

Parish Church of St Lawrence, Frodingham

Registered Charity Number 1135445

Final Accounts

**for the year ended
31 December 2023**

PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM

Annual report for the year ended 31 December 2023

Background

St Lawrence's remains as part of the Benefice of Frodingham and New Brumby which means we continue to work together with All Saints parish. We remain a part of Churches Together in North Lincolnshire, which is formed by drawing from the denominations in North Lincolnshire. As part of the Diocese of Lincoln's Time for Change Together program (TTCT) we are to be part of the North Manlake Local Mission Partnership.

PCC Membership

The PCC has specific responsibilities for the church buildings and the church hall and its members are either ex officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. At present the PCC has 11 lay members and 8 ex officio members (19 in total).

Committees

The PCC usually meets 6 times a year in normal circumstances but only met 5 times in the past year. The Standing Committee also meets 6 times a year prior to the PCC meetings and is responsible for setting the agenda for meetings of the Council, obviously this only met 5 times in 2023. The Working Groups responsible to the PCC: Mission and Ministry, Finance and Stewardship, Social and Fundraising, and Fabric. Alongside the Standing Committee they are also responsible for the conduct of all PCC business between meetings.

Review of the Year

St Lawrence's was open all year for services and we have hosted events again, however, the fear post the pandemic remains an understandable factor and has kept many of our older congregants away and has meant that we have had to work hard to establish events that people are comfortable attending. We have maintained Evening Prayer via Zoom on every Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the year and this has continued to attract a steady interest and following. Zoom has continued to be a means of communication, social gathering and worship as well as a means of holding meetings too although less so than before. We have also continued doing almost daily blogs to keep folks in touch, to offer Spiritual advice and support, and to celebrate the Saints and Holy days. These have continued to prove quite popular and hopefully useful too. Baptisms and Weddings were conducted in Church although the numbers coming forward for Weddings has slipped massively due to the rising costs and the cost-of-living crisis. In December, we hosted the St Lawrence Academy for their Christmas Services again as well as hosting Bushfields Infant School, the Hospital and the Christmas service for St Hugh's Special School. It was a joy to host 9 Lessons and Carols in Church and our Christingle service was a massive success and extremely well attended. We also hosted Midnight Mass which again was well attended and appreciated.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM

Annual report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

Our finances have continued to struggle again this year as it has been difficult to maintain regular giving apart from those who give directly to the Bank but, as always, we have been well supported and looked after by our Treasurer, Christine Hall and the Planned Giving officer Angela Sturman who, after the sad death of Michael Cropper has become our Stewardship Officer looking after the Gift Aid claims. We have purchased two Sum-Up machines – one for the office and one for church – which have enabled people to pay for weddings and hall hire electronically and people to give that way too. This has been successful and has seen an increase in giving at the occasional offices and bigger occasions too.

Our AGM and APCM were held in May. We continue to consider how to deal with the thorny issue of drainage around the Church. We are, as ever, grateful to John Veall who has worked hard to do many essential maintenance works in and around the Church and the Hall. We are also grateful to Steven Kelsey for revamping the notice board in the hall grounds. The hedges on the perimeter of the hall grounds have had a much-needed trim and reshaping, and the area at the rear of the church was also cleared and looks so much better as a result.

Finally, we have a new Assistant Curate, Revd Robert (Bob) Frew who joined us in June, and he and his family have settled in really well. Revd Julie Miles completed her training with us in June and was relicensed to the Benefice by Bishop David in June. She continued to work full time at the St Lawrence's Academy as well as supporting and enhancing our ministry here. Part of that ministry was to start a very successful Youth Emmaus course which has seen 7 youngsters grow in faith supported by a small army of adults. Keith Farmery continues to blossom and grow in his ministry amongst us, which is much appreciated by congregations in Church and at Randolph Care Home especially. As Vicar I have continued the Reconciling Mission which is starting to produce fruit in our local setting.

Another busy year!

Seasonal and special services

Our pattern of seasonal and special services has continued: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Ascension Day and Corpus Christi were all shared with our sisters and brothers at All Saints Church. On Ascension Day we hosted the Deanery Service which was a great occasion and was well attended.

Links across the Parish

The Men's Breakfast continues and this year the venue was shared between All Saints and St Lawrence's; it continues to encourage men from both congregations and a few visitors from outside the congregations. The Benefice also started a Knit and Natter group, again sharing the venue between the two churches, which has proved successful and is enjoyed by many from within and without the congregations as well as helping support other charities and organisations with its produce. The Soup and Sandwich lunch for those affected by the cost-of-living crisis morphed into a Coffee and Chat group on Thursday which, again, has been successful. We have been able to host several Afternoon teas, lunches as well as the Harvest Supper and New Year lunch too. Our Summer Fayre saw us joined by the local Fire Service and the Winter Fayre saw us joined, once again, by Santa Claus.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM

Annual report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

Links with schools and uniformed organisations

I remain Chair of the Local Board of Trustees at St Lawrence's Academy as it moves towards becoming a multi Academy Trust, and Jane Holmes is Vice Chair of the Local Board too. We continue to offer support and I have recorded several addresses for their reflections which are held in tutor time and hosted their Christmas Services. Revd Julie continues in her Chaplaincy role at the Academy as well as her teaching role. The Academy had its Ofsted inspection in 2023 which was not a positive experience and we also saw the Head Teacher, Phil Dalowsky, move on to pastures new. The Interim Head, Matt Hire, has been a breath of fresh air and there is a new energy and direction that is really positive. We look to appoint a new full-time Head this year. I took the Christmas Service for Christmas at St Hugh's Special School and also took Harvest and Christingle services for Bushfield Infants too. We also had visits to and from Frodingham Infants and Scunthorpe C of E too.

GFS continues its good link and they are now up and running as normal. We have also reopened up links with our local Brownies and Guides which meet in the Hall and hope we can build on this, which is a massive positive.

Pastoral Care

We have restarted Home Communion and a tranche of Pastoral visiting as well as maintaining our care of the bereaved and the housebound. Keith's visits to Randolph House have proved positive and enjoyed by the residents and appreciated by the staff too. We also have restarted visiting those in hospital too but remain indebted to the Chaplaincy for their excellent all round care.

Looking to the future

We continue to rethink and reimagine how we do mission and how we can be more involved and active within our local communities; meetings and training to do this are ongoing. We have had links with new folks and with the wider community that we will build on moving forwards. As our Diocese looks at new ways of being a church we know that our strong links with our fellow Anglican Churches in Scunthorpe and the Deanery will remain important and are things we need to keep building upon. Our links and work with Churches Together in North Lincolnshire are a means of supporting, helping and working with those in need in our community. We will also look at ways of working ever closer with All Saints and continue to worship together where possible, and share socially and in terms of ministry together. We have seen several new people join our congregation in recent times, some virtually and some in person, so there are some positive signs of new life.

Bob has settled in well and is, obviously, enjoying his training experience with us. He has brought joy, humour and some excellent pastoral sensitivity which have enhanced our ministry.

Julie has, currently, reduced her Sunday working with us but has brought an injection of interest and passion to our work with young adults and teenagers. Her pastoral heart has seen her involved in our care and support of many folk in the past year.

Keith Farmery's ministry is growing and will continue to grow amongst us. His organisation of the lay lead services, alongside Judith Barrow and Richard Hollingsworth (who sadly died at the end of this year), shows some of the many gifts he can bring to our churches mission and ministry.

Lisa Miller remains the first contact for the Parish in the office and continues to field many enquiries concerning weddings, baptisms and funerals for us. She has had to be a listening ear to wedding couples and baptism families. We are deeply indebted to her for her hard work, her efforts and care.

Whilst the short and medium term picture is unclear the future is still bright! The ministry and growth of Bob, Julie and Keith in their roles amongst us has been a shared blessing and joy. It remains my privilege to be your Vicar.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM**

I report to the PCC members on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 5 to 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

John Heeney BA (Hons) FCA
RNS Chartered Accountants

50-54 Oswald Road
Scunthorpe DN15 7PQ

3 May 2024

PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM**Receipts and Payments on General Account for the year ended
31 December 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<u>Notes</u>		
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Voluntary Contributions:		
Planned Giving	27,475.32	29,429.23
Tax Recovered from Gift Aid	7,320.23	5,561.91
Plated Collections	4,052.34	4,480.90
	38,847.89	39,472.04
1 Other Collections	15,940.53	50,702.01
2 Church Fees	5,053.80	9,092.63
3 Gifts, Donations and Bequests	3,246.67	7,476.56
Parish Hall Fees	5,720.49	2,695.00
4 Special Fund Raising	7,240.12	7,686.55
5 Parish Office Charge	148.00	237.68
6 Church Heating Fee	350.00	300.00
Clergy Travel Expenses	32.85	103.33
Current Account Interest	1,049.95	87.57
Tea Money	617.76	499.00
Sundry	-	1.00
	78,248.06	118,353.37
Opening Balance	88,640.11	41,048.37
	£166,888.17	£159,401.74

PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM**Receipts and Payments on General Account for the year ended
31 December 2023**

<u>Notes</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
7 Maintenance of Church	18,258.11	11,163.12
8 Church Requisites	1,427.76	898.34
9 Church Fees	2,836.76	4,492.35
10 Maintenance of Parish Hall	9,356.04	6,247.08
11 Clergy Expenses	1,345.75	1,070.33
Parish Share	35,511.00	35,510.76
12 Special Fund Raising	221.32	172.44
13 Parish Office and Administration Expenses	12,457.05	8,826.54
14 Mission and Charity Payments	1,608.76	2,069.71
15 Miscellaneous	82.47	310.96
	83,105.02	70,761.63
Closing Balance	83,783.15	88,640.11
	£166,888.17	£159,401.74

PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM**Notes to the accounts for the year ended
31 December 2023****Notes****1 Other Collections**

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals	2,200.53
Gift Aided Donations	740.00
Legacies	13,000.00
	<u>£15,940.53</u>

2 Church Fees

Wedding Deposits and Instalments	2,352.30
PCC Fees	1,447.00
Organist Fees	800.00
Vicar Fees	14.50
Vergers Fees	440.00
	<u>£5,053.80</u>

3 Gifts, Donations and Bequests

General	3,246.67
	<u>£3,246.67</u>

4 Special Fund Raising

Annual Charity	600.00
Special Parish Collections	720.76
Special Parish Events	3,816.12
Summer Fair	997.40
Winter Fair	939.27
Small Fund Raising	166.57
	<u>£7,240.12</u>

5 Parish Office Charge

Printing and Stationery Recharge	148.00
	<u>£148.00</u>

6 Church Heating Fee

Church Heating Fee	350.00
	<u>£350.00</u>

PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM**Notes to the accounts for the year ended
31 December 2023****Notes****7 Maintenance of Church**

Music	1,727.00
Gas	4,163.29
Electricity	3,584.00
Water	335.02
Insurance	5,178.84
Fire Equipment	81.98
General Repairs	693.98
Specific Repairs	2,404.00
Burglar Alarm	90.00
	£18,258.11

8 Church Requisites

Altar Requirements	548.07
Music Copyright Licence	462.28
Childrens Work	8.76
Charity Funeral Payments	408.65
	£1,427.76

9 Church Fees

Fees to Diocese	916.00
Organist	915.00
Verger	680.00
Bells	90.00
Flowers	80.00
Video	5.76
Choir	150.00
	£2,836.76

10 Maintenance of Parish Hall

Gas	2,735.78
Electricity	1,188.00
Water	60.00
Insurance	1,884.18
Fire Equipment	119.95
General Repairs	367.60
Specific Repairs	2,809.99
Cleaning Materials	190.54
	£9,356.04

PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE, FRODINGHAM**Notes to the accounts for the year ended
31 December 2023****Notes****11 Clergy Expenses**

Travel Expenses	744.29
Telephone, Postage and Stationery	437.50
Book and Miscellaneous Items	163.96
	£1,345.75

12 Special Fund Raising

Summer Fair Expenses	86.00
Winter Fair Expenses	115.32
Events Expenses	20.00
	£221.32

13 Parish Office and Administration Expenses

Photocopier and Printer	1,898.25
Paper	73.14
Printer Ink	94.98
Telephone, Postage and Stationery	700.55
Administrator Salary	6,358.56
Parish Clerk Expenses	81.38
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,151.79
Parish Office and Administration Expenses	98.40
	£12,457.05

14 Mission and Charity Payments

Annual Charity	600.00
Special Charity Collection	748.76
Special Parish Events	260.00
	£1,608.76

15 Miscellaneous

Church Repair Scheme	30.00
Tea/Coffee Expenses	52.47
	£82.47