheshunt Deanery Synod.
 - g) Aspects of Parish Life.
11.
 - a) Elect up to 3 Parochial representatives of the laity to the PCC.
 - b) Appoint an Independent Examiner for the ensuing year at a remuneration to be fixed by the PCC.
12. Any Other Business. (Any items proper to the meeting not relating to the above agenda).
13. Clergy Charge
14. Date of Next Meeting.
15. Closing Prayer.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETINGS
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT
HELD IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH ON SUNDAY 14th May 2023**

Chairman: The Revd. Eugene Hanshaw
Clerk to the Meeting: Helen Palmer

The meeting was preceded by 10am Eucharist.

1. It was unanimously carried by those present at the meeting that Helen Palmer be appointed Clerk to the meeting.
2. The attendance and apologies lists were circulated.

In attendance:- Geoffrey Parks, Terry Hoare, Marion Hoare, Phyllis Seeby, Jeffrey Lawson, June Haynes, Doris Ridgewell, Patrick Flower, Lynne flower, Andrew Clarke, Pat Higgins, Maureen Bruce, Mark Escott, Angela Dronyij, Carol Lee , Roy Lee, Trevor Coombs, Marion Coombs,

Rosemary Trundell, Maureen Gedge, Norman reed, Elspeth Ellis, Edna Oake, Carole Parks, Elizabeth Sugg, Angela Corlett, Victoria Clarke

Apologies:- Jill Barkway

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

3. **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 15th May 2022**

The minutes of this meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Trevor Coombs, Seconded by Elizabeth Sugg. Carried unanimously

4. **Matters Arising from those Minutes**

There were none.

5. **Election of Churchwardens for the Coming Year**

Fr. Eugene thanked Angela Corlett and Victoria Clarke for their help over the past year.

As this was to be Angela Corlett's last term of office as Churchwarden a thank-you gift was presented to her with grateful thanks for all she has done.

Nominations were received for Victoria Clarke, proposed by Angela Corlett and Seconded by Terence Hoare and Angela Dronyij, proposed by (Illegible), seconded by Maureen Bruce. There being no further nominations it was unanimously agreed that Victoria Clarke and Angela Dronyi be duly elected as Churchwardens

6. Report on the Cheshunt Churchwardens Charities

Victoria Clarke reported that there are funds available for use via the Churchwardens Charities and encourages the use of these. Submissions for consideration for grants can be submitted either to Fr. Eugene or to the Churchwardens

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was announced that the date of the next meeting will be Sunday 14th May 2024

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

In attendance:- Geoffrey Parks, Terry Hoare, Marion Hoare, Phyllis Seeby, Jeffrey Lawson, June Haynes, Doris Ridgewell, Patrick Flower, Lynne flower, Andrew Clarke, Pat Higgins, Maureen Bruce, Mark Escott, Angela Dronyij, Carol Lee , Roy Lee, Trevor Coombs, Marion Coombs,

Rosemary Trundell, Maureen Gedge, Norman reed, Elspeth Ellis, Edna Oake, Carole Parks, Elizabeth Sugg, Angela Corlett, Victoria Clarke

Apologies:- Jill Barkway

8. Minutes of the APCM held on Sunday 15th May 2022

The minutes of this meeting were agreed following a correction of the name of Samantha Whorlow being changed to Samantha King and were then signed as a correct record.

Proposed by Phyllis Seeby and seconded by Angela Corlett. Carried unanimously.

9. Matters Arising from those minutes

There were none

10. To receive from the PCC with the opportunity to discuss

a) Report on the Electoral Roll

Fr. Eugene thanked Lynne Flower, the Electoral Roll Officer for all her work.

She reported that:

There was no real change and one name added taking the number on the electoral roll to **98**

b) The Annual report of the PCC

Please refer to the document entitled Report of the PCC to the Annual Meeting 2023 for detail . This included reports on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church and Safeguarding (given by Victoria Clarke Churchwarden)

c) The Independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Geoff Parkes our financial officer gave the report of the finances of the church .. The financial position of the church during 2022. remains precarious. Please refer to the financial report for full detail.

We had received three separate legacies during 2021 & 2022 and without these gifts the church finances would be struggling to meet budget.. We are still managing to pay our Parish Share at present which is important..

GP thanked the Friends of St. Marys for their continued support.

Fundraising events have been planned and carried out which do help to add to the finances of the church.

No questions were asked

Thanks were given to Geoff for all his hard work with the finances.

d). VC gave the report on the Fabric Goods and Ornaments of the Church and read the statutory statement

e). VC read out the Statutory statement regarding safeguarding within the church. There are no safeguarding issues to report.

DBS checks continue to be carried out by Beverley Hanshaw. PCC members will be contacted when their current qualification expires.

f). Excerpts of the Deanery synod report were read out by Fr. Eugene. Please refer to page 12 and 13 for full detail.

g). Aspects of Parish life – All encouraged to read this within the document

11. a) elect up to three members of the laity to the PCC ∴ Angela Corlett and Marion Hoare were duly elected as members of the PCC. All other members continue their current term of office.

b) Deanery Synod representatives. These officers can continue for a further (2nd term) of 3 years term of office. Geoffrey Parkes and Elizabeth Sugg.

c) Appoint an Independent examiner. Steve Sell was duly elected again at a fee of £110 AOB None.

13 Discussion on Mission.

Fr. Eugene talked about that since Covid and the death of her late Majesty QE11 St. Marys finds itself very busy within the community which has translated itself into increasing numbers in the congregation.

He mentioned initiatives such as Bible in one year which was done during 2022 and Bible Bash (to discuss the readings) and also the recent prayer course during Easter.

Wednesday coffee morning is proving very popular with a good mix of attendees,

Chips and Chaps for men and

Puddings and Prosecco for women are also doing well.

14 Date of next meeting 12th May 2024

15. The meeting closed with prayer at 12.15

**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report of the Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Cheshunt St Mary for the year ended 31st
December 2023**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt
Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8 9NB.

HMRC reference number:
Contents:

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! Financial Report

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7854/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMaryCheshunt

Team Vicar: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, The Vicarage, Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8
9DY

Church Wardens: Mrs Angela Dronyi, Mrs Victoria Clarke,

Independent Examiner: Stephen Sell FCCA

Bankers: Barclays Bank and CCLA Investment Management Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report for 2023

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC of St Mary's has the responsibility of co-operating with Revd Eugene in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical

The Trustees have had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The purpose of our charity is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England, obeying Christ's two commandments *'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'* Mark 12.30-31a.

- Our key aims can be divided into four areas: Leadership, Fabric, Worship and Community.

Leadership:	to Manage parish affairs responsibly
Fabric:	to care for St Mary's Church as a place of worship, historic monument and community resource; to provide a hospitable welcome for worshippers and visitors
Worship:	to worship reverently, inclusively and accessibly; to grow in understanding and experience
Community:	to communicate our ministry and services effectively; to serve our local community; to offer support beyond our parish boundary

Objectives and Activities

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

Leadership:

Encourage more Lay leaders and more people to explore vocations during 2023

Fabric:

Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric as we prepare for the Quinquennial Inspection in 2024

Worship:

Enhance and build on our Family Services

Develop a programme of worship for Young People, (School Years 7-13).

Provide opportunities for Christian study

Continue to implement our Mission Action Plan

Community

Continue to build closer ties with the local church primary and secondary schools

Continue to provide help for those in need

Achievement and performance

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

LEADERSHIP

Cheshunt is a large parish with diverse population. The socio-economic make-up of the parish is mixed, with much hidden, and not so hidden poverty.

A relatively small number of mostly volunteers make possible the benefit which our charity offers to others.

Assistant Curate-in-Training

Reverend Mark Escott has become an integral part of the ministry team at St Mary's, and it has been a joy to be a part of his training and formation. Rev Mark will leave us during 2024 as he takes up his first incumbency.

Lay Leader of Worship

We have two LLW's, Andrew Clarke and Terry Hoare. They have served at the altar including as Sub-Deacon's and Liturgical Deacon's during 2023.

FABRIC

We are blessed with a beautiful historic church built on ancient foundations. This carries a responsibility to preserve its fabric for effective use, both today and into the future. We take this responsibility seriously, mindful of the benefit to the community that the church building provides.

WORSHIP

Welcome:

St Mary's Church interior is a holy space set apart for peaceful reflection and prayer.

A wide range of parishioners contribute to our welcome and the enhancement of our worship, including arranging flowers, ringing bells, cleaning, singing, playing music and assisting with our church services.

Services:

Our main times of worship are on Sunday's at 8am and 10am, Tuesday at 7.30pm and Thursday at 11am.

We welcomed Dewhurst St Mary Primary School into church for their Year 6 Leavers Service, Christingle, their Easter Service and their Harvest Festival. St Mary's High School attended the church for their Carol Service and the Robert Dewhurst Founders Day Service.

We had our usual services to mark the major Christian festivals as well as Remembrance Sunday and an All Souls service.

Services designed for families:

We continue with the Family service. This is a non-Eucharistic service with a mix of worship songs more suitable for families. We have seen a steady rise in numbers at this service.

Study:

Studying together may be considered an extension of worship. Our parish values opportunities to learn and deepen faith and spirituality.

During Lent we followed The Prayer Course, and our Team Advent Course took place at St Clement's Church, Turnford where we looked at Christmas Carols and their place in our church history, tradition and Scripture.

Mission Action Plan:

We continue to

COMMUNITY

Communication:

To communicate Christian values and serve community both locally and further afield we aim to provide an effective communication network.

The monthly church newsletter continues to be produced and distributed on-line or by hard copy for those unable to access the internet.

St Mary's now has a regularly updated 'A Church Near You' page which provides information on church services, events, how to arrange a wedding/baptism/funeral, and contact details.

The church has established a presence on social media with a St Mary's Facebook page. This page is used to distribute information regarding church activities, as well as live streaming Sunday services. This page is viewed by many people in the wider Cheshunt community and beyond, and many people join our Sunday services who would otherwise not be able to access church.

The church "WhatsApp" group has provided a circle of prayer and support that has been much in use throughout the lockdowns.

Building closer ties with the local church primary and secondary schools:

Revd Eugene has led Collective Worship at both of our church schools, Dewhurst St Mary Primary and St Mary's High School. He has also been able to go into classes at both schools and welcome classes from Dewhurst St Mary into church as he has helped to enhance the learning of the RE curriculum at both schools. Beginning in September 2023 Revd Eugene worked with the Year 6 class at Dewhurst St Mary's on a new diocesan initiative called 'The Alban Way'. This project seeks to help the children as they transition from primary to secondary school and teach them about mental and spiritual wellbeing through a 'rule of life'.

Revd Eugene is a Foundation Governor at both schools, while four members of the St Mary's congregation are Foundation Governors at St Mary's CE High School.

Students from St Mary's CE High School gave boxes of gifts and Christmas cards to many members of the church congregation. Many who received gifts have written letters of thanks to individual students.

Continue to provide help to those in need:

The Christian community stretches beyond parish boundaries out into the world. The parish continues to support the Broxbourne Food Bank by providing a collection point in church, as well as two of our congregation helping in the day-to-day operation of the Foodbank. The parish also contributed financial support to the St Albans Diocese Harvest Appeal, the Children's Society and Crisis

Through a lease agreement with B3 Living, Church House continues to provide eight flats for rent, to tenants of the housing association.

Aims and objectives for 2024

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

Leadership:

As Revd Eugene leaves the Parish we will work with the Diocese of St Albans to appoint a new parish priest.

Establish a financial policy that enables realistic continuity and development of ministry
Fill casual vacancies on the PCC

Encourage people to consider leadership roles within the church both lay and ordained.

Fabric:

Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric following the 2019 Quinquennial Report.

To make progress on the Community Access Projects (initially the installation of toilets in church) with the help of the architects and the DAC.

Worship:

Continue to develop worship with children and families

Continue to implement the MAP

Continue to develop the roles of Lay Leader of Worship

Continue to develop co-operation across the Cheshunt Team Ministry

Community:

Continue to enhance online communications

Explore potential for improving our facilities in church to better serve the community

Support Churches Together in Cheshunt and Waltham Cross

Structure, governance and management of the charity:

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt is a registered charity no 1134781

Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

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

Ex Officio members

Incumbent: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw

Assistant Curate: The Revd Mark Escott

Wardens: Victoria Clarke, (Lay Vice-Chair), Angela Dronyi.

Elected Members

Angela Corlett

Christopher Isham (Resigned)

Marion Hoare

Jeffrey Lawson

Jill Barkway

Samantha Whorlow

Pat Higgins

Co-opted Members

Mrs Helen Palmer

Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Victoria Clarke

Deanery Synod

Mr Geoffrey Parks

Mrs Elizabeth Sugg

Appointed Officers:

Data Protection	Vacancy
Chair of Finance:	Geoff Parks
Chair of Fabric:	Vacancy
Electoral Roll Officer:	Lynne Flower
Environmental Officer:	Vacancy
Fire Officer:	Angela Corlett
Giving Secretary:	Geoff Parks
Health and Safety:	The Churchwardens
Parish Secretary:	Vacancy
PCC Minute Secretary:	Helen Palmer
Properties Officers:	The Churchwardens and Geoff Parks
Refreshments Officer:	Pat Higgins
Safeguarding	Vicky Clarke

Standing Committee of the PCC – ex officio appointments:

The Incumbent/Lay Vice Chair
Churchwardens
Deputy Churchwardens
Chair/Deputy of Finance as required
PCC Appointee

Deanery Synod

Geoff Parks & Elizabeth Sugg.

Team Council:

The Incumbent
Angela Corlett
Victoria Clarke

SALARIED APPOINTMENTS

None

FEE PAID STAFF

Cleaner:	Fay Metin
Organists:	Caroline Sayer-Thomas David Border
Vergers:	Victoria Gibson-Musk

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest-in-charge, curate, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church, the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods) and nine members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

SUB COMMITTEES OF THE PCC

The PCC operates through committees and agrees their terms of reference. Membership is determined by the PCC in consultation with the committee chairman. The Incumbent and/or Chairman of the PCC are ex-officio members and may assume the Chair at meetings.

Standing Committee: The only committee required by law; it has power to transact the Business of the PCC between meetings and is subject to directions given by the PCC; it consists of a minimum of five persons of which the Incumbent and the Churchwardens are ex officio members. The Treasurer/Chair of Finance and Deputy Wardens are appointed by the PCC.

Fabric Committee: This committee reconvened during 2023

Finance Committee: This committee assists the Treasurer in his tasks of overseeing Church finances by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting, maintaining appropriate financial controls and preparing the Annual Report and Accounts for approval by the PCC. It will oversee arrangements for the independent scrutiny of the accounts and undertake responsibility for risk management.

MANAGEMENT OF RISKS

The PCC has noted the requirement to identify risks, which if ignored, may come to bear adversely upon the life of the Church of St Mary's. These risks are not merely financial but include other concerns.

The PCC remains aware of the challenge to retain financial liquidity in order to maintain and develop the mission of the Church, upkeep its historic Church building and provide DDA compliant facilities for its members and those of the community. It is important to the Church community that they are not merely maintaining a museum, but that the church should also be a place of vibrant worship of, and witness to God's work across the whole of humanity as well as being aware of the needs of the wider community and the building and worshipping community should be able to reflect those needs.

The Trustees, to the best of their knowledge and belief, advise that there have been no serious financial incidents (as defined by the Charity Commission) during the year 2019 relating to our charity, which have not been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC
and signed on their behalf by

The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, Chair



Date 22/4/24

PCC Report for year ending 31 December 2023

Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

The Church Wardens have discharged their duties under sections 4 and 5 of the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 to maintain all appropriate records relating to the fabric of the church building and its contents and to inspect the fabric of the church.

The annual fabric report was presented to the PCC at their meeting on 22nd April and approved.

During 2023 regular servicing and inspections were carried out as follows: -

Five yearly fixed wiring test (Jan), PAT testing (Sept), Gas inspection and heater servicing (Nov), Organ blower motor inspection (?), Roof alarm (Oct), Fire extinguishers (Dec).

In addition, repairs to the south wall were completed and the north wall was also redecorated. Thanks to a generous donation, it was possible to have the gates on the south porch repainted.

The down pipes on the north side were in a bad state, and one had completely broken. This was replaced and the rest were repaired and repainted. The roof was cleared of pine needles at the same time.

The clock was found to be in a dangerous state and the mechanism was taken away and repaired over the summer.

There were more problems with the screen and the projector, and these were fixed in November.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under s5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

At their meeting on 6th March 2023 the following policies were read and agreed:- Policy for Safeguarding Children 2023, Policy for Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults 2023, Policy for Responding to Domestic Abuse 2023, Policy for Lone Working 2023.

The policy for Managing Ex-Offenders was read and approved at the meeting on 17th April 2023.

A photo of the Parish Safeguarding Officer (Vicky) was displayed on the notice board as were contact details of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and organisations that provide help and support for victims.

Following the Archdeacon's inspection (carried out by the Rural Dean) the church page on the "A Church Near You" website was updated to ensure that safeguarding information was easily accessible.

Safeguarding is a standing item on each PCC Agenda and Vicky reports on any new information in the Diocesan Safeguarding Newsletter. Members of the PCC continue to access on-line safeguarding training as well as sessions at the Vicarage.

CHESHUNT DEANERY SYNOD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD – 2023

Synod Officers

Rural Dean: Revd Dr. Rachel Pennant (St. Catherine and St. Paul, Hoddesdon) until September

Revd. Chris Kilgour (St. Thomas a Becket, Northaw with St. Andrew Cuffley, from October)

Lay Chairman: Mrs Gillian Hutchinson (St. Clement, Turnford)

Honorary Secretary & Treasurer: Miss Dorothy Ayre (St. Cuthbert, Rye Park)

Synod Meetings: The Deanery Synod met on three occasions during 2023.

- February via Zoom
- June at Goffs Oak
- October at Cheshunt

7 February – Mrs. Theresa Britt, Trustee of the Beds. and Herts. Historic Churches Trust spoke to us. She explained the background to the Trust and ways it can help. It dates from 1991 when a registered charity was formed to make grants to churches still open for public worship to make repairs to their fabric. Most supporters are church members, but others are concerned to preserve the national heritage. To receive assistance churches must become a corporate member. The trust helps non Anglican church buildings too, but must be part of the local Churches Together and be the owner of their building. Modern buildings are not excluded. The trust has awarded £3.5 million since it began. Once awarded a grant remains active for two years and is paid out on receipt of an Architect's certificate of satisfactory completion. The money comes from regular supporters who pay an Annual subscription plus proceeds from fundraising events, chief amongst them being the Bike and Hike.

Congratulations were extended to Charles Hudson, on his appointment as Archdeacon of St. Albans. Rachel mentioned the refugees in the Marriot Hotel. Helen reported on the situation at St. Clement's, who have contact with 25-30 Iranian Christians and how they are supporting those who are now attending. She appealed for donations, and local people who have been through a safer recruitment process to help midweek. Churches Together are working with a charity worker from Care4Calais who have experience in working with two similar hotels. It is not easy to get help quickly, and frustrating for people willing to help. The Treasurer gave an up to date report on the Finances, with current funds held £5,320.33

13 June AGM – Held at Goffs Oak together with Eucharistic and Social time and refreshment with Officers from the parishes. Reports were received from the Treasurer with end of year accounts showing funds held of £6,621.73 this included £4,139.50 Deanery Hub Grants awaiting distribution to parishes for various Youth/Children's ministry. Since the beginning of the year £1,250 had been paid out in grants. Rural Dean's expenses and Administrator Support paid out had been reimbursed by the Diocese. The Standing/Mission and Pastoral

Committee had met on two occasions to discuss Pastoral Aid Grants for 2023. Incumbents and Treasurers met to review the Parish Share Factor which they decided to leave the same.

We were advised that the main topics discussed at the Diocesan Synod during the year included Living in Love and Faith as discussed by General Synod, a process which has been underway for about six years, enabling all to reflect on relationships, sexuality, marriage, gender and human identity. One of the key issues raising most concern was the Prayers of Love and Faith, which the House of Bishops commended for use. The Synod acknowledged the need for younger and more diverse members of our communities to be introduced to God and to develop their faith, within the broad mission and ministry offered by our parishes. Also to enable growing younger and more diverse the Synod. David White, Diocesan Secretary introduced the new Diocesan Grant Schemes

The Coronation of King Charles III was raised by Bishop Alan. The King wanted the theme of the Service to be about service. The churches could serve their parishes by screening the Coronation Service, holding our own Coronation Big Lunch, Live Stream the Coronation Concert, and supporting 'The Big Help Out', a day of celebrating volunteering and an opportunity to engage in some volunteer work in our parishes.

10 October – We welcomed Kate Ford, Diocesan Giving Adviser who gave a talk on "Growing giving in your Parish", which was supported by a Power Point presentation illustrating the points. Those highlighted included the various ways of giving, Regular Giving, Legacy Giving, Contactless, Online and QR Giving. It is vital to have good communication with your Parish to advise why we should give. The National Giving Survey 2021 showed there were 2,000 regular worshippers in Church of England Parishes, with 33% not giving to their church at all, 40% have never been asked to give regularly, and less than 33% are regularly thanked for their giving. What's the message? Christian understanding of generosity, your building, your impact. Don't assume that people know that your church is a charity, and your church is entirely self-supporting.

Jeremy Pearce was appointed as our Lay Representative on Diocesan Synod. The Treasurer reported we have a balance of £4,340.56 in our Barclays Bank Account, £2,889.50 relates to Deanery Hub Grants still available for new projects with Children and Families, growing faith within home, school, or church. Meeting dates were arranged for 2024.

Business of Note:

- a) Finance: Reports are prepared by Miss Dorothy Ayre, Honorary Treasurer.
- b) The Synod also seeks:
 - To encourage representatives on Synod to take back to their parishes matters of impact for consideration in their PCC.
 - To bring back to Synod any consideration their PCC may have.
 - To invite members of each congregation to appropriate discussions or to hear speakers covering a wide range of issues.

Charitable Status of Deanery Synod: The Synod has charitable status and is exempt from registration with the Charity Commissioners.

Full Minutes: Full Minutes of each Deanery Synod Meeting are circulated to all Synod Members. Parishes requiring a fuller report on any of the Synod's proceedings should ask one of their Deanery Synod Members for more details. Copies of previous Deanery Synod minutes are available to PCC Secretaries on request.

Further information can be obtained from the Deanery Secretary/Treasurer or Rural Dean.

2024 Deanery Synod Meeting Dates
12 February 7.30 pm on Zoom,
24 June AGM, Eucharist and Social, St. Clement's, Turnford
7 October St. Augustine's Broxbourne

20 February 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Budget

The budget set for 2023 predicted an income/expenditure deficit of £11,913, however the actual deficit for the year was £30,140. A considerable amount of restoration work had to be undertaken at the church and improvements to the portacabin during the year, the cost of which mainly accounted for the increase in the deficit.

Reserves Policy

Reserves Policy was to retain a minimum of £30,000 in the Barclays Business Account to enable the church to meet financial commitments. A fall below this level would require a review of income/expenditure and potential draw down from reserve funds.

Reserve funds are invested in accounts with the CCLA Bank of which there are ten; designated or restricted, for specific funding purposes. Additional investments are made by the Diocesan Board of Finance on behalf of the church in to three further specific funds.

Funding Initiatives

Online giving was established during 2020 using the SumUp 'Give a Little' web portal. There are direct links from the church Facebook page and 'A Church Near You'. A debit/credit card reader is used to make giving to St Mary's easier, as well as enabling easier payment of fees for weddings. A charity donation bucket has been placed at the south porch entrance, to encourage donations from attendees to weddings/funerals/baptisms and events at the church.

Planned Giving

The church is grateful to all those members of the congregation that have been able to support the church, by continuing to make a regular donation to the church collection, particularly by Standing Order Payments or the Parish Giving Scheme. Having the benefit of regular payments affords the church better financial planning and management. Giving by these two methods raised £39,969 towards the church finances.

Stewardship

A stewardship campaign did not take place during the year.

Parish Share

At the outset of the year the PCC had made a commitment to pay the Parish Share in full for 2023 and this was achieved. This was possible thanks to the continued financial support of the congregation and fund raising activities, for which all associated with St Mary's, can be justifiably proud.

Properties

Church House

The property is subject to a 49-year lease with B3 Living Housing Association, providing affordable accommodation to eight local families. The church receives an annual ground rent which is subject to review on a 5 yearly cycle. The ground rent was reviewed during 2023 and this increased from £2000 to £2276.

Estimated market value of the property is £2,100,000.

Curates House – 4 Goff's Lane

The property continues to be occupied by the church Curate Mark Escott and his family, who maintained the property in good condition.

Occupancy of 4a Goff's Lane by the curate means that the church benefits from a reduction in the Parish Share paid. The Diocese is responsible for all service and community bills, except for water rates, which the church pays.

During the year improvements were made to the rear garden of the property, making it more manageable by adding grey slate chippings to replace the patchy lawn.

A monthly standing order for £125 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Church Property', to provide funds for any maintenance charges to the property.

Church Office (Portacabin)

The property is in a reasonable state of repair for its age. The unit was only ever intended to be a temporary structure and during the year, it was necessary to replace sections of the south facing wall to ensure continued integrity against water penetration. Guttering was also added to improve drainage. It is intended, when possible, for the portacabin to be replaced with a more permanent structure.

Improvements to the interior of the portacabin comprised securing the wash room hand basin (which had become detached from the wall) and

replacing the hot water unit, which had ceased working. The five year electrical certification and PAT testing was carried out. The opportunity was also taken to replace the existing electric heaters (one of which had ceased working) with new more energy efficient thermostatically controlled units. This allowed a frost setting to be activated, keeping the portacabin to a minimum temperature, preventing freezing pipes in the wash room and maintaining an acceptable ambient temperature for the photocopier to operate.

Having previously upgraded the internet connection to the office, it became necessary to replace the office computer, which was out of date, to effectively utilise the improved connection. Thanks to a generous donation, it was possible to purchase a high specification laptop, which is now in use. It was also possible to obtain software and cloud storage free of charge from Microsoft, under the church charitable status.

Main Church Building

A Fabric Committee has been established to restart working towards the development of the Baptistry area and manage other church improvement projects. The church is grateful to Jim Gardener, Funeral Directors for the generous donation of £5000 towards decorative improvements to the church. With this money it was possible to carry out replastering and painting of the north wall and restore and paint the south porch gate, which had a new notice board attached.

The unexpected collapse of one of the church downpipes to the north side of the church, resulted in a survey of all the downpipes on that side of the church. The poor condition of all the downpipes and hoppers resulted in 'Between Time Ltd' being commissioned to carry out the necessary restoration work identified, including repainting.

Regular servicing of tower clock, heating, fire extinguishers, roof alarm, organ and inspection of the lightning conductor was undertaken. Later the tower clock needed a further major repair to be carried out. A monthly standing order of £100 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Planned Major Maintenance'. Thanks go to the 'Friends of St Mary's for providing funds for the replacement of a heater in the church and also for the replacement of the projector and operation of the screen.

Thanks also go to the Church Holiday Committee for financing the restoration of the Aumbrey Lamp from funds remaining, following closure of the Church Holiday account.

Gas and Electricity Utility Bills

The rising cost of utility bills presents an ongoing challenge to the church financially. Gas and electricity provided to the church is purchased through the "Parish Buying Energy Basket." This scheme provides access

to cheaper utility rates than would otherwise be available to the church independently. The church had been paying VAT on all its gas and electricity bills at the full rate of 20% instead of the 5% rate it was entitled to. However, this has now been corrected and the church was able to have all bills reviewed over a period of four years, resulting in the church utility accounts being credited with the overcharge made during this period and a refund to cover the Portacabin electricity account.

Current Financial Position

St Mary's continues to find itself in a challenging financial position as with previous years. Legacies received over recent years have provided an important lifeline to the church, which like any other charity, could not continue in its mission, without such support. Legacy money received, together with the financial support of the congregation, has enable the church to pay it's Parish Share in full for a fifth consecutive year. Please consider leaving a legacy to the church to help secure its continued future. There are individual inheritance tax advantages for providing a legacy.

The greatest challenge faced by the church is the rise in utility bill costs. These will continue to have, a significant impact on finances for the foreseeable future. In order to manage this, it is important that all future expenditure on church fabric, is considered against church reserves held and the ability of the church to pay the utility bills. The replacement of the Portacabin heaters should help to reduce costs and now that the church is being charge the correct amount of VAT on its utility bills, this will be an additionally benefit.

Late on in 2022 there was an incident with the organ blower overheating. This resulted in an evacuation of the church and intervention by the Fire Brigade. Fortunately, no extensive damage resulted, and the organ blower was removed, repaired and reinstalled. A contract has now been put in place to ensure that the Organ Blower is inspected and serviced annually.

The viability of the church depends entirely on growing the congregation and fund-raising events. During the year organised fund raising events took place which helped support of the church finances. Thanks to all that organised and supported these events.

Outlook for 2024 and beyond

A new CCLA account was opened for the purpose of managing funds associated with the 'Hand Bell' ringers.

The contract for the photocopier was due to expire and a new contract was negotiated with a new supplier, Vision Office Technical Services. The contract is for thirty-six months after which the church will own the copier outright. At the end of this period the church will only pay for printing costs and servicing. This should see a substantial cost saving to the church.

The PCC will explore as many ways as possible to introduce new initiatives to raise funds, implement long term cost savings (which may involve an initial expenditure) to improve the church finances, as well as make improvements to the fabric of the church, to the benefit of the congregation and sustainability of the church.

The financial outlook for the church in 2024 remains challenging. It is intended once again to try to pay the Parish Share in full for the year. This will obviously be a financial challenge, but it is important that we endeavour to meet this commitment.

While the church finances are supported by reserve funds, these are not finite. Once utilised, it will be difficult if not impossible to replenish these, requiring careful consideration on any future drawdown of funds.

Finance Team

All aspects of church finances have been devolved to the meetings of the PCC. Full financial disclosure and reports were provided to the members of the PCC by the church treasurer at scheduled meetings. It is intended to set up a new Finance Committee in 2024.

Gratitude

The PCC would like to express its thanks to members of the congregation that have despite the challenging times, managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Thanks also to the 'Friends of St Mary's' for the financial and other support they provided to the church, throughout the year.

The PCC would also like to express their sincere gratitude and thanks to Jim Gardener Funeral Directors for their generous donation to the church and members of the congregation for other donations made.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by

The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, Chair


.....Date: 22 April 2024

**Financial Report of the Parochial Church
Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
Cheshunt St Mary for the year ended
31st December 2023**



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's report on the
accounts**

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	PCC OF St Mary Cheshunt		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2023	Charity no (if any)	1134781
	Set out on pages IV to XV		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2023**.

Responsibilities and basis of report As the charity's trustees, 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: Stephen J Sell FCCA.

Date: 24/04/24

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE

Name: STEPHEN JOHN SELL

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body (if
any):

FCCA

Address:

16 GARNER DRIVE

BROXBOURNE, HERTFORDSHIRE

EN10 6AP

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>
MONEY IN		£	£	£
Church				
Cash collections at regular services	1	4,087	4,087	
Cash collections charity specific	2	181		181
Donations	3	12,151	12,151	
Gift Aid envelopes		390	390	
HMRC gift aid reclaimed				
Other Cash Collections	4	1,157	1,157	
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	1	36,839	36,839	
Planned Giving via Standing Order	1	3,130	3,130	
Sumup/Easy Fund Raising	5	569	569	
Wedding & funeral fees income		9,768	9,768	
Church House				
Church House Ground Rent		3,052	3,052	
Curate's House				
4a Goff's Lane rental income	6			
General				
Fund raising	7	5,905	5,905	
Fund raising charity specific		257		257
Legacies	8			
Other receipts	9	11,131	11,131	
Banking				
Barclays reward		44	44	
Interest & Dividend	10	512	512	
Interest & Dividend	10	1,127		1127
CCLA Accounts Interest	11	7,554	7,554	
Barclays Saver Account Interest	12	612	612	
Total money in		<u>98,299</u>	<u>96,901</u>	<u>1398</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

MONEY OUT	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u> £	<u>Unrestricted</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> £
Church				
Church energy & water bills		12,262	12,262	
Church maintenance/repairs	13	27,602	27,602	
Church servicing	14	4,977	4,977	
Clergy expenses		4,113	4,113	
Cost of organists at regular church services		2,305	2,305	
Other costs to run regular church services		0	0	
Parish Share	15	41,995	41,995	
Payments to Charities	16	407	407	
Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	17	1,248	1,248	
Wedding & funeral fee payments	18	8,060	8,060	
Banking				
Barclays Commission		448	448	
Curates House				
Curates House expenses	19	603	603	
Portacabin				
Portacabin energy & water bills		2,299	2,299	
General				
Admin & sundries	20	1,062	1,062	
Insurance	21	5,116	5,116	
Other payments	22	4,793	5,267	
Phone and Broadband		511	511	
Photocopier		1,451	1,451	
Total money out		<u>119,251</u>	<u>119,725</u>	
DEFICIT		-20,785	-22,825	1,565

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
COMPARISON OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS WITH PRIOR YEARS

MONEY IN	2021	2022	2023	Difference 2022 & 2023	
	£	£	£	£	%
Church					
Planned Giving via Standing Order	6,350	3,805	3,130	}	
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	29,759	36,403	36,839		
Cash collections at regular services	4,318	4,487	4,087		
Cash collections charity specific	546	808	181	-627	-78%
Donations	9,834	3,204	12,151	8,947	279%
Gift Aid envelopes	1,410	550	380	-160	
HMRC gift aid reclaimed	2,863	3,962	-	-3,962	
Other cash collections	462	1,702	1,157	-545	-32%
SumUp/Easy Fund Raising	2,658	2,404	569	-1,835	
Wedding & funeral fees income	13,663	10,720	9,768	-952	-9%
Church House					
Church House Ground Rent	2,000	2,000	3,052	1,052	53%
Curate's House					
4a Goff's Lane rental income					
General					
Fund raising	840	6,642	5,905	-737	-11%
Fund raising charity specific	546	374	257	-117	-31%
Grants					
Legacies	32,555	115,665	-	-115,665	
Other receipts	2,332	5,942	11,131	5,189	87%
Banking					
Barclays Reward	28	59	44	-15	-25%
Interest & Dividend	536	1,812	512	-1,400	-73%
MONEY OUT					
Church					
Church energy & water bills	6,448	6,685	12,262	5,577	83%
Church maintenance/repairs	1,437	8,364	27,602	19,238	230%
Church servicing	7,392	11,465	4,977	-6,488	
Clergy expenses	3,321	4,871	4,113	-758	-16%
Cost of organists at regular church service	1,875	2,230	2,305	75	3%
Other costs to run regular church services	287	0	0	0	
Parish Share	47,124	34,727	41,995	7,268	21%
Payments to Charities	441	832	407	-425	-51%
Salaries, Wages, Honor	685	1,248	1,248	0	0%
Wedding & funeral fee payments	8,842	6,359	8,060	1,701	27%
Banking					
Barclays Gen & Fees Commission	312	470	448	-22	-5%
Curates House					
Curates House expenses	348	1,301	603	-698	-54%
Portacabin					
Portacabin energy, water & other costs	1,092	3,323	2,299	-1,024	-31%
General					
Admin & sundries	846	892	1,062	170	19%
Insurance	4,700	4,885	5,116	231	5%
Other payments	4,183	1,295	4,793	3,498	270%
Phone & Broadband	1,736	777	511	-266	-34%
Photocopier	1,195	1,383	1,451	68	5%

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Opening balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Closing balance</u>
Barclays Unrestricted Income Funds					
General	1,110	79,781	111,073	31,183	1,000
Weddings & Funeral Fees	1,363	9,225	8,178	-1,910	500
Saver	81,703	612	0	-29,735	52,580
<i>Totals</i>	<u>84,176</u>	<u>89,618</u>	<u>119,251</u>	<u>-462</u>	<u>54,080</u>
CCLA Unrestricted Designated Funds					
General	9,489	456	0	964	10,909
Planned Major Maintenance	21,100	920	0	-3,441	18,579
Legacy	100,170	4479	0	0	104,649
<i>Totals</i>	<u>130,760</u>	<u>5855</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-2,477</u>	<u>134,138</u>
CCLA Restricted Income Funds					
St Mary's Parish Centre	25,072	1,127	0	680	26,880
Special Funds	3,508	152	0	-120	3,540
Youth	2,025	120	0	1,085	3,231
Belfry	3,146	140	0	-110	3,176
Church Property	1,775	111	0	1,375	3,261
Hand Bells	0	12	0	350	362
Junior Church	389	37	0	557	983
<i>Totals</i>	<u>35,916</u>	<u>1,699</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,817</u>	<u>41,432</u>
<u>Diocesan Board of Finance</u>					
CBF Deposit Fund Restricted					
156 Churchgate Sale Proceeds	25,195	1,127	0	0	26,322
<i>Totals</i>	<u>25,195</u>	<u>1,127</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>26,322</u>
CBF Endowment Funds					
Fabric	14,621	436	0	436	15,937
Chancel	2,572	77	0	77	2,803
<i>Totals</i>	<u>17,193</u>	<u>513</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>513</u>	<u>18,740</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>276,046</u>	<u>98,298</u>	<u>119251</u>	<u>1003</u>	<u>274712</u>

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Church unrestricted funds are the Barclays General, Fee and Saver accounts, which are all used for the general running of the Parish.

Church CCLA Designated funds are the deposit used for General Reserves, the Planned Periodic Major Maintenance for major maintenance work and the Legacy Fund for legacies received. Restricted Income funds are the St Mary's Parish Centre fund, the Special fund originally for expenditure mainly on altar front and nave altar, the Youth fund for youth work with children over thirteen years of age, the Junior Church fund for children under thirteen years of age, the Belfry fund for major work on the bells, the Church Property Fund specifically for maintenance and servicing of the Curates House at 4A Goff's Lane, Cheshunt, and the Hand Bell Fund.

Most restricted income has already been transferred to the appropriate restricted fund during 2023. The notes on pages IX to XV form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21 April 2024

And signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Angela Dronyij (Church Warden)



Mrs Victoria Clarke (Church Warden)

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Accounting basis and procedures

St Mary's 2023 accounts have been produced on a Receipts and Payments basis, which is permitted for charities with an annual turnover less than £250,000. It should be noted that this accounting method only records the actual bank transactions in the calendar year and the bank balance at the end of the year. A deficit does not mean an overdraft.

Excel spreadsheets have been used to record online banking transactions, which are then reconciled with invoices, cheque stubs and weekly cash income records. The Data Developments system 'MyGiving.online' is used to claim gift aid from HMRC.

RECEIPTS

Income overall was down £19,996 compared with 2022. This loss is obviously of financial concern to the church and not sustainable in the long term. It is imperative that the church and congregation make every effort to support the church finances through fund raising and other financial contributions to ensure the viability of the church into the future.

1. Planned Giving

Thanks go to all the congregation members, that despite the challenging times, have managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Cash collections at regular services	£4,087
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	£36,839
Planned Giving via Standing Order	£3,130

2. Cash Collections Charity Specific

The church was able to undertake collections to support the 'Bishops Harvest Appeal' and 'Poppy Appeal'.

Collection	£150 – Bishops Harvest Appeal
Collection	£31 – Poppy Appeal

3. Donations

Edna Oake – Repair of North Wall	£1000
Friends of St Mary's – Heater Repairs	£763.40
Hand Bells	£50
Altar Candles - In memory of Phil Rogerson	£20
M.U. – Use of church	£150
Katie	£100
Friends of St Mary's – Projector & Screen	£4470

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

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

Jim Gardener Funeral Directors	£5000
Other (Charity Bucket etc)	£597

4. Other Cash Collections

Baptisms	£664
Funerals	£79
Weddings	£0 (See Charity Bucket)
Schools	£191
Wall Safe	£24
Candle Stand	£200
Charity Bucket	£284

5. SumUp/Easy Fund Raising

SumUp and Easy Fund Raising continue to prove beneficial to the church, in raising additional funds that might otherwise not be donated at church events and online. The SumUp card reader is also used to collect wedding payments.

Total receipts £569

6. Fund Raising

Fund raising activities make an important contribution to church finances and thanks go to those individuals that organised, managed and supported these events.

Burns Night	£394
Table Top Sale (March)	£762.80
Bunny Fun	£352.42
Lottery Bonus Ball	£1245
Quiz Night	£205
Coffee Morning	£177.10
David Border Choir Concert	£87.50
Saturday Coffee Morning	£300.20
Summer Fayre	£1790.45
Auction	£290.50
Three Valleys Choir	£103
Autumn Fayre	£1022.60
Bauble Party	£86.10
Tea with Santa	£76
Total receipts	£5,889

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7. Fund Raising Charity Specific

The following charities were supported through the fund raising efforts of the church.

Advent Lunch	£135.35 – Crisis at Christmas
Children’s Society	£121.66

8. Legacies

No legacies were received during the course of the financial year.

9. Other receipts

Parish Breakfast	£509
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Miscellaneous Receipts

Including:

CCLA Belfry Restricted Acc	£640
CCLA Hand Bell Acc	£350

10. DBF Accounts Interest

Including:

Restricted Deposit Fund

156 Churchgate	£1127
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Endowment Funds

Church Fabric Fund	£437
Church Chancel Fund	£76

11. CCLA Accounts Interest

Total receipts	£7,554
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12. Barclays Saver Acc Interest	£612
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PAYMENTS

13. Church Maintenance/Repairs

Including:

Between Time - Repair to South Wall	£7,143
Between Time – Repair to Down Pipes	£425
Purchase of New Hand Wash Unit	£88
A James Jewellers – Clock Repair	£2712
Tanker & Drains Solutions – Blocked Drain	£80
Speaker Repair	£80.49

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

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

R.P. Gibbs – Portacabin Plumbing	£84
Ormsby of Scarisbrick - Refurbish Aumbrey Lamp	£3590
R.P. Gibbs – Install Portacabin New Heating	£936
Repair to Portacabin Wall	£111
D.M. Music.Ltd – Projector restoration	£4770
Between Time - Restoration of Down Pipes	£5,395
Between Time – Restoration of South Gate	£1,887
Between Time – Feasibility Study	£300
Total Invoices	£27,602

14. Church Servicing

Including:

Morgan Fire – Fire Extinguisher Inspection	£356
J. Scott & Sons – Church Heaters	£594
Ace Defence – Roof Alarm Service	£1,009
A. Curtis - Organ Tuning & Maintenance	£379
Watkins & Watson – Organ Blower	£249
W. Larkin Ltd – Lightning Rod	£110
J. Coram – Portacabin Plumbing	£89
J. Taylor & Co – Servicing Tower Bells	£750
A. James Jewellers – Tower Clock Service	£378
Key Cutting	£80
R.P. Gibbs – Portacabin Elec Installation	£998
Replacement Screws	£5
Total Invoices	£4,897

15. Parish share

The church paid the Parish Share in full for 2023, totalling **£38,839**. The final payment of 2022 for £3157 was not debited until January 2023, resulting in a payment statement of £41,995 in accounts. This is the fifth consecutive year that the Parish Share has been paid in full. Unpaid Parish Share from previous years remains at **£89,018**.

16. Payments to Charities

Payments to charities included:

Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£150
Crisis at Christmas	£121
National Childrens Homes	£94
Other	£42

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

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

17. Cleaner Fees

There were no payments made to PCC members as salaries. Any payments made would only be to reimburse costs incurred by them in the first instance, upon expenses for the running of the church and associated activities. Service on the PCC is voluntary. Paid staff costs are summarised as follows:

Fay Metin - Church Cleaner	£1,248
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18. Wedding & Funeral Fee Payments

These fees include payments to Organist, Verger and Bell Ringers as well as Parochial Fees paid to the Diocese.

Organist, Verger, Bell Ringer Fees	£1,325
Parochial 2022 Fees Owing	£3,744
Parochial 2023 Fees	£2,991

19. Curate's House Expenses

Garden Slate	£246
Thames Water – Total Monthly Bills	£357

20. Admin & Sundries

Data Developments – Monthly Fees	£180
C.C.L.I. - Licensing	£645
G. Parks – Account Supplies	£93
Broxbourne Print & Design	£103
Broxbourne Print & Design	£103
B.B.C. Small Lottery Licence	£20
ThirtyOneEight - Fee	£6

21. Insurance

The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group provide all our insurance via a group scheme policy and our policies provide the following cover:

- Church buildings £11,710,000 and contents £140,000
- Organ £500,000
- Also covered are public and employers' liability for Incumbent, churchwardens, PCC members and many organised church activities.

Total Invoices	£5116
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ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

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

22. Other payments

Other payments included the following:

Independent Examiner	£100
Fund Raising	£40

Miscellaneous payments:

Beds & Herts H.C.T.	£40	Membership Fee
Royal School of Church Music	£127	Membership Fee
Mark Escott	£90	Notice Board
Churches Together	£15	Membership Fee
Church Requisites	£507	Catering/Cleaning Supplies
Childrens Corner	£100	Activity Boxes
Tea Urn	£110	Vestry

MONETARY ASSETS

23. Current accounts

The Barclays General Account is used to manage all church receipts and payments other than wedding and funeral fees and payments. The Fees Account with Barclays is used to manage all wedding and funeral fees and payments. Both accounts are automatically linked to the Barclays Saver account to keep a working balance at the end of each day.

24. Saver Account

This is a Barclays Account, which receives money automatically transferring from the Barclays General and Fees Accounts to leave a working balance in each account and earns a small amount of interest.

25. CBF Church of England Deposit Funds (CCLA)

Standing Orders with Barclays are used to deposit £125 monthly into the Church Property Account to fund potential maintenance and repair costs to the Curate's House. A further £100 is deposited monthly into the Periodic Planned Major Maintenance Account.

26. Endowment Funds

The Chancel Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment; this arose from the Tithe Redemption Commission in the 1940s to enable landowners with a liability for chancel insurance and repair to discharge their liability in a one-off payment. The restricted income is to be used towards the cost of insuring the chancel or towards the maintenance and repair of the chancel, church and churchyard. It is applied to the repair of the St Mary's church fabric through a restricted fund. In 2023, total dividend income was £76 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

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

The Fabric Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment established by deed on 27 April 1932. The designated income is to be applied to the upkeep, repair or maintenance of the fabric of St Mary's church through a designated fund, unless an alternative use is authorised by the Archdeacon of Hertford. In 2023, total dividend income was £437 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

Following the purchase of 4a Goff's Lane the residue money from the sale of 156 Churchgate was invested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in a CBF Deposit Fund which is restricted. The trusts contained in the original conveyance provide that "until applied (for furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish) they (the net proceeds) shall be invested by the Board and the income thereof shall be applied by the (PCC) for the like purposes. In 2022, total dividend income was £1127.

OTHER ASSETS

27. Freehold properties

51 Churchgate

In 2016 Church House was leased to B3Living for 49 years and redeveloped into eight flats for community use. The first tenants moved into during June 2019 and the flats are now fully occupied. A ground rent is paid annually to the church and reviewed every five years. This review took place March 2023 and as a consequence the rent has increased from £2000 to £2276. The current estimated value of the property is approximately £2,100,000.

4a Goff's Lane

In 2018 the previously owned Curate's house was sold and a new more modern property, 4a Goff's Lane, was purchased. The current estimated value of the property is £480,000 approx.

Portacabin

The Portacabin was purchased in 2015 and is utilised as the church office and is also used by the clergy. The only church toilet is located here.

OTHER NOTES

28. Other Charities

Not under the control of the PCC and therefore omitted from the accounts is The Cheshunt Parish Charities. These charities are traditionally known as "The Churchwardens' Charities". The incumbent and churchwardens are trustees, and their Annual Report and Accounts are available on request. The objects of the charities, some of which are ancient, are to support specific educational causes and those suffering hardship.

The Friends of St Marys is a separate registered charity which raises money for the upkeep and improvement of the church building.

Accounts

**Trustee's Annual Report
and
Financial Report of the
Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical
Parish of Cheshunt St Mary
for the year ended
31st December 2022**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt
Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8 9NB.

HMRC reference number: X94190

Contents:

- 1 Trustees' Annual Report
- 2 The Financial Review
- 3 Financial Report
- 4 Independent Examiner's Report

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7854/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMaryCheshunt

Team Vicar: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw,
The Vicarage, Churchgate, Cheshunt,
Herts, EN8 9DY

Church Curate: The Revd Mark Eascott,
4 Goffs Lane, Goffs Oak,
Herts, EN7 5EF

Church Wardens: Mrs Angela Corlett
Mrs Victoria Clarke

Independent Examiner: Stephen Sell FCCA

Bankers: Barclays Bank and CCLA Investment
Management Ltd

Trustee's Annual Report for 2022

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC of St Mary's has the responsibility of co-operating with Revd Eugene in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

The purpose of our charity is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England, obeying Christ's two commandments *'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'* Mark 12.30-31a.

Objectives and Activities

Our key aims can be divided into four areas: Leadership, Fabric, Worship and Community:

Leadership: to encourage wider participation in formal and informal ministry.
to continue to operate with a firm financial footing.
to fill vacancies on the PCC.

Fabric: to continue with maintenance and repair.
to make progress on the Community Access Project.

Worship: to develop worship for young people.
to implement the Mission Action Plan.
to develop the role of Lay Leaders of Worship.
to continue co-operation across the Cheshunt Team.

Community: to continue and develop community activities.
to restart relationships with care homes.
to explore potential for improving our facilities.
to continue to support Churches Together in Cheshunt and Waltham Cross.

Achievement and Performance

What progress we made in achieving the objectives set out for this year:

Leadership

Cheshunt is a large parish with diverse population. The socio-economic makeup of the parish is mixed, with much hidden, and not so hidden poverty.

The electoral roll at the end of 2022 stands at 97 which is an increase from the previous year's number of 96.

A relatively small number of mostly volunteers, make possible the benefit which our charity offers to others.

- The Rev Mark Escott was ordained priest in July and continues to play a valuable part in the ministry of St Mary's.
- Beverly Hanshaw was accepted for ordination training.
- The two Lay Leaders of Worship are participating more fully in services as Sub-Deacons and Intercessors.
- Two new members joined the PCC.
- The serving team has enrolled two new recruits, so a full team is available for Sunday mornings when required.
- Regular financial statements appear in the monthly newsletter and progress against the budget is discussed at every PCC.

Fabric

Regular inspections were undertaken, see full report in the PCC report.

- Two heaters were replaced.
- The projector ceased to work, and a replacement was sourced.
- The organ blower motor overheated and had to be completely overhauled.
- Work began on repairing the blown plaster on the south wall.
- No progress was made on the Community Access Project.
- Monthly cleaning mornings became more regular.

Worship

Welcome

The church remained open the days following the death of the Queen and a book of condolence was available for those who wanted to sign. At the close of the period of mourning over 100 people had signed our book of condolence.

A civic commemoration service was subsequently held which was attended by people from across the Borough of Broxbourne. The Mayor's Civic Service was held in October with dignitaries attending from across the County of Hertfordshire, including Mayor's and the High Sheriff.

Services

The once-a-month All Age Service continues to flourish. Live streaming is now restricted, although while there is still a demand some services will continue to be live streamed.

- Average Sunday attendance in 2022 was 11(8)* under 16's and 46(41)* over 16's making a total of 57(49)*.
- Easter Sunday had a total attendance of 85 (68)*. Our Christmas attendances were Crib Service, 114 (100)*, Midnight Mass, 71 (49)* and Christmas Day, 60 (46)*. (2021 attendance)*
- There was a total of 43 funerals, 19 in church and 24 elsewhere.
- 6 couples were married at St Mary's during 2022.
- There were 25 baptisms and 6 confirmations.
- The 5th Sunday team services provide an opportunity for all the congregations to meet and worship together.
- The Mission Action Plan has been reviewed and progress noted at each PCC meeting.

Study

A group undertook to read the "Bible in a Year" and discussion evenings were held. The Lent course followed "Four Gospels, One Jesus". The Advent course was entitled 'Isaiah for Advent' and Rev Mark produced a series of videos to accompany the course.

Community

- Services were held for the Queen's Jubilee and a Civic Commemoration following her death.
- The new weekly coffee morning provides an opportunity for people to mix with church members in an informal setting.
- Bi-monthly men's group provides a chance for some who are on their own to join in a share meal.
- Work with schools continues including continuing with Rev Eugene and Rev Mark leading Collective Worship at Dewhurst St Mary CofE Primary School and St Mary's CE High School. This has included leading the Remembrance Day Service at the High School as well as termly Eucharist's.
- Both schools have visited the church as have Flamstead End and Andrews Lane Primary Schools.
- Care home visits have been more difficult to arrange.

- Tabletop sales and Fetes have opened up the church for visitors and a group with special needs has attended each time feeling that the church is a "safe space".
- Donations from special collections have been sent to the Lighthouse Seafarers Mission in the Falkland Islands, the Bishop's Harvest Appeal for Mozambique, Crisis, the Ukraine Appeal and the Children's Society

Aims and Objectives for 2023

Leadership

Encourage members of the congregation to consider their roles in the church community and whether they may be called to a more formal ministry within the church, e.g., Lay Reader, ordained ministry, as well as less formal leadership roles within the church such as Junior Church, Welcoming, Refreshments etc...

- To continue to develop a financial policy that enables realistic continuity and development of ministry.
- Fill casual vacancies on the PCC.

Fabric

Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric following the 2019 Quinquennial Report. Try to make progress on the Community Access Projects (initially the installation of toilets in church) with the help of the architects and the DAC.

Worship

Continue to develop worship with children, young people and families, and to encourage more young people to join in with the worship of the church, e.g., reading in church, join the server team etc...

- Continue to implement the Mission Action Plan.
- Ongoing development of the role of Lay Leader of Worship
- Continue to develop co-operation across the Cheshunt Team Ministry

Community

To endeavour to re-establish the relationship with the care homes and nursing homes in our parish, following the suspension of visits due to Covid19.

- Explore potential for improving our facilities in church to better serve the community.
- To re-establish links with the local Scout groups.
- Support Churches Together in Cheshunt and Waltham Cross

Structure, governance, and management of the charity

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt is a registered charity no 1134781. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

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

Ex Officio members

Incumbent: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw

Assistant Curate: The Revd Mark Escott

Wardens: Mrs Victoria Clarke, Mrs Angela Corlett (Lay Vice-Chair)

Elected Members

Ms Angela Dronyi
Mrs Marion Hoare
Mr Christopher Isham
Mrs Sandra Harley
Mrs Patricia Higgins
Mr Jeffrey Lawson
Mrs Jill Shaw (Resigned)
Mrs Jill Barkway
Mrs Samantha Whorlow

Co-opted Members

Mrs Helen Palmer

Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Victoria Clarke

Deanery Synod

Mr Geoffrey Parks & Mrs Elizabeth Sugg

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest-in-charge, curate, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church, the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods) and nine members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Management of Risks

The PCC notes the requirement to identify risks, which if ignored, may come to bear adversely upon the life of the Church of St Mary's. These risks are not merely financial but include other concerns.

The PCC remains aware of the challenge to retain financial liquidity in order to maintain and develop the mission of the church, upkeep its historic church buildings and provide DDA compliant facilities for its members and those of the community. It is important to the church community that they are not merely maintaining a museum, but that the church should also be a place of vibrant worship of, and witness to God's work across the whole of humanity, as well as being aware of the needs of the wider community and the building and worshipping community should be able to reflect these needs.

The Trustees to the best of their knowledge and belief, advise that there have been no serious financial incidents (as defined by the Charity Commission) during the year 2022 relating to our charity, which have not been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Budget

The budget set for 2022 predicted an income/expenditure deficit of £11,677, however the actual deficit for the year was £7,741. Thanks to the church being the beneficiary of a generous legacy and other donations, there was a surplus of £107,955 for the financial year.

Reserves Policy

Reserves Policy was to retain a minimum of £30,000 in the Barclays Business Account to enable the church to meet financial commitments. A fall below this level would require a review of income/expenditure and potential draw down from reserve funds.

Reserve funds are invested in accounts with the CCLA Bank of which there are nine; designated or restricted, for specific funding purposes. Additional investments are made by the Diocesan Board of Finance on behalf of the church in to three further specific funds.

Funding Initiatives

Online giving was established during 2020 using the SumUp 'Give a Little' web portal. There are direct links from the church Facebook page and 'A Church Near You'.

A debit/credit card reader was purchased to make giving to St Mary's easier, as well as enabling easier payment of fees for weddings.

Planned Giving

The church is grateful to all those members of the congregation that have been able to support the church, by continuing to make a regular donation to the church collection, either by standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme. Having the benefit of regular payments affords the church better financial planning and management. Giving by these two methods raised £40,008 towards the church finances.

Stewardship

It was not possible to hold a stewardship campaign during the year.

Parish Share

At the outset of the year the PCC had made a commitment to pay the Parish Share in full for 2022 and this was attained. This achievement was possible thanks to the generous legacy bequeathed to the church and continued financial support of the congregation for which all associated with St Mary's, can be justifiably proud.

Properties

Church House

The property is subject to a 49-year lease with B3 Living Housing Association, providing affordable accommodation to eight local families. The church receives an annual ground rent of £2000, which is subject to review after 5 years (due in 2023).

In 2021, the Building Certification and report was finally received from Alistair Woodgate, the building surveyor, after a protracted wait. The Diocesan Estates Department notified the church, that a Memorandum of the Building Certificate Date needed to be endorsed on copies of the

lease. This work was undertaken by the church solicitors and has now been completed.

Estimated market value of the property is £2,100,000.

Curates House – 4 Goff's Lane

The property continues to be occupied by the church Curate Mark Escott and his family, who maintained the property in good condition.

Occupancy of 4a Goff's Lane by the curate means that the church benefits from a reduction in the Parish Share paid. The Diocese is responsible for all service and community bills, except for water rates, which the church pays.

During the year a new oven was purchased and installed to replace the existing older faulty oven. Additionally, a bathroom leak needed to be repaired and a gas safety inspection, including servicing of the boiler was undertaken. See notes 18 and 19 of the Financial Statement for costs incurred.

A monthly standing order for £125 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Church Property' to provide funds for any maintenance charges to the property.

Church Office (Portacabin)

The property is in a reasonable state of repair for its age. The unit was only ever intended to be a temporary structure and continued maintenance will be required to maintain it, until it is possible to be replaced with a more permanent structure.

The roof required some attention to reseal it, as an area of the roofing material was starting to become detached. Thanks go to Steve Whorlow for applying bitumen paint to the affected area to ensure continued waterproofing.

There is no effective guttering on the property apart from a small roof channel, which is totally inadequate. As a consequence of water overflowing from the roof, water had penetrated and soften the south facing wall, to such an extent that a fox had been able to gouge a large hole in the wall. Work as a temporary fix was undertaken by church members, attaching plastic sheeting to the affected areas, to cover and improve the integrity of the wall. In the longer term, if the portacabin is to be retained, work on the roof and installation of guttering will be essential.

Internet connectivity to the office had been problematic for some time. It was decided to upgrade the internet connection to improve the situation. Because the connection was out of contract there were minimal costs

involved in making the upgrade. It was possible to combine provision of the landline, telephone and broadband into the new contract. This meant that it was possible to cancel the existing contract with B.T., making a saving of £60 approx a month on the total charges previously paid.

Main Church Building

All work towards the development of the Baptistry area, as well work to enhance the ministry in other areas of the church, were put on hold due to the Corona Virus restrictions and currently await to be continued. There were no further developments towards major drainage work required on the church. Some work to comply with the Quinquennial Report was undertaken. The south wall of the church was replastered and painted. Regular servicing of heating, fire extinguishers, roof alarm and Organ was undertaken. A monthly standing order of £100 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Planned Major Maintenance'.

Gas and Electricity Utility Bills

The rising cost of utility bills presents an ongoing challenge to the church financially. Gas and electricity provided to the church is purchased through the "Parish Buying Energy Basket." This scheme provides access to cheaper utility rates than would otherwise be available to the church independently. It is intended to transfer the Portacabin to the scheme as soon as is possible. Restricting the use of all utilities by the church must now be considered an absolute imperative, in an attempt to manage the ever increasing utility bill costs.

Current Financial Position

St Mary's continues to find itself in a challenging financial position as with previous years. During this time the church has managed to meet these challenges thanks to receiving several generous legacies, from past members of the congregation. This year has been no exception and the church are grateful to the estates of June Clarke and Ruth Halliday for the money bequeathed to the church. Legacies received, provide an important lifeline to the church, which like any other charity, could not continue in its mission, without this support. Legacy money received, together with the financial support of the congregation, has enable the church to pay it's Parish Share in full for a fourth consecutive year.

A new CCLA account was opened for the purpose of managing Legacy money received. The fact that none of the recent legacies received were restricted, meant that the money could be used to meet any financial requirement of the church, and therefore of greater benefit to the church. The PCC decided that from the legacy left by June Clarke, £15,000 pounds should be set aside to cover work highlighted in the Quinquennial Report. A portion of this money has now been spent on repair/restoration to the south wall of the church.

The greatest challenge faced by the church is the rise in utility bill costs. These will continue to have, a significant impact on finances for the foreseeable future. In order to manage this, it is important that all future expenditure on church fabric, is considered against church reserves held and the ability of the church to pay the utility bills. Reducing the use of utilities, will also help to reduce costs.

Late on in the year there was an incident with the organ blower overheating. This resulted in an evacuation of the church and intervention by the Fire Brigade. Fortunately, no extensive damage resulted, and the organ blower was removed, repaired and reinstalled. During this time the organ was non-operational. At the time there was a CCLA Restricted Organ Account in place. This account contained enough money to cover the cost of the repair to the organ blower. Because the account was restricted and relied entirely on donations (which were no longer being received), it was decided to close the account and fund future repairs from other non-restricted accounts held by the church. This would help the church in having greater flexibility in the way in which funds can be utilised.

The viability of the church depends entirely on growing the congregation and fund-raising events. During the year it was possible to see a return to organised fund raising events in support of the church finances. Thanks to all that organised or supported these events.

Outlook for 2022 and beyond

The financial outlook for the church in 2023 remains challenging. It is intended to try to pay the Parish Share in full for the year. This will obviously be a financial challenge, but it is important that we endeavour to meet this commitment.

While the church finances are supported by reserve funds, these are not finite. Once utilised, it will be difficult if not impossible to replenish these, requiring careful consideration of any future drawdown of funds.

Finance Team

Following COVID restrictions, all aspects of church finances have been devolved to the meetings of the PCC. Full financial disclosure and reports were provided to the members of the PCC by the church treasurer at scheduled meetings.

Gratitude

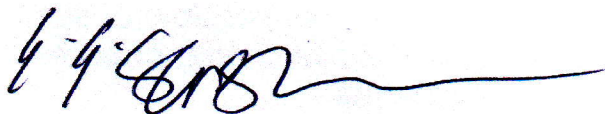
The PCC would like to express its thanks to members of the congregation that have despite the challenging times, managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Thanks also to the 'Friends of St Mary's' and the financial and other support they provided to the church, throughout the year.

The PCC would also like to express their sincere gratitude and thanks for the legacies bequeathed to the church by the late June Clarke and Ruth Halliday. Thanks also go to all members of the congregation for individual donations made.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC
and signed on their behalf by

The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, Chair



.....Date: 14th April 2023

Independent examiner's report on the
accounts

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES



Report to the trustees/ members of		PCC of St Mary Church	
On accounts for the year ended		31 December 2022	Charity no. 1134782 (if any)
Set out on pages		IV to XV	

Financial Accounts 2022

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

Responsibilities and basis
of report

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts entered out
under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I
have followed all the applicable provisions given by the Charity Commission
under section 145(2)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have
drawn to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that
disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in any material
respect:

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Date: 06/04/2023

Signed: *Richard Bell*

Signed:

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the
accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

PCC OF St Mary Cheshunt

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1134781

Set out on pages

IV to XV

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2022**.

Responsibilities and basis
of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

06/04/2023

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE**

Name: STEPHEN JOHN SELL

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body (if
any):**

FCCA

Address:

16 GARNER DRIVE

BROXBOURNE, HERTFORDSHIRE

EN10 6AP

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose.**

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

MONEY IN	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u> £	<u>Unrestricted</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> £
Church				
Cash collections at regular services	1	4,487	4,487	
Cash collections charity specific	2	808		808
Donations	3	3,204	307	2,897
Gift Aid envelopes		550	550	
HMRC gift aid reclaimed		3,962	3,962	
Other Cash Collections	4	1,702	1,702	
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	1	36,403	36,403	
Planned Giving via Standing Order	1	3,605	3,605	
Sumup/Easy Fund Raising	5	2,404	2,404	
Wedding & funeral fees income		10,720	10,720	
Church House				
Church House Ground Rent		2,000	2,000	
General				
Fund raising	6	6,642	4,902	1,740
Fund raising charity specific	7	374		374
Legacies	8	115,665	115,665	
Other receipts	9	4,872	4,872	
Banking				
Barclays reward		59	59	
DBF Accounts Interest	10	881	881	
CCLA Accounts Interest	11	1031	1031	
Barclays Saver Account Interest		156	156	
Total money in		<u>199525</u>	<u>193706</u>	<u>5819</u>

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

MONEY OUT	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u> £	<u>Unrestricted</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> £
Church				
Church energy & water bills		6,685	6,685	
Church maintenance/repairs	12	8,364	8,364	
Church servicing	13	11,465	11,465	
Clergy expenses		4,871	4,871	
Cost of organists at regular church services		2,230	2,230	
Other costs to run regular church services		0	0	
Parish Share	14	34,727	34,727	
Payments to Charities	15	832	832	
Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	16	1,248	1,248	
Wedding & funeral fee payments	17	6,359	6,359	
Banking				
Barclays Commission		470	470	
Curates House				
Curates House expenses	18	1,301	1,301	
Curates House maintenance	19	621	621	
Portacabin				
Portacabin energy & water bills		3,323	3,323	
General				
Admin & sundries	20	892	892	
Insurance	21	4,885	4,885	
Other payments	22	1,295	1,295	
Phone and Broadband		777	777	
Photocopier		1,383	1,383	
		Total money out	91,726	0
SURPLUS		107,799	101,980	5,819

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
COMPARISON OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS WITH PRIOR YEARS

MONEY IN	2020	2021	2022	Difference 2022 & 2021	
	£	£	£	£	%
Church					
Planned Giving via Standing Order	8,715	6,350	3,605	} 4,070	10%
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	29,265	29,759	36,403		
Cash collections at regular services	2,121	4,316	4,487		
Cash collections charity specific	235	546	808	262	48%
Donations	6,111	9,834	3,204	-6,630	-67%
Gift Aid envelopes		1,410	550	-860	-61%
HMRC gift aid reclaimed	-	2,863	3,962	1,099	38%
Other cash collections	163	462	1,702	1,240	268%
SumUp/Easy Fund Raising	331	2,658	2,404	-254	-10%
Wedding & funeral fees income	7,746	13,663	10,720	-2,943	-22%
Church House					
Church House Ground Rent	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0%
Curate's House					
4a Goff's Lane rental income	14,666	5,194	-		
General					
Fund raising	1,940	840	6,642	5,802	691%
Fund raising charity specific	348	546	374	-172	-32%
Legacies		32,555	115,665	83,110	255%
Other receipts	50,186	2,332	5,942	3,610	155%
Parish Holiday	11,359	30,346	-		
Banking					
Barclays Reward	47	28	59	31	111%
Interest & Dividend	777	536	1,912	1,376	257%
MONEY OUT					
Church					
Church energy & water bills	3,705	6,448	6,685	237	4%
Church maintenance/repairs	2,719	1,437	8,364	6,927	482%
Church servicing		7,392	11,465	4,073	55%
Clergy expenses	3,310	3,321	4,871	1,550	47%
Cost of organists at regular church services	1,530	1,875	2,230	355	19%
Other costs to run regular church services	692	287	-	-287	-100%
Parish Share	53,489	47,124	34,727	-12,397	-26%
Payments to Charities	457	441	832	391	89%
Salaries, Wages, Honor	4,949	685	1,248	563	82%
Wedding & funeral fee payments	3,429	8,842	6,359	-2,483	-28%
Banking					
Barclays Gen & Fees Commission	397	312	470	158	51%
Curates House					
Curates House expenses		348	1,301	953	274%
Curates House maintenance		2,435	621	-1,814	-74%
Portacabin					
Portacabin energy, water & other costs	2,945	1,092	3,323	2,231	204%
General					
Admin & sundries	551	846	892	46	5%
Insurance	4,438	4,700	4,885	185	4%
Other payments	3,996	4,183	1,295	-2,888	-69%
Phone & Broadband	1,708	1,736	777	-959	-55%
Photocopier	1,164	1,195	1,383	188	16%
Parish Holiday	6,085	43,553	-		

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	<u>Opening balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Closing balance</u>
Barclays Unrestricted Income Funds					
General	1,000	189,501	86,708	-103,753	40
Weddings & Funeral Fees	1,027	8,838	5,019	-3,483	1,363
Saver	78,745	156	0	2,802	81,703
<i>Totals</i>	<u>80,772</u>	<u>198,494</u>	<u>91,726</u>	<u>-104,434</u>	<u>83,106</u>
CCLA Unrestricted Designated Funds					
General	9,366	0	0	0	9,366
Planned Major Maintenance	19,631	0	0	0	19,631
Legacy	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Totals</i>	<u>28,997</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,997</u>
CCLA Restricted Income Funds					
St Mary's Parish Centre	22,617	0	0	0	22,617
Special Funds	2,011	0	0	0	2,011
Youth	1,999	0	0	0	1,999
Belfry	3,105	0	0	0	3,105
Organ	367	0	0	0	367
Church Property	1,726	0	0	0	1,726
Junior Church	384	0	0	0	384
<i>Totals</i>	<u>32,210</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>32,210</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>141,979</u>	<u>198,494</u>	<u>91,726</u>	<u>-104,439</u>	<u>144,308</u>

Restricted Deposit Fund

156 Churchgate Sale Proceeds	24,868	327	0	0	25,195
<i>Totals</i>	<u>24,868</u>	<u>327</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,195</u>

Endowment Funds

	<u>Shares held</u>	<u>Rates per shares - p</u>	<u>Receiving Account</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
Fabric Fund				
Period Ended				£
31/12/2021	705	15.28	Nominated Bank Account	107.72
31/03/2022	705	15.28	Nominated Bank Account	107.72
30/06/2022	705	15.28	Nominated Bank Account	107.72
30/09/2022	705	15.61	Nominated Bank Account	110.05
<i>Total</i>				<u>433.21</u>
Church Chancel Fund				
Period Ended				
31/12/2021	124	15.28	Nominated Bank Account	18.95
31/03/2022	124	15.28	Nominated Bank Account	18.95
30/06/2022	124	15.28	Nominated Bank Account	18.95
30/09/2022	124	15.61	Nominated Bank Account	19.36
<i>Total</i>				<u>76.21</u>

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Church unrestricted funds are the Barclays General, Fee and Saver accounts, which are all used for the general running of the Parish.

Church CCLA Designated funds are the deposit used for General Reserves and the Planned Periodic Major Maintenance for major maintenance work. Restricted Income funds are the St Mary's Parish Centre fund, the Special fund originally for expenditure mainly on altar front and nave altar, the Youth fund for youth work with children over thirteen years of age, the Junior Church fund for children under thirteen years of age, the Belfry fund for major work on the bells, and the Organ fund for engineering work on the organ and the Church Property Fund specifically for maintenance and servicing of the Curates House at 4A Goff's Lane, Cheshunt.

Most restricted income has already been transferred to the appropriate restricted fund during 2022. The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20th February 2022

And signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Angela Corlett (PCC Lay Co Chair / Church Warden) Mrs Victoria Clarke (Church Warden)

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Accounting basis and procedures

St Mary's 2022 accounts have been produced on a Receipts and Payments basis, which is permitted for charities with an annual turnover less than £250,000. It should be noted that this accounting method only records the actual bank transactions in the calendar year and the bank balance at the end of the year. A deficit does not mean an overdraft.

Excel spreadsheets have been used to record online banking transactions, which are then reconciled with invoices, cheque stubs and weekly cash income records. The Data Developments system 'MyGiving.online' is used to claim gift aid from HMRC.

RECEIPTS

Income overall was up £54,334 compared with 2021 largely due to a generous legacy left to the church by June Clarke, as well as other donations made by members of the congregation. Following the Corona Virus pandemic church revenue streams have started to recover during the year, including wedding and funeral fees, and with fund raising activities resuming.

1. Planned Giving

Thanks go to all the congregation members, that despite the challenging times, have managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Cash collections at regular services	£4,487
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	£36,403
Planned Giving via Standing Order	£3,605

2. Cash Collections Charity Specific

The church was able to undertake collections to support the 'Bishops Harvest Appeal' the Disaster Emergency Committee Ukraine Appeal, Christian Aid and National Children's Homes.

Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£81
Christian Aid	£94
DEC – Ukraine Appeal	£307
Mayors Civic Service	£325

Collections taken during other church services.

Weddings	£32
Funerals	£342
Baptisms	£863

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

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

3. Donations

M.U. Heating & Lighting	£100
Gift for Mark	£457
Friends of St Mary's – Replacement Projector	£2500
Civic Service	£47
Book of Remembrance	£10
U3A Buntingford	£40
Church General Fund	£50

4. Other Cash Collections

Baptisms	£863
Funerals	£342
Weddings	£32
Schools	£27
Wall Safe	£38
Candle Stand	£400

5. SumUp/Easy Fund Raising

SumUp and Easy Fund Raising continue to prove beneficial to the church, in raising additional funds that might otherwise not be donated at church events and online. The SumUp card reader is also used to collect wedding payments. Payments at fund raising events totalled £253 which were transferred to Fund Raising Receipts resulting in Sumup/Easy Fund Raising Receipts Statement total of £2404.

Total payments received £2,657

6. Fund Raising

Fund raising activities have been able to resume following the Covid Restrictions and thanks go to those individuals that organised, managed and supported these events and others. The sum of £253 taken during fund raising events was transferred Sumup/Easy Fund Raising Receipts, resulting in Fund Raising Statement total of £6642.

Auction of Promises	£710
Autumn Fayre	£770
Book Stall	£20
Cockney Evening	£674
French Evening	£400
Lottery Bonus Ball	£1345
Summer Fayre	£1549
Tabletop Sales	£754
Marks Gift	£175
Apple Sale	£19

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

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

David Border Concert	£60
David Border Choir	£70
Bella Chora	£96
Total payments received	£6,642

7. Fund Raising Charity Specific

The following charities were supported through the fund raising efforts of the church.

Tea with Santa	£205 – CCLA Junior Church Account
Crib Service	£135 – Crisis at Christmas

8. Legacies

Thanks go to the estates of the late June Clarke and Ruth Halliday, both long cherished members of the congregation.

June Clarke	£115,465
Ruth Halliday	£200

9. Other receipts

Candle Stand	£400
Parish Breakfast	£511
Wall Safe	£38

Miscellaneous Receipts

Including:

Diocesan Energy Grant	£1,279
Ecclesiastical Insurance	£1,070
CBF Deposit Fund Interest	£1,486

10. DBF Accounts Interest

Including:

Restricted Deposit Fund

156 Churchgate	£327
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Endowment Funds

Church Fabric Fund	£433
Church Chancel Fund	£76

11. CCLA Accounts Interest

Total received	£1,031
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ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

PAYMENTS

12. Church Maintenance/Repairs

Including:

Walton Access Ltd – Flagpole	£1,320
See the Bigger Picture – Replacement Projector	£1,910
D.M. Music.Ltd – Projector installation	£618
Between Times – Work on south wall	£2,572

13. Church Servicing

Including:

Morgan Fire – Fire Extinguisher Inspection	£477
J. Scott & Sons – Church Heaters	£4,942
C.K. Jilks – Organ Maintenance	£187
R.P. Gibbs – PAT Testing	£240
Ace Defence – Roof Alarm Service	£936
Organ – Tuning & Maintenance	£4,870

14. Parish share

The church paid the Parish Share in full for 2022, totalling **£37,855**. The final payment of £3128 was not debited until January 2023, resulting in a payment statement of £34,727 in accounts. This is the fourth consecutive year that the Parish Share has been paid in full. Unpaid Parish Share from previous years remains at **£89,018**.

15. Payments to Charities

Payments to charities included:

Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£200
Crisis at Christmas	£335
DEC – Ukraine Appeal	£203
Christian Aid	£94

16. Salaries, Wages and Honoraria

There were no payments made to PCC members as salaries. Any payments made would only be to reimburse costs incurred by them in the first instance, upon expenses for the running of the church and associated activities. Service on the PCC is voluntary. Paid staff costs are summarised as follows:

Fay Metin - Church Cleaner	£1,248
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ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

17. Wedding & Funeral Fee Payments

These fees include payments to Organist, Verger and Bell Ringers as well as Parochial Fees paid to the Diocese.

Organist, Verger, Bell Ringer Fees	£,2815
Parochial Fees	£3,544

18. Curates House Expenses

Cost of new oven	£754
Thames Water – Total Monthly Bills	£547

19. Curates House Maintenance

J. Coram plumbing – Bathroom leak	£121
J. Coram plumbing – Gas Safety Inspection	£500

20. Admin & Sundries

Data Developments – Monthly Fees	£180
C.C.L.I. - Licensing	£607
G. Parks – Account Files	£95
H. Palmer – Church Rules Book	£10

21. Insurance

The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group provide all our insurance via a group scheme policy and our policies provide the following cover:

- Church buildings £11,710,000 and contents £140,000
- Organ £500,000
- Also covered are public and employers' liability for Incumbent, churchwardens, PCC members and many organised church activities.

22. Other payments

Other payments included the following:

Independent Examiner	£100
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Miscellaneous payments:

Beds & Herts H.C.T.	£40	Membership Fee
Royal School of Church Music	£110	Membership Fee
F.A. Dupont Church Supplies	£177	Glass Cruet Set
Charles Harris	£252	Alter Requisites
G. Parks	£111	Materials for Portacabin repairs

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

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

Broxbourne B.C.	£162	Mayors Civic Service
Broxbourne B.C.	£156	Printing Costs

MONETARY ASSETS

23. Current accounts

The Barclays General Account is used to manage all church receipts and payments other than wedding and funeral fees and payments. The Fees Account with Barclays is used to manage all wedding and funeral fees and payments. Both accounts are automatically linked to the Barclays Saver account to keep a working balance at the end of each day. The Parish Holiday Account is with HSBC.

24. Saver Account

This is a Barclays Account, which receives money automatically transferring from the Barclays General and Fees Accounts to leave a working balance in each account and earns a small amount of interest.

25. CBF Church of England Deposit Funds (CCLA)

Standing Orders with Barclays are used to deposit £125 monthly into the Church Property Account to fund potential maintenance and repair costs. A further £100 is deposited monthly into the Periodic Planned Major Maintenance Account.

26. Endowment Funds

The Chancel Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment; this arose from the Tithe Redemption Commission in the 1940s to enable landowners with a liability for chancel insurance and repair to discharge their liability in a one-off payment. The restricted income is to be used towards the cost of insuring the chancel or towards the maintenance and repair of the chancel, church and churchyard. It is applied to the repair of the St Mary's church fabric through a restricted fund. In 2022, total dividend income was £76 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

The Fabric Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment established by deed on 27 April 1932. The designated income is to be applied to the upkeep, repair or maintenance of the fabric of St Mary's church through a designated fund, unless an alternative use is authorised by the Archdeacon of Hertford. In 2022, total dividend income was £433 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

Following the purchase of 4a Goff's Lane the residue money from the sale of 156 Churchgate was invested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in a CBF Deposit Fund which is restricted. The trusts contained in the original conveyance provide that "until applied (for furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish)

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

they (the net proceeds) shall be invested by the Board and the income thereof shall be applied by the (PCC) for the like purposes.

In 2022, total dividend income was £327.

OTHER ASSETS

27. Freehold properties

51 Churchgate

In 2016 Church House was leased to B3Living for 49 years and redeveloped into eight flats for community use. The first tenants moved into during June 2019 and the flats are now fully occupied. A ground rent of £2000 is paid annually to the church, which will be reviewed after a period of five years. The current estimated value of the property is approximately £2,000,000.

4a Goff's Lane

In 2018 the previously owned Curate's house was sold and a new more modern property, 4a Goff's Lane, was purchased. The current estimated value of the property is £430,000 approx.

Portacabin

The Portacabin was purchased in 2015 and is utilised as the church office and is also used by the clergy. The only church toilet is located here.

OTHER NOTES

28. Other Charities

Not under the control of the PCC and therefore omitted from the accounts is The Cheshunt Parish Charities. These charities are traditionally known as "The Churchwardens' Charities". The incumbent and churchwardens are trustees, and their Annual Report and Accounts are

available on request. The objects of the charities, some of which are ancient, are to support specific educational causes and those suffering hardship.

The Friends of St Marys is a separate registered charity which raises money for the upkeep and improvement of the church building.

Accounts

**Trustees' Annual Report
and
Financial Report of the
Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical
Parish of Cheshunt St Mary
for the year ended
31st December 2021**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt
Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8 9NB.

HMRC reference number: X94190

Contents:

- 1 Trustees' Annual Report
- 2 The Financial Review
- 3 Financial Report
- 4 Independent Examiner's Report

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7854/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMaryCheshunt

Team Vicar: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw,
The Vicarage, Churchgate, Cheshunt,
Herts, EN8 9DY

Church Wardens: Mrs Angela Corlett
Mrs Victoria Clarke

Independent Examiner: Stephen Sell FCCA

Bankers: Barclays Bank and CCLA Investment
Management Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report for 2021

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC of St Mary's has the responsibility of co-operating with Revd Eugene in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

The purpose of our charity is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England, obeying Christ's two commandments '*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength You shall love your neighbour as yourself.*' Mark 12.30-31a.

- Our key aims can be divided into four areas: Leadership, Fabric, Worship and Community.

Leadership: to Manage parish affairs responsibly.

Fabric: to care for St Mary's Church as a place of worship, historic monument and community resource.
to provide a hospitable welcome for worshippers and visitors.

Worship: to worship reverently, inclusively and accessibly.
to grow in understanding and experience.

Community: to communicate our ministry and services effectively.
to serve our local community.
to offer support beyond our parish boundary.

Objectives and Activities

For 2021 we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

Leadership:

- Apply to receive an Assistant Curate-in-Training from 2021.
- Appoint a new treasurer.

Fabric:

- Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric following the 2019.

- Quinquennial Report.

Worship:

- Hold further services designed to encourage families.
- Provide opportunities for Christian study.
- Develop and implement a new Mission Action Plan.

Community:

- Continue to build closer ties with the local church primary and secondary schools.
- Continue to provide help for those in need.

Achievement and performance

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives.

LEADERSHIP

Cheshunt is a large parish with diverse population. The socio-economic makeup of the parish is mixed, with much hidden, and not so hidden poverty.

The electoral roll at the end of 2021 stands at 96 which is a significant increase from the previous year's number of 87.

A relatively small number of mostly volunteers make possible the benefit which our charity offers to others.

Assistant Curate-in-Training:

The Revd. Mark Escott was ordained to the diaconate at the end of June 2021, and he has made a significant impact on the life of the parish. He will be ordained to the priesthood in July 2022, and he will continue his training in the parish until 2024.

Lay Leader of Worship:

Andrew Clarke completed his training and was commissioned as a Lay Leader of Worship during 2021. Terry Hoare began his training for this ministry during the year and will be commissioned once his training is complete.

PCC Secretary.

After a period of vacancy, Helen Palmer became the PCC Secretary in 2021. She carries out her role with diligence and ensures that accurate minutes are kept, and procedures are followed correctly.

FABRIC

We are blessed with a beautiful historic church built on ancient foundations. This carries a responsibility to preserve its fabric for effective use, both today and into the future. We take this responsibility seriously, mindful of the benefit to the community that the church building provides. Full details of work carried out and inspections undertaken are provided in the PCC report.

WORSHIP

Welcome:

St Mary's Church interior is a holy space set apart for peaceful reflection and prayer. During a difficult first half of the year, and with restrictions to try to limit the transmission of Covid19, being implemented at various times, St Mary's has sought to offer a space of quiet reflection, prayer, and worship within the limits that restrictions would allow.

A wide range of parishioners contribute to our welcome and the enhancement of our worship, including arranging flowers, ringing bells, cleaning, singing, playing music and assisting with our church services. We were able to sing once again from Mothering Sunday and as the year progressed and restrictions gradually eased more normality returned to the worshipping life of the church.

Services:

At the beginning of 2021 Eucharists were held Sunday mornings at 10am and Thursdays at 11am. In September 2021 we resumed our pre-pandemic pattern of worship and resumed our Sunday morning 8am Holy Communion and our Tuesday evening BCP Communion at 7.30pm. At all times the appropriate measures were taken to ensure that the church was COVID compliant.

Since April 2020 a Eucharist has been live streamed either from the Vicarage or Church and this has continued from church and will do so for the foreseeable future.

Our average attendance on Sundays in October 2021 was 52, up from 36 in 2020. This current figure shows some recovery in church attendance as restrictions ease but is still around one third down on pre-pandemic figures, which is broadly in line with what is being experienced across the Church of England as a whole.

Viewing figures for the live stream of our Sunday services have decreased from about 100 to about 30-40 as restrictions have eased, but online worship still plays a vital role for some who are unable to receive the Covid vaccine and others who are housebound. Services at Easter were

able to take place again after having to be cancelled the previous year due to the national lockdown. Our Easter Day Eucharist was attended by 68 people while our Midnight Mass and Christmas Day service was attended by a combined total of 195 people.

In April we hosted the Dewhurst Schools Founders Day Service which was attended by 217 students and 13 teachers. The Dewhurst St Mary CofE Primary School Leavers Service took place in July with 36 pupils and 30 parents and staff attending.

Our service for All Souls was attended by 37 people.

During the year 20 funerals took place in church, along with 8 weddings, and 6 baptisms. 2 members of our congregation were confirmed November.

Services designed for families:

Our new family service was launched in September 2021. This takes place on the 4th Sunday of the month and is a short, informal, non-eucharistic service with a mix of traditional hymns and contemporary worship songs. The choir of Dewhurst St Mary School led our singing at our November Family Service, which fell on Advent Sunday. The attendance at these services has been steadily growing and this service will continue to develop over the next year.

Study:

Studying together may be considered an extension of worship. Our parish values opportunities to learn and deepen faith and spirituality.

There was a Cheshunt Team Ministry Lent course during 2021 which was developed and delivered by the two curates in the Team. This was well attended by people from across the four parishes of the Cheshunt Team Ministry.

A weekly study course began in the Autumn of 2020 and continued into 2021. Zoom was utilised so that a group could meet together despite restrictions on meeting face to face. The group have studied the book of Genesis together and we much was learnt from the studies as well as a very real sense of achievement once the book was completed

The Cheshunt Team Advent Course was written and delivered by our curate and was based on Nine Lessons and Carols. This year the course was able to take place in person and all who attended enjoyed the course and learnt much from it.

Mission Action Plan:

In October the PCC took part in an Away Day. The purpose of the day was to discuss and develop our new Mission Action Plan. The Plan was finalised on the day and adopted by the PCC. This plan will inform the mission of St Mary's during the following five years.

COMMUNITY

Communication:

To communicate Christian values and serve community both locally and further afield we aim to provide an effective communication network. The monthly church newsletter continues to provide news and information regarding church activities and has interesting articles provided by members of the congregation. The newsletter is distributed by email to those on the Electoral Roll and some hard copies are printed for those who do not have email.

St Mary's has a regularly updated 'A Church Near You' page which provides information on church services, events, how to arrange a wedding/baptism/funeral, and contact details.

The church continues to develop its presence on social media with a St Mary's Facebook page. This page is used to distribute information regarding church activities, as well as live streaming Sunday services. This page is viewed by many people in the wider Cheshunt community and beyond, and people join our Sunday services who would otherwise not be able to access church.

The church "Whats App" group has provided a circle of prayer and support that has been much in use throughout the lockdowns.

Building closer ties with the local church primary and secondary schools:

This has continued to be a challenge during 2021 but became easier as the year progressed, and restrictions were eased. Revd Eugene now leads Collective Worship at Dewhurst St Mary Primary School once a fortnight, and half-termly at St Mary's High School. At both schools this has been providing times of reflection and prayer for the main Christian Festivals. This year's Remembrance Service at the High School was led by Revd Mark.

Communion Service have taken place at the High School which have been led by Revd Eugene, and he has been pleased to welcome year groups from Dewhurst St Mary School into church to give talks about the Christian faith, as well as go into school during RE lessons. This helps support the school's RE curriculum.

Revd Eugene is a Foundation Governor at both schools, while three members of the St Mary's congregation are Foundation Governors at St Mary's CE High School, one being the Chair of Governors.

Students from St Mary's CE High School gave boxes of gifts and Christmas cards to many members of the church congregation. Many who received gifts have written letters of thanks to individual students.

Continue to provide help to those in need:

The Christian community stretches beyond parish boundaries out into the world. The parish continues to support the Broxbourne Food Bank by providing a collection point in church, as well as two of our congregation helping at the Foodbank. The parish also contributed financial support to the St Albans Diocese Harvest Appeal, the Children's Society, Crisis and the Goa Anglican Centre.

Through a lease agreement with B3 Living, Church House continues to provide eight flats for rent, to tenants of the housing association.

Aims and objectives for 2022

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

Leadership:

- Encourage members of the congregation to consider their roles in the church community and whether they may be called to a more formal ministry within the church, e.g, Lay Reader, ordained ministry etc...
- Establish a financial policy that enables realistic continuity and development of ministry.

Fill casual vacancies on the PCC.

Fabric:

- Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric following the 2019 Quinquennial Report.
- Try to make progress on the Community Access Projects (initially the installation of toilets in church) with the help of the architects and the DAC.

Worship:

- Continue to develop worship with children, young people and families.
- Begin to implement the Mission Action Plan.
- Develop the role of Lay Leader of Worship.

- Continue to develop co-operation across the Cheshunt Team Ministry.

Community:

- Continue to enhance online communications.
- Re-establish the relationship with the care homes and nursing homes in our parish, following the suspension of visits due to Covid19.
- Explore potential for improving our facilities in church to better serve the community.
- Support Churches Together in Cheshunt and Waltham Cross.

Structure, governance and management of the charity:

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt is a registered charity no 1134781. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

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

Ex Officio members

Incumbent: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw

Assistant Curate: The Revd Mark Escott

Wardens: Mrs Victoria Clarke, Mrs Angela Corlett (Lay Vice-Chair)

Elected Members

Ms Angela Dronyi
 Mrs Marion Hoare
 Mr Christopher Isham
 Mrs Sandra Harley
 Mrs Patricia Higgins
 Mr Jeffrey Lawson
 Mrs Jill Shaw

Co-opted Members

Mrs Helen Palmer

Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Victoria Clarke

Deanery Synod

Mr Geoffrey Parks
 Mrs Elizabeth Sugg

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest-in-charge, curate, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church, the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods) and nine members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Management of Risks:

The PCC notes the requirement to identify risks, which if ignored, may come to bear adversely upon the life of the Church of St Mary's. These risks are not merely financial but include other concerns.

The PCC remains aware of the challenge to retain financial liquidity in order to maintain and develop the mission of the church, upkeep its historic church buildings and provide DDA compliant facilities for its members and those of the community. It is important to the church community that they are not merely maintaining a museum, but that the church should also be a place of vibrant worship of, and witness to God's work across the whole of humanity, as well as being aware of the needs of the wider community and the building and worshipping community should be able to reflect these needs.

The Trustees to the best of their knowledge and belief, advise that there have been no serious financial incidents (as defined by the Charity Commission) during the year 2021 relating to our charity, which have not been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Budget:

The budget set for 2021 would have resulted in a predicted deficit of £16393, however thanks to the church being the beneficiary of a generous legacy, other donations, and the continued support of the congregation through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme, a surplus of £21237 was achieved for the financial year.

Reserves Policy:

Reserves Policy was to retain a minimum of £30,000 in the Barclays Business Account to enable the church to meet financial commitments. A fall below this level would require a review of income/expenditure and potential draw down from reserve funds.

Reserve funds are invested in accounts with the CCLA Bank of which there are nine; designated or restricted, for specific funding purposes. Additional investments are made by the Diocesan Board of Finance on behalf of the church in to three further specific funds.

Funding Initiatives:

Online giving was established during 2020 using the SumUp 'Give a Little' web portal. There are direct links from the church Facebook page and 'A Church Near You'.

A debit/credit card reader was purchased to make giving to St Mary's easier, as well as enabling easier payment of fees for weddings. Due to Covid restrictions only a very limited amount of fund raising was possible throughout the year.

Planned Giving:

The church is grateful to all those members of the congregation that have been able to support the church, by continuing to make a regular donation to the church collection, either by standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme. Having the benefit of regular payments affords the church better financial planning and management. Giving by these two methods raised £36,109 towards the church finances. This figure was down on the predicted budget figure due some members of the congregation moving away and passing on.

Stewardship:

Because of Corona Virus restrictions put in place during the year, it was not feasible to hold a stewardship campaign during the year.

Parish Share:

At the outset of the year the PCC had made a commitment to pay the Parish Share in full for 2021 and this was attained. This achievement was possible thanks to the generous legacy bequeathed to the church and continued financial support of the congregation for which all associated with St Mary's, can be justifiably proud.

Properties:

Church House

- The property is subject to a 49 year lease with B3 Living Housing Association, providing affordable accommodation to eight local families.
- The church receives an annual ground rent of £2000, which is subject to review after 5 years.
- The Diocesan Estates Department required a Memorandum of the Building Certificate Date to be endorsed on copies of the lease. This is currently being undertaken by the church solicitors.
- Estimated value of the property is £2,100,000 approximately.

Curates House – 4 Goff's Lane

- At the start of the year the property continued to be let through Paul Wallace Estate Management. There was a permanent tenant in the property since first being let, who maintained the property in good condition.
- Rental income on the property being £1395 of which 10% + vat, was paid to the management company.
- An insurance policy was in place to cover any potential loss of rental income.

- A monthly standing order for £125 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Church Property' to provide funds for any maintenance charges to the property.
- In May of 2021 the letting agreement was terminated to allow the new curate and family to move into the property. The loss of rent on the property has been partially offset, by a reduction in the Parish Share paid by St Mary's.
- The Diocese is responsible for all service bills with the exception of water rates, which the church pays.
- Expenses incurred in preparing the property for occupation by the Curate included, gas and electrical certification. A leaking shower, cubicle and bath panel were replaced, including some tiling.

Church Office (Portacabin)

- The property is in good general state of repair.
- Servicing of the lock on the portacabin was carried out.
- A tree growing in close proximity to the portacabin, and other surrounding vegetation was cleared from the site.
- Limited use was made of the office because of the Corona Virus restrictions in place, and retirement of the church secretary. The Curate now makes use of the building, as an office in support of his Curacy

Main Church Building

- All work towards the development of the Baptistry area, as well work to enhance the ministry in other areas of the church, were put on hold due to the Corona Virus restrictions.
- There were no further developments towards major drainage work required on the church.
- Some work to comply with the Quinquennial Report was undertaken. A contractor cleared pine needles from the roof and drainage channels. The lightning conductor was inspected.
- Regular servicing of heating, fire extinguishers, roof alarm and Organ was undertaken.
- Two older existing heaters were replaced with new heaters.
- A monthly standing order is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Planned Major Maintenance'.

Current Financial Position:

St Mary's continues to find itself in a challenging financial position. The generosity of the congregation past and present, has enable the church to pay it's Parish Share in full for a third consecutive year and maintain its finances in a reasonable state. The viability of the church depends entirely on growing the congregation and fund-raising events. During the year it was regrettably not possible to undertake any significant fund raising in support of the church finances. New fund-raising initiatives introduced to enhance the potential for collecting church donations has proved to be

beneficial and help provide a valuable source of additional income for the church. The Financial Report 2021 provides full account of the church finances.

During the year while in lockdown the church paid retainer fees to the regular church organists and the cleaner. During periods when the church was able open, but organ music was limited due to restrictions in place, a reduced fee was paid.

Outlook for 2022 and beyond:

The financial outlook for the church in 2022 remains challenging. It is intended to try to pay the Parish Share in full for the year. This will obviously put a strain on the church funds, but it is important that we endeavour to meet this commitment. Hopefully as COVID restrictions are reduced, the church will be able to resume a full timetable of church services and fund-raising activities to the benefit of St Mary's.

While the church finances are supported by reserve funds, these are not finite. Once utilised, it will be difficult if not impossible to replenish these, requiring careful consideration of any future drawdown of funds.

The appointment of a Curate to the church commencing June 2021 meant that the current tenant of 4a Goff's Lane, was required to vacate the property by the end of April, to allow the new Curate and family to move in. The church will be liable for general expenses incurred by the Curate on a monthly basis, in fulfilling his ministry.

Finance Team:

During the year because of the COVID restrictions put in place, it was decided to devolve all aspects of church finances, into the meetings of the PCC. Full financial disclosure and reports were provided to the members of the PCC by the church treasurer at scheduled meetings.

Gratitude:

The PCC would like to express its thanks to members of the congregation that have despite the challenging times, managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Thanks also to the 'Friends of St Mary's' and the support they provide to the church, as well as the Parish Holiday Committee for transferring remaining funds, following closure of the Parish Holiday, to the church for designated use.

The PCC would also like to express their sincere gratitude and thanks for the legacy bequeathed to the church by the late Fred Tanner. Thanks also go to all members of the congregation for individual donations made.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC
and signed on their behalf by

The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Hanshaw', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

.....Date: 25th April 2022

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the FCC
and signed on their behalf by

The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, Chair



Date: 25th April 2022

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

PCC of St Mary's Cheshunt

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1134781

Set out on pages

16 to 26

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2021**.

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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Stephen J Sell

Date:

23/04/22

Name:

STEPHEN JOHN SELL

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA

Address:

16 GARNER DRIVE

BROXBORNE, HERTFORDSHIRE

EN10 6AP

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE**

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

[Empty box for disclosure details]

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

MONEY IN	Note	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Church				
Cash collections at regular services	1	4,316	4,316	
Cash collections charity specific	2	546	546	
Donations		9,834	6,107	3,726
Gift Aid envelopes		1,410	1,410	
HMRC gift aid reclaimed		2,863	2,863	
Other Cash Collections	3	462	462	
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	1	29,759	29,759	
Planned Giving via Standing Order	1	6,350	6,350	
Sumup/Easy Fund Raising	4	2,658	2,658	
Wedding & funeral fees income		13,663	13,663	
Church House				
Church House Ground Rent		1,500	1,500	
Curate's House				
4a Goff's Lane rental income	5	5,194	5,194	
General				
Fund raising	6	1,060	80	980
Fund raising charity specific		0	0	
Legacies	7	32,555	32,555	
Other receipts	8	2,112	2,112	
Banking				
Barclays reward		28	28	
DBF Accounts Interest	9	493	493	
CCLA Accounts Interest		32	15	17
Barclays Saver Account Interest		6	6	
Total money in		114,840	110,116	4724

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

MONEY OUT	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u> £	<u>Unrestricted</u> £	<u>Restricted</u> £
Church				
Church energy & water bills		6,448	6,448	
Church maintenance/repairs	10	1,327	1,327	
Church servicing	11	7,502	7,502	
Clergy expenses		3,321	3,321	
Cost of organists at regular church services		1,875	1,875	
Other costs to run regular church services		287	287	
Parish Share	12	47,124	47,124	
Payments to Charities	13	441	441	
Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	14	685	685	
Wedding & funeral fee payments	15	8,842	8,842	
Banking				
Barclays Commission		312	312	
Curates House				
Curates House expenses	16	348	348	
Curates House maintenance	17	2,435	2,435	
Portacabin				
Portacabin energy & water bills		1,092	1,092	
General				
Admin & sundries	18	846	846	
Insurance	19	4,700	4,700	
Other payments	20	1,483	1,483	
Phone and Broadband		1,736	1,736	
Photocopier		1,195	1,195	
		91,998	91,998	0
		91,998	91,998	0
SURPLUS		22,842	18,118	4724
		22,842	18,118	4724

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
COMPARISON OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS WITH PRIOR YEARS**

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Difference 2021 & 2020</u>	
MONEY IN	£	£	£	£	%
Church					
Planned Giving via Standing Order	8,945	8,715	6,350	}	1%
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	26,984	29,265	29,759		
Cash collections at regular services	6,177	2,121	4,316		
Cash collections charity specific	943	235	546	311	132%
Donations	10,674	6,111	9,834	3,723	61%
Gift Aid envelopes			1,410		
HMRC gift aid reclaimed	5,254	-	2,863	2,863	
Other cash collections	3,121	163	462	299	183%
SumUp/Easy Fund Raising		331	2,658		
Wedding & funeral fees income	14,555	7,746	13,663	5,917	76%
Church House					
Church House Ground Rent	2,000	2,000	1,500	-500	-25%
Curate's House					
4a Goff's Lane rental income	14,336	14,666	5,194	-9,472	-65%
General					
Fund raising	6,995	1,940	840	-1,100	-57%
Fund raising charity specific	136	348	546	198	57%
Grants	3,000			0	
Legacies			32,555	32,555	
Other receipts	12,948	50,186	2,332	-47,854	-95%
Parish Holiday	14,257	11,359	30,346	18,987	167%
Banking					
Barclays Reward	102	47	28	-19	-40%
Interest & Dividend	1,022	777	536	-241	-31%
MONEY OUT					
Church					
Church energy & water bills	6,158	3,705	6,448	2,743	74%
Church maintenance/repairs	10,820	2,719	1,437	-1,282	-47%
Church Refurbishment	11,955	-		0	
Church servicing			7,392	7,392	
Clergy expenses	3,567	3,310	3,321	11	0%
Cost of organists at regular church services	3,180	1,530	1,875	345	23%
Other costs to run regular church services	779	692	287	-405	-59%
Parish Share	53,814	53,489	47,124	-6,365	-12%
Payments to Charities	694	457	441	-16	-4%
Salaries, Wages, Honor	6,544	4,949	685	-4,264	-86%
Wedding & funeral fee payments	9,228	3,429	8,842	5,413	158%
Banking					
Barclays Gen & Fees Commission	512	397	312	-85	-21%
Curates House					
Curates House expenses			348	348	
Curates House maintenance			2,435	2,435	
Portacabin					
Portacabin energy, water & other costs	860	2,945	1,092	-1,853	-63%
General					
Admin & sundries	1,919	551	846	295	54%
Insurance	4,646	4,438	4,700	262	6%
Other payments	7,717	3,996	4,183	187	5%
Phone & Broadband		1,708	1,736	28	2%
Photocopier	1,368	1,164	1,195	31	3%
Parish Holiday	15,125	6,085	43,553	37,468	616%

**PCC OF ST MARY, CHESHUNT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT DECEMBER 2021**

Church Funds	<u>Opening balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Closing balance</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
Barclays Unrestricted Income Funds					
General	1,000	101,133	83,049	-18,084	1,000
Weddings & Funeral Fees	500	13,669	8,950	-4,718	500
Saver	56,625	6	0	22,640	79,272
<i>Totals</i>	<u>58,125</u>	<u>114,808</u>	<u>91,999</u>	<u>-163</u>	<u>80,772</u>
CCLA Unrestricted Designated Funds					
General	9,361	5	0	0	9,366
Planned Major Maintenance	18,421	10	0	1,200	19,631
<i>Totals</i>	<u>27,782</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>28,997</u>
CCLA Restricted Income Funds					
St Mary's Parish Centre	22,606	12	0	0	22,617
Special Funds	2,010	1	0	0	2,011
Youth	1,998	1	0	0	1,999
Belfry	3,104	2	0	0	3,105
Organ	367	0	0	0	367
Church Property	2,762	1	0	-1,037	1,726
Junior Church	384	0	0	0	384
<i>Totals</i>	<u>33,230</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-1,037</u>	<u>32,210</u>
St Albans DBF managed Restricted Deposit Fund					
156 Churchgate Sale Proceeds	24,855	13	0	0	24,868
<i>Totals</i>	<u>24,855</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>24,868</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>143,992</u>	<u>114,853</u>	<u>91,999</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>166,847</u>
Parish Holiday Funds					
HSBC General Account	790	30,346	31,136	0	0
CCLA Unrestricted Designate Funds	12,412	5	12,417	0	0
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>13,202</u>	<u>30,351</u>	<u>43,553</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
St Albans DBF managed Endowment Funds	<u>Opening balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Shares Held</u>	<u>Mid Market Value</u>	<u>Bid Market Value</u>
	£	£		£	£
Church Chancel Fund	2,535	74	124	2,094	2,900
Church Fabric Fund	14,415	419	705	16,510	16,488
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>16,950</u>	<u>483</u>	<u>829</u>	<u>18,604</u>	<u>19,388</u>

**PCC OF ST MARY, CHESHUNT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT DECEMBER 2021**

Church unrestricted funds are the Barclays General, Fee and Saver accounts, which are all used for the general running of the Parish. The Parish holiday HSBC account is unrestricted and the CCLA account is restricted. Both accounts were used for working capital for the annual holiday and following closure of the Parish Holiday in 2021, both accounts are now closed.

Church CCLA Designated funds are the deposit used for General Reserves and the Planned Periodic Major Maintenance for major maintenance work. Restricted Income funds are the St Mary's Parish Centre fund, the Special fund originally for expenditure mainly on altar front and nave altar, the Youth fund for youth work with children over thirteen years of age, the Junior Church fund for children under thirteen years of age, the Belfry fund for major work on the bells, and the Organ fund for engineering work on the organ and the Church Property Fund specifically for maintenance and servicing of the Curates House at 4A Goff's Lane, Cheshunt.

Most restricted income has already been transferred to the appropriate restricted fund during 2021. The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

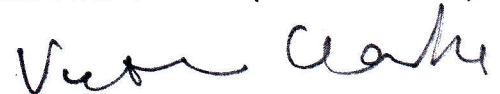
Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 7th March 2022

And signed on its behalf by:

Mrs Angela Corlett (PCC Lay Co Chair / Church Warden)



Mrs Victoria Clarke (Church Warden)



Accounting basis and procedures

St Mary's 2021 accounts have once again been produced on a Receipts and Payments basis, which is permitted for charities with an annual turnover less than £250,000. It should be noted that this accounting method only records the actual bank transactions in the calendar year and the bank balance at the end of the year. A deficit does not mean an overdraft.

Excel spreadsheets have been used to record online banking transactions, which are then reconciled with invoices, cheque stubs and weekly cash income records. The Data Developments system 'MyGiving.online' is used to claim gift aid from HMRC.

RECEIPTS

Income overall was up £9077 compared with 2020 largely due to a generous legacy left to the church by Fred Tanner, as well as other donations made by members of the congregation. The Corona Virus pandemic continued to have a significant impact on the church revenue streams during the year, including wedding fees and fund raising activities, with receipts below what might have been anticipated in a normal year.

1. Planned Giving

Thanks go to all the congregation members, that despite the challenging times, have managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

2. Cash Collections Charity Specific

The church was able to undertake collections to support the 'Bishops Harvest Appeal' and 'Crisis at Christmas'.

3. Other Cash Collections

Collections taken during other church services.

Weddings	£48
Funerals	£236
Baptisms	£178

4. SumUp/Easy Fund Raising

Previously, as a means of increasing potential financial contributions to the church funds, the church signed up to two new fund raising schemes. In general society is moving towards a cashless society and it was important that the church did not lose out on potential donations that might otherwise be made at church services and online. Accordingly the church purchased a SumUp card reader which allows donations to be made by card. Easy Fund Raising allows donations to the church to be made through a link on the church web page, within the 'A Church Near You' web portal and also via a link

**PCC OF ST MARY, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

on the church Facebook page. That decision is now proving beneficial, providing the church with a growing income stream, which would otherwise be lost.

5. Fund Raising

Some limited fund raising took place, thanks go to those individuals that organised and supported this effort.

Lottery Bonus Ball	£765
Tea with Santa	£215
Knitted Toy Sale	£30

6. Goff's Lane Rental Income

Following the appointment of the Curate to church, the letting of 4a Goff's Lane, was terminated in May and the Curate and family moved into the property in June 2021.

7. Legacies

Thanks go to the estate of the late Fred Tanner, a regular member of the congregation. Through his generous legacy of £32,555, the church was able to meet its commitment to paying the Parish Share in full for the year.

8. Other receipts

Candle Stand	£239
Miscellaneous Receipts	£10
Parish Breakfast	£200
Wall Safe	£151

9. DBF Accounts

Church Fabric Fund	£419
Church Chancel Fund	£74

PAYMENTS

10. Church Maintenance/Repairs

Barnet Lock & Security – Portacabin Lock	£170
D. Sullivan – Church Roof Clearance	£700
J. Curry & Co.Ltd – Tree Clearance	£450
P. Flower – Light Bulbs	£6

11. Church Servicing

Morgan Fire – Fire Extinguisher Inspection	£107
J. Scott & Sons – Church Heaters	£6214
C.K. Jilks – Organ Maintenance	£187
D.M. Audio Visual – Projector Inspection	£114

Ace Defence – Roof Alarm Service	£771
----------------------------------	------

Ace Defence – Roof Alarm Service	£771
----------------------------------	------

W. Larkins – Lightning Conductor	£110
----------------------------------	------

12. Parish share

The church paid the Parish Share in full for 2021, a terrific achievement. This is the third consecutive year that the Parish Share has been paid in full. Unpaid Parish Share from previous years remains at £89,018.

13. Payments to Charities

Payments to charities comprised:

Crisis at Christmas	£191
---------------------	------

Bishop of Hertford's Harvest Appeal	£250
-------------------------------------	------

An additional charitable collection was undertaken by Marian Coombes, which raised £156.97 for the Children's Society. This was independent from the church accounts.

14. Salaries, Wages and Honoraria

There were no payments made to PCC members as salaries. Any payments made would only be to reimburse costs incurred by them in the first instance, upon expenses for the running of the church and associated activities. Service on the PCC is voluntary. Paid staff costs are summarised as follows:

Fay Metin - Church Cleaner	£685
----------------------------	------

15. Wedding & Funeral Fee Payments

These fees include payments to Organist, Verger and Bell Ringers as well as Parochial Fees paid to the Diocese.

Organist, Verger, Bell Ringer Fees	£2370
------------------------------------	-------

Parochial Fees	£6472
----------------	-------

16. Curates House Expenses

EDF - Gas Point Payment	£20
-------------------------	-----

Thames Water – Total Monthly Bills	£328
------------------------------------	------

17. Curates House Maintenance

R.P. Gibbs – Gas/Elec Services	£475
--------------------------------	------

F. Metin - Cleaning	£40
---------------------	-----

N.F. Dolby – New Shower	£1920
-------------------------	-------

18. Admin & Sundries

Data Developments – Monthly Fees	£150
C.C.L.I. - Licensing	£546
V.Clarke – Printing Costs	£120

19. Insurance

The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group provide all our insurance via a group scheme policy and our policies provide the following cover:

- Church buildings £11,710,000 and contents £140,000
- Organ £500,000
- Curate’s House £162,000 - Until June 2021
- Letting rental income protection £16,800 - Until June 2021
- Also covered are public and employers’ liability for Incumbent, churchwardens, PCC members and many organised church activities.

20. Other payments

Other payments include the following:

Independent Examiner	£100
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Miscellaneous payments:

Beds & Herts H.C.T.	£40	Membership Fee
C. Field & Co	£313	Minister’s Refund
Churches Together	£50	Contribution
Bible Reading Fellowship	£29	Contribution
PCC St Clements	£430	Funeral Fee
PCC St James	£50	Hall Hire
Rev Teresa Wynne	£100	Funeral Fee
ThirtyOneEight	£6	Church Safeguarding Fee
P. Flower	£165	Belfry Maintenance

MONETARY ASSETS

21. Current accounts

The Barclays General Account is used to manage all church receipts and payments other than wedding and funeral fees and payments. The Fees Account with Barclays, is used to manage all wedding and funeral fees and payments. Both accounts are automatically linked to the Barclays Saver account to keep a working balance at the end of each day. The Parish Holiday Account is with HSBC.

22. Saver Account

This is a Barclays Account, which receives money automatically transferring from the Barclays General and Fees Accounts to leave a working balance in each account and earns a small amount of interest.

23. CBF Church of England Deposit Funds (CCLA)

Standing Orders with Barclays are used to deposit £125 monthly into the Church Property Account to fund potential maintenance and repair costs. A further £100 is deposited monthly into the Periodic Planned Major Maintenance Account.

24. Endowment Funds

The Chancel Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment; this arose from the Tithe Redemption Commission in the 1940s to enable landowners with a liability for chancel insurance and repair to discharge their liability in a one-off payment. The restricted income is to be used towards the cost of insuring the chancel or towards the maintenance and repair of the chancel, church and churchyard. It is applied to the repair of the St Mary's church fabric through a restricted fund. In 2021, total dividend income was £74 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

The Fabric Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment established by deed on 27 April 1932. The designated income is to be applied to the upkeep, repair or maintenance of the fabric of St Mary's church through a designated fund, unless an alternative use is authorised by the Archdeacon of Hertford. In 2021, total dividend income was £419 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

Following the purchase of 4a Goff's Lane the residue money from the sale of 156 Churchgate was invested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in a CBF Deposit Fund which is restricted. The trusts contained in the original conveyance provide that "until applied (for furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish) they (the net proceeds) shall be invested by the Board and the income thereof shall be applied by the (PCC) for the like purposes. In 2021, total dividend income was £13.

OTHER ASSETS

25. Freehold properties

In 2016 Church House was leased to B3Living for 49 years and redeveloped into eight flats for community use. The first tenants moved into during June 2019 and the flats are now fully occupied. A ground rent of £2000 is paid annually to the church, which will be reviewed after a period of five years. The current estimated value of the property is approximately £2,000,000.

In 2018 a new more modern Curate's House, 4a Goff's Lane, was purchased and let from September 2018. Monthly rental income of £1395 from the property provided much needed source of income for the church. The property was managed by Paul Wallace Letting Agents, who charge 10% management fee.

Following the appointment of the Curate to church, the letting agreement was terminated, and the Curate and family moved into the property in June 2021.

The current estimated value of the property is £410,000.

OTHER NOTES

26. Parish Holiday

Not under the control of the PCC but included in the Statement of Assets are the Parish Holiday funds. The Parish Holiday Committee ceased its activities following the final holiday in Eastbourne 2021. All remaining funds held in the HSBC bank and CCLA accounts were transferred to the church bank account.

27. Other Charities

Not under the control of the PCC and therefore omitted from the accounts is The Cheshunt Parish Charities. These charities are traditionally known as "The Churchwardens' Charities". The incumbent and churchwardens are trustees, and their Annual Report and Accounts are available on request. The objects of the charities, some of which are ancient, are to support specific educational causes and those suffering hardship.

The Friends of St Marys is a separate registered charity which raises money for the upkeep and improvement of the church building.

Accounts

**Trustee's Annual Report
and
Financial Report of the
Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of Cheshunt St Mary
for the year ended
31st December 2020**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt
Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8 9NB.

HMRC reference number: X94190

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Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7854/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMaryCheshunt

Team Vicar: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw,
The Vicarage, Churchgate,
Cheshunt, Herts,
EN8 9DY

Church Wardens: Mrs Angela Corlett, Mrs Victoria
Clarke,

Independent Examiner: Stephen Sell FCCA

Bankers: Barclays Bank and CCLA Investment
Management Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report for 2020

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC of St Mary's has the responsibility of co-operating with Revd Eugene in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical

The purpose of our charity is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England, obeying Christ's two commandments '*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength You shall love your neighbour as yourself.*' Mark 12.30-31a.

- Our key aims can be divided into four areas: Leadership, Fabric, Worship and Community.

Leadership: to Manage parish affairs responsibly

Fabric: to care for St Mary's Church as a place of worship, historic monument and community resource;
to provide a hospitable welcome for worshippers and visitors

Worship: to worship reverently, inclusively and accessibly;
to grow in understanding and experience

Community: to communicate our ministry and services effectively;
to serve our local community;
to offer support beyond our parish boundary

Objectives and Activities

For 2020 we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

Leadership:

Apply to receive an Assistant Curate-in-Training from 2021
Appoint a new treasurer

Fabric:

Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric following the 2019 Quinquennial Report

Worship:

Hold further services designed to encourage families
Provide opportunities for Christian study
Develop and implement a new Mission Action Plan

Community

Continue to build closer ties with the local church primary and secondary schools
Continue to provide help for those in need

Achievement and performance

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

LEADERSHIP

Cheshunt is a large parish with diverse population. The socio-economic makeup of the parish is mixed, with much hidden, and not so hidden poverty.

The parish was in vacancy for over two years, with a new Team Vicar appointed in July 2019, with an electoral roll of 87 at the end of the year. A relatively small number of mostly volunteers make possible the benefit which our charity offers to others.

Assistant Curate-in-Training from 2021:

We are delighted that our application was successful, and that Mark Escott will, upon completion of his training with the Eastern Region Ministry Course, be ordained, appointed and licensed to our parish on 26 June 2021.

Appoint a new Treasurer:

Our Treasurer had given notice in 2019 but continued to provide support temporarily until a new Treasurer is found, for which the PCC is grateful.

We are still searching for our new Treasurer. It is our hope to appoint a new Treasurer during 2021. Our thanks go to our current Treasurer for continuing to fulfil this vital role.

Online giving was established during 2020 using the SumUp 'Give a Little' web portal. There are direct links from the church Facebook page and 'A Church Near You'.

A debit/credit card reader was purchased to make giving to St Mary's easier, as well as it being easier to pay fees for weddings.

FABRIC

We are blessed with a beautiful historic church built on ancient foundations. This carries a responsibility to preserve its fabric for effective use, both today and into the future. We take this responsibility seriously, mindful of the benefit to the community that the church building provides.

Full details of work carried out and inspections undertaken are provided in the PCC report.

WORSHIP

Welcome:

St Mary's Church interior is a holy space set apart for peaceful reflection and prayer. During a difficult year, and with churches having to close at various times in the year due to restrictions to try to limit the transmission of Covid19, St Mary's has opened when it can, offering a space of quiet reflection and prayer.

A wide range of parishioners contribute to our welcome and the enhancement of our worship, including arranging flowers, ringing bells, cleaning, singing, playing music and assisting with our church services. Since March 2020 some of these activities have been curtailed due to the ongoing pandemic.

Services:

At the beginning of 2020 Eucharists were held Sunday mornings at 8am and 10am, Tuesdays at 7.30pm (BCP) and Thursdays at 11am until Coronavirus restrictions were enacted in March 2020.

In June the church opened for short periods of private prayer twice a week.

Once churches were able to resume services, St Mary's services were held on Sundays at 10am and Thursdays at 11am only. This decision was taken to avoid the need for the deep clean that would be required if services were held within 72 hours of the church last being used. At all times the appropriate measures were taken to ensure that the church was COVID compliant.

Since April 2020 a Eucharist has been live streamed either from the Vicarage or Church and this has continued once churches were able to re-open. Evening Prayer has also been live streamed on the St Mary's

Facebook page for six days a week from April until September 2020, and then two days a week thereafter.

Our average attendance on Sundays in October 2020 was 36, down from 73 in 2019. This was due to the pandemic and the church having to close for long periods during lockdown.

Viewing figures for the live stream of our Sunday services are usually more than 100. Services at Easter were unable to take place due to the national lockdown. Our Christmas Day service was attended by 42 people, although the service was viewed over 1500 times on the St Mary's Facebook page.

In January the church hosted the Hertford County Association of Change Ringers ADM which was preceded by a short service and had 28 people in attendance.

Once the first lockdown ended, we were able to welcome Dewhurst St Mary Primary School into church for their Year 6 Leavers Service. Due to Coronavirus restrictions only the children and their teachers attended the service with 31 in attendance.

Our service for All Souls was attended by 21 people, but sadly, due to the second national lockdown we were unable to join together on Remembrance Sunday.

During the year 12 funerals took place in church, along with 3 weddings, and 9 baptisms.

Services designed for families:

Sadly, due to the pandemic and associated restrictions no progress was made with this priority during 2020.

Study:

Studying together may be considered an extension of worship. Our parish values opportunities to learn and deepen faith and spirituality.

There was a Cheshunt Team Ministry Lent course during 2020 which used the film *Casablanca* as its inspiration. This was well attended by people from across the four parishes of the Cheshunt Team Ministry. Unfortunately, this course remains unfinished as it was interrupted by the first national lockdown.

A weekly study course began in the Autumn of 2020. Zoom was utilised so that a group could meet together despite restrictions on meeting face to face. The group have studied the book of Genesis together and are keen to continue meeting on Zoom.

The Advent Course was conducted on Zoom using the study guide 'A Strange Christmas' by Krish Kandiah.

Mission Action Plan:

Harry Steele a St Albans Church Growth Officer attended a PCC meeting in March, with various exercises to help the PCC think about where the church was and where it wanted to be. However, due to the restrictions, it was not possible to build on this start.

COMMUNITY

Communication:

To communicate Christian values and serve community both locally and further afield we aim to provide an effective communication network.

During 2020 the monthly church newsletter, which had previously been distributed at church services, moved on-line, being sent to all those who had provided an e-mail address on the electoral roll. Subsequently further names were added to the circulation list and individuals were encouraged to forward the newsletter to anyone they considered would be interested. Hard copies were distributed where possible. In this way it was hoped to keep in touch with as many people as possible.

St Mary's now has a regularly updated 'A Church Near You' page which provides information on church services, events, how to arrange a wedding/baptism/funeral, and contact details.

The church has established a presence on social media with a St Mary's Facebook page. This page is used to distribute information regarding church activities, as well as live streaming Evening Prayer and Sunday services. This page is viewed by many people in the wider Cheshunt community and beyond, and many people join our Sunday services who would otherwise not be able to access church.

The church "Whats App" group has provided a circle of prayer and support that has been much in use throughout the lockdowns.

Building closer ties with the local church primary and secondary schools:

This has been a challenge during 2020. Revd Eugene would normally lead Collective Worship at Dewhurst St Mary Primary School once a fortnight, and monthly at St Mary's CE High School. He has been able to help with Collective Worship via Zoom. At both schools this has been providing times of reflection and prayer for the main Christian Festivals.

At St Mary's CE High School Revd Eugene has been able to go into school during lockdowns and spend some time with the Headteacher, staff, and students who were in school and provide pastoral support during a difficult year.

Revd Eugene has also provided support over the phone to staff and families of students who have experienced family bereavement during the year.

Revd Eugene is a Foundation Governor at both schools, while three members of the St Mary's congregation are Foundation Governors at St Mary's CE High School, one being the Chair of Governors. Students from St Mary's CE High School gave boxes of gifts and Christmas cards to many members of the church congregation. Many who received gifts have written letters of thanks to individual students.

Continue to provide help to those in need:

The Christian community stretches beyond parish boundaries out into the world. The parish continues to support the Broxbourne Food Bank by providing a collection point in church, as well as two of our congregation helping at the Foodbank. The parish also contributed financial support to the St Albans Diocese Harvest Appeal, the Children's Society, Crisis and the Goa Anglican Centre.

Through a lease agreement with B3 Living, Church House continues to provide eight flats for rent, to tenants of the housing association.

Aims and objectives for 2021

For 2021 the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims are planned:

Leadership:

- Reassess our church management structures for greater effectiveness
- Establish a financial policy that enables realistic continuity and development of ministry
- Fill casual vacancies on the PCC

Fabric:

- Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric following the 2019 Quinquennial Report.

- Try to make progress on the Community Access Projects (initially the installation of toilets in church) with the help of the architects and the DAC.

Worship:

- Continue to develop worship with children and families
- Restart work on the MAP
- Develop the roles of the Curate and Lay Leader of Worship
- Continue to develop co-operation across the Cheshunt Team Ministry

Community:

- Continue to enhance online communications
- Re-establish the relationship with the care homes and nursing homes in our parish, following the suspension of visits due to Covid19
- Explore potential for improving our facilities in church to better serve the community
- Support Churches Together in Cheshunt and Waltham Cross

Structure, governance and management of the charity:

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt is a registered charity no 1134781

Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

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

Ex Officio members

Incumbent: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw

Wardens: Mrs Victoria Clarke, Mrs Angela Corlett (Lay Vice-Chair)

Elected Members

Ms Angela Dronyi
 Mrs Marion Hoare
 Mr Christopher Isham
 Mrs Sandra Harley (Until October 2020)
 Mrs Patricia Defoe (Until October 2020)
 Mrs June Haynes (Until October 2020)
 Mrs Cilean Blanchard (Until October 2020)
 Mr Terry Hoare (Until October 2020)

Co-opted Members

Mrs Patricia Higgins

Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Victoria Clarke

Deanery Synod

Mr Geoffrey Parks

Mrs Elizabeth Sugg

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest-in-charge, curate, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church, the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods) and nine members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Management of Risks:

The PCC notes the requirement to identify risks, which if ignored, may come to bear adversely upon the life of the Church of St Mary's. These risks are not merely financial but include other concerns.

The PCC remains aware of the challenge to retain financial liquidity in order to maintain and develop the mission of the church, upkeep its historic church buildings and provide DDA compliant facilities for its members and those of the community. It is important to the church community that they are not merely maintaining a museum, but that the church should also be a place of vibrant worship of, and witness to God's work across the whole of humanity, as well as being aware of the needs of the wider community and the building and worshipping community should be able to reflect these needs.

The Trustees to the best of their knowledge and belief, advise that there have been no serious financial incidents (as defined by the Charity Commission) during the year 2020 relating to our charity, which have not been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Budget:

The budget set for 2020 would have resulted in a predicted deficit of £2553. However thanks to the church being the beneficiary of two legacies, other donations and the continued support of the congregation through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme, a surplus of £35249 was achieved for the financial year.

Reserves Policy:

Reserves Policy was to retain a minimum of £30,000 in the Barclays Business Account to enable the church to meet financial commitments. A fall below this level would require a review of income/expenditure and potential draw down from reserve funds.

Reserve funds are invested in accounts with the CCLA Bank of which there are nine; designated or restricted, for specific funding purposes. Additional investments are made by the Diocesan Board of Finance on behalf of the church in to three further specific funds.

New Funding Initiatives:

Online giving was established during 2020 using the SumUp 'Give a Little' web portal. There are direct links from the church Facebook page and 'A Church Near You'.

A debit/credit card reader was purchased to make giving to St Mary's easier, as well as it being easier to pay fees for weddings.

Planned Giving:

The church is grateful to all those members of the congregation that have been able to support the church, by continuing to make a regular donation to the church collection, either by standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme. Having the benefit of regular payments affords the church better financial planning and management. Giving by these two methods has raised £37980 towards the church finances.

Stewardship:

Because of Corona Virus restrictions put in place during the year, it was not feasible to hold a stewardship campaign during the year.

Parish Share:

At the outset of the year the PCC had made a commitment to pay the Parish Share in full for 2020 and this was attained. This is a wonderful achievement, for which all associated with St Mary's can be justifiably proud.

Properties:

Church House

- The property is subject to a 49 year lease with B3 Living Housing Association, providing affordable accommodation to eight local families.
- The church receives an annual ground rent of £2000, which is to be reviewed after 5 years.
- The Diocesan Estates Department required clarification from B3 Living in respect of compliance with wording in the Deed of Variation, relating to the lease of Church House and concerning aspects of the building insurance. These have now been primarily addressed.
- A copy of the building redevelopment certification and report has finally been provided to the church and B3 Living, by Rumble Sedgwick, the Diocesan appointed building surveyors.
- Estimated value of the property is £2,000,000 approximately.

Curates House – 4 Goff's Lane

- The property continued to be let through Paul Wallace Estate Management. There has been a permanent tenant in the property since first being let, who has maintained the property in good condition.
- Rental income on the property is £1395 of which 10% + vat is paid to the management company.
- An insurance policy has been put in place to cover any potential loss of rental income.
- During the year a leak in the shower needed to be fixed and inspection, servicing and repair to the boiler was required.
- A monthly standing order for £125 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Church Property' to provide funds for any maintenance charges to the property.

Church Office (Portacabin)

- The property is in good general state of repair.
- At the start of the year the electrical supply was changed through the 'Parish Buying Scheme' to a new better value, provider.
- Limited use was made of the office because of the Corona Virus restrictions in place, with the church secretary working from home.

Main Church Building

- Work towards the development of the Baptistry area, as well work to enhance the ministry in other areas of the church, were put on hold due to the Corona Virus restrictions.
- There were no further developments towards major drainage work required on the church.

- Some work to comply with the Quinquennial Report was undertaken. A contractor cleared pine needles from the roof and drainage channels. The lightning conductor was inspected.
- Regular servicing of heating, fire extinguishers, roof alarm and Organ was undertaken as well as electrical testing.
- A monthly standing order is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Planned Major Maintenance'

New Parish Centre

- Land adjacent to the Vicarage will no longer be available to the church for the development of a new Parish Centre. Discussions with the Borough of Broxbourne on alternative options are currently on hold.

Current Financial Position:

Like many churches St Mary's continues to be in a challenging financial position. The generosity of the congregation past and present, has enabled the church to pay its Parish Share in full for a second consecutive year and maintain its finances in a reasonable state. The viability of the church depends entirely on growing the congregation and fund raising events. During the year it was regrettably not possible to undertake any significant fund raising in support of the church finances. New fund raising initiatives were introduced to enhance the potential for collecting church donations. It is hoped that going forward, these initiatives will help provide a valuable source of additional income for the church. The Financial Report 2020 provides full account of the church finances.

During the year while in lockdown the church paid retainer fees to the regular church organists and the cleaner. During periods when the church was able open but organ music was limited due to restrictions in place, a reduced fee was paid.

Outlook for 2021 and beyond:

The financial outlook for the church in 2021 remains challenging. It is intended to try to pay the Parish Share in full for the year. This will obviously put a strain on the church funds, but it is important that we endeavour to meet this commitment. Hopefully as COVID restrictions are reduced, the church will be able to resume a full timetable of church services and fund raising activities to the benefit of St Mary's.

While the church finances are supported by reserve funds, these are not finite. Once utilised, it will be difficult if not impossible to replenish these, requiring careful consideration of any future drawdown of funds.

The appointment of a Curate to the church commencing June 2021 means that the current tenant of 4a Goff's Lane, will be required to vacate the property by the end of April, to allow the new Curate and family to move

in. A consequence of having a Curate join the church is that the rental income on the property will be reduced. This reduction will be partially offset by the Diocese reducing the Parish Share contribution made by the church. The church will be liable for general expenses incurred by the Curate on a weekly basis, in fulfilling his Curacy role.

Finance Team:

During the year because of the COVID restrictions put in place, it was decided to devolve all aspects of church finances, into the meetings of the PCC. Full financial disclosure and reports were provided to the members of the PCC by the church treasurer at scheduled meetings.

Gratitude:

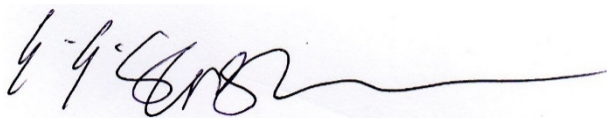
The PCC would like to express its thanks to members of the congregation that have despite the challenging times, managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Thanks also to the 'Friends of St Mary's' and the support they provide to the church.

The PCC would also like to express their sincere gratitude and thanks for the legacies bequeathed to the church by the late Alan Harmer and Patricia Smith. Thanks also to June Hendrickson for the significant donation made in memory of her sister Pamela and all other individual donations made by members of the congregation.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by

The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, Chair



.....Date...12th April 2021.....

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE

I report on the accounts of the PCC St Mary the Virgin, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 16 to 26 of this Annual Report.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (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;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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 PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters 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 respects 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

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE**

2. To which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen Sell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Stephen Sell FCCA

Dated 15th April 2021

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

MONEY IN	Note	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Church				
Planned Giving via Standing Order	}	8,715	8,715	
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme		1	29,265	29,265
Cash collections at regular services			2,121	2,121
Other cash collections		163	163	
Donations		6,111	6,111	
Sumup/Easy Fund Raising	2	331	331	
HMRC gift aid reclaimed	3	0	0	
Cash collections charity specific		235	0	235
Wedding & funeral fees income		7,746	7,746	
Church House				
Church House Ground Rent		2,000	2,000	
Curate's House				
4a Goff's Lane rental income		14,666	14,666	
General				
Fund raising	4	1,940	1,290	650
Fund raising charity specific	5	348	0	348
Parish Holiday		11,359	11,359	
Other receipts	6	50,189	50,189	
Banking				
Barclays reward		43	43	
Interest & Dividend	7	476	476	
Barclays Saver Interest		39	39	
CCLA Interest	8	262	126	136
CBF Interest	9	105	0	105
Total money in		136,114	134,640	1,369

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

MONEY OUT	Note	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted
		£	£	£
Church				
Parish Share	10	53,489	53,489	
Wedding & funeral fee payments	11	3,429	3,429	
Cost of organists at regular church services		1,530	1,530	
Other costs to run regular church services		692	692	
Clergy expenses		3,310	3,310	
Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	12	4,949	4,949	
Maintenance	13	2,719	2,719	
Church energy & water bills		3,705	3,705	
Payments to Charities	14	457	457	
Banking				
Barclays Commission		325	325	
Portacabin				
Portacabin energy & water bills		2,945	2,945	
General				
Admin & sundries		551	551	
Insurance	15	4,438	4,438	
Phone and Broadband		1,708	1,708	
Photocopier		1,164	1,164	
Parish Holiday		6,085	6,085	
Other payments	16	4,096	4,096	
		<u>95,591</u>	<u>95,591</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>95,591</u>	<u>95,591</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>95,591</u>	<u>95,591</u>	<u>0</u>
SURPLUS		40,523	39,048	1,369

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
COMPARISON OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS WITH PRIOR YEARS**

MONEY IN	2018	2019	2020	Difference 2020 & 2019	
	£			£	%
Church					
Planned Giving via Standing Order	11,230	8,945	8,715	}	
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	27,086	26,984	29,265		
Cash collections at regular services	5,430	6,177	2,121		
Other cash collections	2,308	3,121	163	-2,958	-95%
Donations	3,904	10,674	6,111	-4,563	-43%
SumUp/Easy Fund Raising			331		
HMRC gift aid reclaimed	1,838	5,254	-	-5,254	-100%
Cash collections charity specific	323	943	235	-708	-75%
Wedding & funeral fees income	13,901	14,555	7,746	-6,809	-47%
Church House					
Church House Ground Rent		2,000	2,000	0	0%
Curate's House					
4a Goff's Lane rental income	4,555	14,336	14,666	330	2%
General					
Fund raising	1,506	6,995	1,940	-5,055	-72%
Fund raising charity specific	983	136	348	212	156%
Grants	8,378	3,000	-	-3,000	-100%
Parish Holiday	20,725	14,257	11,359	-2,898	-20%
Other receipts	2,979	12,948	50,189	37,241	288%
Banking					
Barclays Gen & Fees Reward		102	43	-59	-58%
Interest & Dividend	911	1,022	882	-140	-14%
<i>Total money in</i>	<u>106,057</u>	<u>131,450</u>	<u>136,114</u>	<u>4,532</u>	<u>3%</u>
MONEY OUT					
Church					
Parish Share	18,436	53,814	53,489	-325	-1%
Wedding & funeral fee payments	7,492	9,228	3,429	-5,799	-63%
Cost of organists at regular church services	3,420	3,180	1,530	-1,650	-52%
Other costs to run regular church services	490	779	692	-87	-11%
Clergy expenses	1,630	3,567	3,310	-257	-7%
Church Refurbishment		11,955	-	-11,955	-100%
Maintenance	5,044	10,820	2,515	-8,305	-77%
Church energy & water bills	4,972	6,158	3,705	-2,453	-40%
Organ expenditure	388	398	204	-194	-49%
Payments to Charities	1,055	694	457	-237	-34%
Salaries, Wages, Honoraria		6,544	4,949	-1,595	-24%
Banking					
Barclays Gen & Fees Commission		512	325	-187	-37%
Portacabin					
Portacabin energy, water & other costs	12,390	860	2,945	2,085	343%
General					
Independent Examiner	60	100	100	0	100%
Admin & sundries	8,846	1,919	551	-1,368	29%
Insurance	5,295	4,646	4,438	-208	96%
Photocopier		1,368	1,164	-204	85%
Phone & Broadband			1,708	1,708	
Parish Holiday	21,396	15,125	6,085	-9,040	40%
Other payments	22,138	7,717	3,995	-3,722	52%
<i>Total money out</i>	<u>113,052</u>	<u>139,384</u>	<u>95,591</u>	<u>- 43,793</u>	
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-6,995	-7,935	40,523	48,325	

PCC OF ST MARY, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	<u>Opening balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Closing balance</u>
Barclays Unrestricted Income Funds					
General	1,000	116,599	86,005	-30,594	1,000
Weddings & Funeral Fees	500	7,750	3,501	-4,249	500
Parish Holiday (HSBC)	1,060	11,315	6,085	-5,500	790
Saver	24,782	39	0	31,804	56,625
<i>Totals</i>	<u>27,341</u>	<u>135,703</u>	<u>95,591</u>	<u>-8,538</u>	<u>58,915</u>
CCLA Unrestricted Designated Funds					
General	9,321	40	0	0	9,361
Planned Major Maintenance	17,147	75	0	1,200	18,421
Parish Holiday	6,868	44	0	5,500	12,412
<i>Totals</i>	<u>33,336</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,700</u>	<u>40,194</u>
CCLA Restricted Income Funds					
St Mary's Parish Centre	22,160	95	0	350	22,606
Special Funds	1,990	20	0	0	2,010
Youth	1,989	8	0	0	1,998
Belfry	3,091	13	0	0	3,104
Organ	366	2	0	0	367
Church Property	1,254	8	0	1,500	2,762
Junior Church	382	2	0	0	384
St Albans DBF managed Restricted Deposit Fund					
156 Churchgate Sale Proceeds	24,750	105	0	0	24,855
<i>Totals</i>	<u>55,982</u>	<u>253</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,850</u>	<u>58,085</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>116,659</u>	<u>136,114</u>	<u>95,591</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>157,194</u>
St Albans DBF managed Endowment Funds					
Church Chancel Fund	2372	71	0	71	2535
Church Fabric Fund	13484	405	0	405	14415
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>15,855</u>	<u>476</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>476</u>	<u>16,950</u>

PCC OF ST MARY, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Unrestricted funds are General, Fee and Saver, which are all used for the general running of the Parish. One Parish holiday fund is unrestricted and the other is restricted. Both are used for working capital for the annual holiday. Designated funds are the Deposit used for general reserves and the Planned Periodic Major Maintenance for major maintenance work. Restricted income funds are the New Parish Centre fund (formerly the Church House Refurbishment fund), the Special fund originally for expenditure mainly on altar front and nave altar, the Youth fund for capital spend on equipment and rooms, the Belfry fund for major work on the bells, and the Organ fund for engineering work on the organ.

Most restricted income has already been transferred to the appropriate restricted fund during 2020. The notes on pages 16 to 20 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 08 March 2021

And signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Angela Corlett (PCC Lay Co Chair / Churchwarden)



Mrs Victoria Clarke (Church warden)

Accounting basis and procedures

St Mary's 2020 accounts have once again been produced on a Receipts and Payments basis, which is permitted for charities with an annual turnover less than £250,000. It should be noted that this accounting method only records the actual bank transactions in the calendar year and the bank balance at the end of the year. A deficit does not mean an overdraft.

Excel spreadsheets have been used to record online banking transactions, which are then reconciled with invoices, cheque stubs and weekly cash income records. The Data Developments system 'MyGiving.online' is used to claim gift aid from HMRC.

RECEIPTS

Income overall was up £4664 compared with 2019 largely due to a generous legacies left to the church by Alan Harmer and Pat Smith and a significant donation made by J. Hendrickson, as well as other donations made by members of the congregation. The Corona Virus pandemic has had a significant impact on the church revenue streams during the year, including wedding fees and fund raising activities, with receipts well below what might have been anticipated in a normal year.

1. Planned giving

Thanks go to all the congregation members that despite the challenging times, have managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

2. SumUp/Easy Fund Raising

During the year, as a means of increasing potential financial contributions to the church funds, the church signed up to two new fund raising schemes. In general society is moving towards a cashless society and it was important that the church did not lose out on potential donations that might otherwise be made at church services and online. Accordingly the church purchased a SumUp card reader which allows donations to be made by card. Easy Fund Raising allows donations to the church to be made through a link on the church web page, within the 'A Church Near You' web portal and also via a link on the church Facebook page.

3. HMRC gift aid

Gift Aid for the year remains to be claimed during 2021.

4. Fund Raising

Despite the difficult circumstances some limited fund raising continued and thanks go to those individuals that organised and supported this effort.

5. Fund Raising Charity Specific

The church was able to undertake collections to support the 'Bishops Harvest Appeal' and 'Crisis at Christmas'.

6. Other receipts

Candle Stand	£262
Parish Breakfast	£175
Thursday Refreshments	£80
Wall Safe	£51
Miscellaneous:	
Insurance claim	£82
J. Hendrickson	£10,000 <i>Donation</i>
Christ Church PCC	£286 <i>Funeral Fee</i>
CAF	£25
P. Smith	£3500 <i>Legacy</i>
A. Harmer	£33,825 <i>Legacy</i>

7. Interest and Dividend

CBF Accounts Fabric & Chancel	£476
Interest Total	

8. CCLA Interest

CCLA Accounts Interest Total	£262
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9. CBF Interest

CBF Account Interest Total	£105
Sale proceeds 156 Churchgate	

PAYMENTS

10. Parish share

The church paid the Parish Share in full for 2020, a truly wonderful achievement. This is the second consecutive year that the Parish Share has been paid in full. Unpaid Parish Share from previous years remains at £89,018.

11. Wedding & Funeral Fee Payments

These fees include payments to Organist, Verger and Bell Ringers as well as Parochial Fees paid to the Diocese.

Organist, Verger, Bell Ringer Fees	£574
Parochial Fees	£2855

12. Salaries, Wages and Honoraria

There were no payments made to PCC members as salaries. Any payments made would only be to reimburse costs incurred by them in the first instance, upon expenses for the running of the church and associated activities. Service on the PCC is voluntary. Paid staff costs are summarised as follows:

- a) Cleaner: £616 fee paid to Mrs F. Metin
- b) Church Administrator: £4,333 salary paid to Mrs C Lee.

13. Maintenance

R & P Gibbs	£160	PAT testing
J. Scott & Sons	£594	Servicing church heaters
C.J.Jilks	£205	Servicing Organ
Herts CC	£43	Cleaning products
Barnett Locks	£968	Relpacing lock and servicing safes
D. Sullivan	£750	Work to clear roof debris

14. Payments to Charities

Payments to charities comprised:

Crisis at Christmas	£300
Bishop of Hertford's Harvest Appeal	£157

15. Insurance

The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group provide all our insurance via a group scheme policy and our policies provide the following cover:

- Church buildings £11,710,000 and contents £140,000
- Organ £500,000
- Curate's House £162,000
- Letting rental income protection £16,800
- Also covered are public and employers' liability for Incumbent, churchwardens, PCC members, many organised church activities

16. Other payments

Other payments include the following:

Roof Alarm	£739	
Fire Protection	£337	
Independent Examiner	£100	
Miscellaneous payments:		
Beds & Herts H.C.T.	£40	
R.S.C.M.	£107	
Churches Together	£65	
M. Cooper	£50	Organist leaving gift
Signs of Cheshire	£1308	New church sign
Ben Hunter	£1025	Plumbing at 4 Goff's Lane
Reimbursements	£324	Payments to individuals

MONETARY ASSETS

17. Current accounts

The Barclays General Account is used to manage all church receipts and payments other than wedding and funeral fees and payments. The Fees Account with Barclays, is used to manage all wedding and funeral fees and payments. Both accounts are automatically linked to the Barclays Saver account to keep a working balance at the end of each day. The Parish Holiday Account is with HSBC.

18. Saver Account

This is a Barclays Account, which receives money automatically transferring from the Barclays General and Fees Accounts to leave a working balance in each account and earns a small amount of interest.

19. CBF Church of England Deposit Funds (CCLA)

Standing Orders with Barclays are used to deposit £125 monthly into the Church Property Account to fund potential maintenance and repair costs. A further £100 is deposited monthly into the Periodic Planned Major Maintenance Account.

20. Endowment Funds

The Chancel Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment; this arose from the Tithe Redemption Commission in the 1940s to enable landowners with a liability for chancel insurance and repair to discharge their liability in a one-off payment. The restricted income is to be used towards the cost of insuring the chancel or towards the maintenance and repair of the chancel, church and churchyard. It is applied to the repair of the St Mary's church fabric through a restricted fund. In 2020, total dividend income was £71 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

PCC OF ST MARY, CHESHUNT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Fabric Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment established by deed on 27 April 1932. The designated income is to be applied to the upkeep, repair or maintenance of the fabric of St Mary's church through a designated fund, unless an alternative use is authorised by the Archdeacon of Hertford. In 2020, total dividend income was £405 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

Following the purchase of 4a Goff's Lane the residue money from the sale of 156 Churchgate was invested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in a CBF Deposit Fund which is restricted. The trusts contained in the original conveyance provide that "until applied (for furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish) they (the net proceeds) shall be invested by the Board and the income thereof shall be applied by the (PCC) for the like purposes. In 2020, total dividend income was £106.

The Doreen Nicholls Fund investment represents an Endowment established by gift in memory of the late Mrs Doreen Nicholls whereby the restricted income is to be used for books or music for worship in St Mary's church. The PCC decided that due to the low amount of interest earned, the monies in this account would be better utilised in purchasing new hymn books and reprinting Orders of Service for the church. It was therefore agreed to permanently close the account. Proceeds of £1453 were received.

OTHER ASSETS

21. Freehold properties

In 2016 Church House was leased to B3Living for 49 years and redeveloped into eight flats for community use. The first tenants moved into during June 2019 and the flats are now fully occupied. A ground rent of £2000 is paid annually to the church, which will be reviewed after a period of five years. The current estimated value of the property is approximately £2,000,000.

In 2018 a new more modern curate's house, 4a Goff's Lane, was purchased and let from September 2018, until such time as it is required as accommodation for a curate. Monthly rental income of £1395 from the property provides a much needed source of income for the church. The property is managed by Paul Wallace Letting Agents, who charge 10% management fee. The current estimated value of the property is £400,000.

OTHER NOTES

22. Other Charities

Not under the control of the PCC and therefore omitted from the accounts is The Cheshunt Parish Charities. These charities are traditionally known as “The Churchwardens’ Charities”. The incumbent and churchwardens are trustees and their Annual Report and Accounts are available on request. The objects of the charities, some of which are ancient, are to support specific educational causes and those suffering hardship.

The Friends of St Marys is a separate registered charity which raises money for the upkeep and improvement of the church building.