

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
HOLY TRINITY BROADSTAIRS**

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**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
HOLY TRINITY BROADSTAIRS**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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Charity registration No 1134846

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2024

Holy Trinity is the Parish Church for Broadstairs and is situated on Nelson Place Broadstairs. It is part of the Diocese of Canterbury.

PCC Members from 1st January 2024 until 31st December 2024:

Mrs Elizabeth Baker	Churchwarden (until APCM 2024)
Ms Victoria Gregory	Churchwarden (until APCM 2024)
Mr Alex Borg	Churchwarden (from APCM 2024)
Mrs Susan Murphy	Churchwarden (from APCM 2024)
Mr John A Barrett	Treasurer & PCC member
Mrs Frances Lowden	Secretary
Mr John E Barrett	Deanery Synod member
Mrs Sally Stephenson	Deanery Synod member
Mrs Charlotte Bell	(from APCM 2023)
Mr Michael Baker	(from APCM 2022)
Mrs Valerie Bough	(Co-opted from APCM 2024)
Mr Robin Colyer	(from APCM 2023)
Mrs Linda Curtis	(from APCM 2024)
Mr John McGlade	(from APCM 2024)
Mrs Julia Evans	(until APCM 2024)
Mr Brendan Martin	(from APCM 2024)
Mr Peter Murphy	(from APCM 2024)
Mr Geoffrey Norris	(from APCM 2022)
Mrs Mary Richardson	(from APCM 2023)

Aims and purposes

Holy Trinity PCC works in co-operation with the Incumbent in promoting the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical mission of the Church. The Reverend Dominic Fenton took up his post as Priest-in-Charge in 2016, was made Rector in 2018 and has been fully engaged with the aims and objectives of the Parish throughout 2024. There is a Sung Eucharist every Sunday morning, and weekday said masses take place at noon on Wednesdays and Fridays. Following Fr Dominic's announcement in December 2024 of his resignation to take up another post in Shoreham-by-Sea, the Parish will move into interregnum early in 2025.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At Holy Trinity, the PCC consists of the Incumbent, the two Churchwardens, three Deanery Synod members and members elected by those of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Church. Members are elected for three years, and at the last APCM it was agreed that the rule stating that members could not serve successive terms was repealed. Members can now stand again directly after their 3-year term concludes. The PCC meets a minimum of six times a year.

There are 153 members on the Church Electoral Roll. The average Sunday attendance in 2024 (including those under 16) was 77 and this is augmented by good attendance at the major Festivals of Christmas and Easter.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to building on the pattern of Sunday worship already established, and to developing new ideas for special services. A new monthly evening event, Sunday @ 6, has begun with different speakers and more are booked for the coming year.

We aim to be an inclusive and welcoming community and to enable ordinary people to discover and live out the Christian faith through:

- Sacramental worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel and developing trust in Jesus Christ.
- Provision of pastoral care for members of the congregation and for all those living or working in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.
- A coffee morning is held on Wednesday and the church is open for crafts to take place during the afternoon.

Additionally, we have signed up to the 'Inclusive Church Initiative' and are members of the 'Save the Parish' organisation.

We are committed to maintaining and preserving our historic buildings and in 2024 part of the floor in the church which had collapsed was repaired and strengthened. The roof over the organ loft and part of the south aisle roof were repaired where there had been water ingress, and the gutters were cleaned.

We were granted a faculty for a new nave altar in memory of Michael Dickens, and this was dedicated on Easter Sunday.

A quinquennial report completed by our Architect in October 2023 showed that there were no major works to be undertaken, and nothing major has come to light since.

The monthly Saturday Shop has expanded from a small event held in the hall to become a larger Saturday Market held in the church. The hours are longer, lunches are served and the number of craft stalls that take part has grown to maximum capacity. The regular stalls run by members of the congregation are also popular and the event now regularly provides over £1000 per month to our funds.

Holy Trinity complies with the requirements of the Church of England with respect to good safeguarding practice. Persons who have been identified as needing training have completed courses run by the Diocese and this is monitored by our Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Achievements and Performance

The PCC is committed to enabling the Church to be open as often as possible, and to welcoming local people and visitors to share in worship both on Sundays and during the week. The Wednesday coffee mornings have expanded and now regularly welcome over 25 people each week.

There has been extensive engagement with the congregation and wider community. The parish office is open in the mornings from Tuesday to Friday and is manned by a volunteer administrator. We have an answerphone and an e-mail address and both of these are checked regularly outside of office hours. Our website is updated regularly and all services and events are advertised there. A weekly on-line newsletter was launched and many people outside of the congregation have signed up to receive it. A quarterly paper magazine has been re-started and 2 editions were published in 2024.

Giving by members of the congregation has held up very well and more givers have changed from cash in envelopes to standing orders. We have signed up to the Parish Giving Scheme and members of the congregation are actively encouraged to join this scheme. The church now has a number of card reading machines and these are enabling us to accept payments by credit or debit card. These are helping us to increase donations from the wider community, especially at special services and events.

Unfortunately, despite several attempts, the Junior Church has not resumed regular meetings, but former members are kept informed of church activities and we are hopeful that this will be able to restart in the future.

There is a faithful and growing choir and serving team.

The church was open for the Ride and Stride event in September and several members of the congregation took part and were sponsored.

Regular maintenance to church buildings had been carried out including works to the hall.

Deanery Synod

Three members of our PCC sit on the Deanery Synod - providing the PCC with an important link with the Diocese and the wider church.

Church Hall

Our hall is open to our community and activities continue to take place throughout the week. Stone Bay Montessori Nursery is using the hall during the day in term time and other groups including Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and other hirers are also using the facility. An increasing number of groups are also wanting to hire the church for concerts.

Mission and Evangelism

The website, holytrinitybroadstairs.com, has been expanded to provide up-to-date information and background to our church and its services and activities. Our weekly pew sheet also disseminates information and is available all week for those who visit our church outside of the Sunday service. A new policy on Mission giving was put into place during 2023 and we now donate 5% of our income (excluding fees and legacies) to charities, both local, national and international, which are nominated by a committee. Financial details of these can be found below in the Finance section of this report.

Ecumenical Relationships

We are members of the Churches Together in Broadstairs and St Peter's. Fr Dominic and a lay representative regularly attend meetings and we take part in joint activities such as the Good Friday 'Walk of Witness' and carol singing at Christmas.

Finance Report

Total income for the year was £148,119 (2023: £175,017) and total spending for the year was £151,066 (2023: £165,645) resulting in a deficit of just £2,947, against a budgeted deficit at the beginning of the year of £33,097 which means we had a better year financially than planned.

As with most years, that is largely down to the unbudgeted, unexpected, and generous legacy gifts we received; £20,000 from the estate of Caroline Boydell, adding to the £30,000 that Caroline's estate paid to Holy Trinity in 2023, all restricted to the upkeep of the building; £15,000 from Ted Keeping to be spent on the enhancement of the wooden floors in the church; and £100 from the estate of Michael Field.

Fundraising continued to generate much needed income, particularly the success of the Saturday Markets, raising £14,387 over the year (2023: £13,498). Other fundraising events didn't perform as well as the previous year but combined with income from our social events still generated £5,988 (2023: £10,792). Other notable mentions are the £968 raised by Val's raffle and the steady increase in donations made on the various card readers around church, including the dedicated card reader by the votive candle stand. The increase in cashless giving understandably results in a slight drop in physical cash given via the weekly collection plate (£4,991 in 2024 compared to £6,012 in 2023) but planned giving via standing order, envelopes and the continued success after our launch of the Parish Giving Scheme in 2023 grew £2,107 to £32,443 (2023: £30,336) a response from the congregation's understanding of the importance of their regular financial support.

Income from our hall, and especially our Montessori tenants remain an important source of income, despite a small drop on the year (£17,603 in 2024 compared to £17,977 in 2023). The autumn return of our church magazine made a small yet welcome contribution on top of the enjoyment it gave to readers, while dividends of £9,607 (2023: £9,062) from our investments in our CCLA managed CBF Church of England Investment Fund, and £9,412 from the Gift Aid and GASDS schemes (2023: £9,366) completes our diversified mix of income.

A budgeting error resulted in our parish share being underpaid by 0.8% (this balance has since been paid) contributing a total of £90,101 of our £90,791 quota, or put another way, 61% of all income raised in 2024. Our commitment to the parish share continues to put an enormous and disproportionate (compared to other churches with a similar quota) strain on our finances, fundraising and reserves, but the PCC and congregation continues to put great efforts into meeting our quota so that we may ensure full time ministry at Holy Trinity for future generations.

Our charitable work remains strong, donating £6,681 in total in 2024. In continuation of our mission statement, Holy Trinity gave 5% of its budgeted income to carefully selected organisations of local, national and international reach, resulting in an even distribution of £5,400 to Christian Solidarity Worldwide, the GAP project in Broadstairs, Mother's Union, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Oasis Women's Refuge, Mission to Seafarers, Pavilion Community Cafe, Toilet Twinning and Porchlight. Special collections were made for Christian Aid, Thanet Food Link, Children's Society, the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem's Good Friday Appeal and The Friends of Kent Churches via the annual sponsored Ride & Stride contributing another £1,281 to good causes.

The repairs and maintenance budget was well controlled in 2024 (£5,193 compared to £17,432 in 2023) which is often a keen indicator of a church's financial health in any given year, with no major repairs or investments required other than general day-to-day.

The final expenditure of note was the purchase of a new altar, funded from the legacy of Michael Dickens whose generosity continues to benefit Holy Trinity in life and death.

The value of our investments at the end of 2024 fell to £338,509 from £360,486 but that's largely explained by our sale of £30,000 worth of shares at a cost of £29,552 – which explains the £448 gain in investment income - to cover a couple of parish share payments and to plug a cash flow hole in the Spring of 2024, rather than due to a poor performing year in the markets. Our total shareholding in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund at the end of 2024 was 14,640 (2023: 15,947).

All in all, another positive year, however we still rely on legacies (old and new) to cover our running costs, and although the PCC has pursued and utilises most fundraising and income generating opportunities available to them, optimism runs high and ideas are in no short supply to achieve our goal of becoming self-sustaining in the not too distant future to ensure we protect our reserves for what they are intended (dividends, future investment and rainy days) and remain able to pay our forever increasing parish share and continue providing mission in the parish of Broadstairs.

F Lowden
PCC Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF
HOLY TRINITY BROADSTAIRS**

CHARITY NUMBER 1134846

Independent examiner's report to the trustees

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The members of the PCC 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 accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.



Richard Phillpott

Spurling Cannon
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Ramsgate
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CT12 6SJ

Holy Trinity Church Broadstairs

As at December 31st 2024

	2024		2023	
Income				
Income Resources				
Plate	4,991		6,012	
Regular giving	32,443		30,336	
Income Tax recovery	9,412		9,366	
Donations	<u>6,404</u>	53,250	<u>10,928</u>	56,642
General Funds				
Books & Candles	1,824		948	
Magazine	342		0	
Fees to CDBF	3,599		3,455	
Hall Hire	17,603		17,977	
Church Hire	1,190		3,020	
Markets	14,837		13,498	
Fundraising	<u>6,957</u>	46,352	<u>16,528</u>	55,426
Investment Income				
Dividends from CCLA	9,607		9,062	
Realised Gain on Sale	<u>448</u>	10,055	<u>0</u>	9,062
Miscellaneous				
VAT Refund	0		5,701	
Appeals	3,304		2,187	
Interest	58		54	
Legacies	35,100		45,108	
Misc.	<u>0</u>	38,462	<u>837</u>	53,887
		<u>148,119</u>		<u>175,017</u>

Expenditure

	2024		2023	
Ministry Expenditure				
Parish Share	90,101		88,585	
Rectors Expenses	<u>1,123</u>	91,224	<u>1,194</u>	89,779
Church Running Expenses				
Running Costs & Sanctuary	6,636		4,931	
Gas, Electric & Water	6,688		7,767	
Insurance	8,914		8,548	
Wages - Hall cleaner	0		270	
Repairs & Renewals	<u>5,193</u>	27,431	<u>17,432</u>	38,948
Organ repairs		5,931		1,054
Trading Costs				
Hall Costs	600		4,065	
Magazine	<u>330</u>	930	<u>0</u>	4,065
Salaries & Support				
Organist & Choir		10,098		10,916
Fundraising & Social				
General Fundraising		2,154		7,468
Administration				
General Administration	2,750		4,505	
Fees to CDBF	<u>639</u>	3,389	<u>1,268</u>	5,773
Miscellaneous				
Independent Examination	840		720	
Bank Charges	60		60	
Mission & Appeals	6,681		6,832	
New Altar	2,328		0	
Other	<u>0</u>	9,909	<u>30</u>	7,642
		<u>151,066</u>		<u>165,645</u>

Holy Trinity Church, Broadstairs

Year Ended 31st December 2024

	Share Holding	2024	2023
CCLA Investment Management Ltd			
Restricted Funds	1,423.52	32,916	32,179
General Funds	13,216.16	305,593	328,307
	<u>14,639.68</u>	<u>338,509</u>	<u>360,486</u>
Cash Funds			
CAF Cash Account		9,145	12,465
CAF Reserves Account		<u>29,924</u>	<u>0</u>
		39,069	12,465
Total cash assets		377,578	372,951
Funds			
Restricted			
Building Upkeep Fund		50,000	30,000
Floor Enhancement Fund		<u>15,000</u>	<u>0</u>
		65,000	30000
Unrestricted			
General funds		312,578	342,951
Total assets		<u>377,578</u>	<u>372,951</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 14th May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Borg'.

Alex Borg, Churchwarden

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Murphy'.

Sue Murphy, Churchwarden